



September 16, 2010 Nevada Site Office Environmental Management

# EM NEWS FLASH



## Recovery Act Kicks Industrial Sites Into High Gear

It has been a busy few months for the [Industrial Sites Sub-Project](#) at the Nevada National Security Site (formerly the Nevada Test Site), as workers tackle a number of sites on their cleanup agenda—some, more quickly and efficiently than expected. The Environmental Management Program at the Nevada Site Office (NSO) was able to accelerate cleanup at these sites after receiving \$26 million for Industrial Sites remediation under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.



*Work crews remove final remnants of demolished R-MAD facility in July.*

Several industrial facilities used in conjunction with a historic nuclear rocket development program have been, or are soon to be, remediated as a direct result of Recovery Act funds. Following several phases of demolition, the last remaining debris from the Reactor Maintenance, Assembly, and Disassembly facility (R-MAD) was trucked away on July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Two structures at the nearby Test Cell C facility were taken down in 2009. Demolition work at the Pluto facility, used to develop a

nuclear-powered ramjet engine, is underway and will be completed in 2011. Recovery Act money is also being used to accelerate the characterization of miles of contaminated train tracks that were used to transport nuclear engines between these facilities.

According to Federal Sub-Project Director, Kevin Cabbie, Recovery Act money is “helping NSO satisfy its cleanup commitment with the State.” He also pointed out that since the Industrial Sites Sub-Project has gained momentum, workers have found ways to streamline work processes, especially when sites face similar contamination issues. “We learned at Pluto,” he explained, “that we need to test for and separate asbestos from all surfaces, floors, ceilings, and insulation prior to any demolition activity. This saves us from having to dispose all waste in an asbestos landfill.” He added that these lessons will be applied at Test Cell C and at other locations and shared with the DOE Complex.

Remediation activities at the Tonopah Test Range, which lies just north of the Nevada National Security Site, have also been stepped up thanks to Recovery Act funds. At four sites on Antelope Dry Lake, contaminated soil is being removed, packaged, and transported to the [Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Site](#) for disposal. Industrial Sites workers are currently on the range remediating a number of submunitions targets as well. This project, which has spanned more than a year, involves remediating seven target areas over 13 square miles.

---

You have received this announcement as a member of the U.S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration Nevada Site Office Environmental Management distribution list. If you would like to be removed from the list, please call 702-295-3521 or e-mail your request to [envmgt@nv.doe.gov](mailto:envmgt@nv.doe.gov) with the words "EM News Flash Remove" in the subject line. If you know anyone who would like to begin receiving these articles, please have them send a request to [envmgt@nv.doe.gov](mailto:envmgt@nv.doe.gov) with the words "EM News Flash Subscribe" in the subject line. You can also follow us on Facebook at [NNSA Nevada Site Office](#).



*safety* ❖ *performance* ❖ *cleanup* ❖ *closure*