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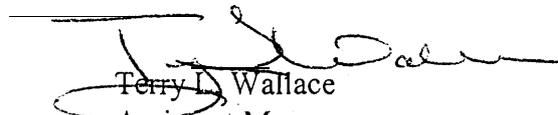
FEB 05 2003

James J. Mangeno, Acting Director, Office of Environment, Safety & Health Operations
Support, NNSA/HQ (NA-53) FORS

NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION NEVADA SITE OFFICE
(NNSA/NSO) ANNUAL NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA)
PLANNING SUMMARY

Pursuant to DOE Order 45 1.1 B, *National Environmental Policy Act Compliance Program*, NNSA/NSO is pleased to provide the enclosed NEPA Planning Summary, covering calendar years 2002 and 2003. Inasmuch as DOE Order 45 1.1 B requires submittal of the Annual NEPA Planning Summary to EH-1, please forward a copy to Assistant Secretary Beverly A. Cook. The document summarizes activities of the NNSA/NSO NEPA program, describing NEPA documents completed during calendar year 2002 and continued into or expected to be initiated during calendar year 2003. NNSA/NSO will distribute the document to stakeholders.

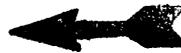
If there are any questions regarding the NNSA/NSO NEPA program, please call Michael G. Skougard, NEPA Compliance Officer, at (702) 295-1759.


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ESHD:MGS-3 122
ENV 1 1-03

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/encl:
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FEB 13 2003

NEVADA SITE OFFICE

ANNUAL
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT
PLANNING SUMMARY

COVERING CURRENT AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES
FOR CALENDAR YEARS 2002 AND 2003



Prepared for the
Assistant Secretary for Environment, Safety and Health
U.S. Department of Energy
by the
National Nuclear Security Administration
Nevada Site Office
Las Vegas, Nevada

January 2003

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1 INTRODUCTION

This Annual National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Planning Summary has been prepared by the National Nuclear Security Administration, Nevada Site Office (NNSA/NSO) pursuant to DOE Order 45 1.1B, requiring each Secretarial Officer and head of a field organization to prepare an annual NEPA planning summary and submit it to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE's) Assistant Secretary for Environment, Safety and Health. These summaries are to be made available to the public.

Annual NEPA planning summaries briefly describe the current status of NEPA analyses being conducted for proposed actions by the respective Secretarial offices and DOE field offices. These summaries include environmental assessments and environmental impact statements expected to be initiated in the next 12-24 months, and the estimated costs and schedules for their completion.

1.1 NEPA Compliance Officer

Michael G. Skougard is the NEPA Compliance Officer for the NNSA/NSO. Readers who have questions or comments regarding the contents of this Planning Summary or who desire copies of any documents referred to herein may contact Mr. Skougard at telephone number (702) 295-1 759. Mr. Skougard may also be reached at the following addresses:

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Readers not familiar with the DOE's established procedures used to ensure compliance with NEPA and the Council on Environmental Quality "Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act" are referred to Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 102.1, for DOE's National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures.

1.2 Public Reading Facility

The NNSA/NSO maintains a Public Reading Facility currently located at 7730 Cheyenne Road, (Building 2), Suite 112, Las Vegas, Nevada 89129, where all of the documents noted in this Planning Summary may be reviewed or obtained for review. The Facility will be housed at a new address, as yet unspecified, in June, 2003. Mr. Jeff Gordon may be contacted at (702) 295-1623 for further

information regarding the Public Reading Facility. Mr. Gordon may also be reached by telefax at (702) 295-1624, or by internet address gordonja@nv.doe.gov.

The Public Reading Facility hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on national holidays. Special hours may be scheduled by arrangement with Mr. Gordon.

2 OVERVIEW OF ONGOING NNSA/NSO NEPA COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES

2.1 Final Environmental Impact Statement for **the Nevada** Test Site and Off-Site Locations in the State of Nevada

The sitewide “Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Nevada Test Site and Off-Site Locations in the State of Nevada,” document number DOE/EIS-0243 (NTS EIS), and Record of Decision (ROD) were issued in 1996. DOE NEPA Implementing Procedures require that sitewide EISs be reviewed every five years and documented by a Supplement Analysis (SA) to assure their continued applicability and adequacy. The five year review of the NTS EIS is addressed in Section 6.1 of this report.

During its EIS process, the NNSA/NSO initiated the preparation of two follow-on documents, a Mitigation Action Plan and a Resource Management Plan.

2.1.1 Mitigation Action Plan

Section 1021.331 of the DOE NEPA Implementing Procedures requires that, following completion of an EIS, the NNSA/NSO prepare a Mitigation Action Plan that addresses mitigation commitments expressed in the ROD.

The NNSA/NSO Office completed the “Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Nevada Test Site and Off-Site Locations in the State of Nevada: Mitigation Action Plan” in February 1997 and annual progress reports in March of 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2002. The next annual report will be completed in March 2003.

2.1.2 Resource Management Plan

The Record of Decision also states that the NNSA/NSO will prepare a Resource Management Plan for the Nevada Test Site (NTS). The “Nevada Test Site Resource Management Plan” (DOE/NV-5 18) was approved by the NNSA/NSO Manager in 1998 and distributed in 1999. The

NNSA/NSO released "Nevada Test Site Resource Management Plan Annual Summary" (DOE/NV-604) in January 2000.

2.2 Nevada Test Site-Related Environmental Assessments

2.2.1 Kistler Aerospace Corporation

The Environmental Assessment (EA) analyzes the impacts of Kistler Aerospace Corporation using a portion of the Nevada Test Site as a spaceport (satellite launch facility). The lead agency for this environmental analysis was the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and the NNSA/NSO is a cooperating agency. A Finding of No Significant Impact was published by the FAA in April 2002.

2.2.2 HAZMAT Spill Center

Since the inception of the HAZMAT Spill Center (HSC) in 1981 (formerly the Liquefied Gaseous Fuels Spill Test Facility), in Area 5 of the Nevada Test Site, several EAs have been written to evaluate potential environmental impacts resulting from chemical release tests. The chemicals are released to generate data needed for risk assessment from accidental releases of hazardous materials. A description of the most recent EA, issued in September 2002, appears in Section 4.1.

3 POTENTIAL EA'S EXPECTED TO BE INITIATED IN THE NEXT 12 MONTHS AND EIS'S EXPECTED TO BE INITIATED IN THE NEXT 24 MONTHS

3.1 Introduction

Projects that appear to be outside the scope of the "Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Nevada Test Site and Off-Site Locations in the State of Nevada" or that were not specifically analyzed in that document may require additional environmental analysis under NEPA.

There are currently no EAs or EISs that are anticipated to begin in Calendar Year 2003 or 2004.

4 EA'S AND EIS'S COMPLETED OR DISCONTINUED IN CY 2002

4.1 Hazardous Materials Testing at the HSC, Nevada Test Site

DOE/EA-0864, "Environmental Assessment for Hazardous Materials Testing at the Liquefied Gaseous Fuels Spill Test Facility," was published in 1994 and rewritten in 2002 as the "Environmental Assessment for Hazardous Materials Testing at the Hazardous Materials Spill Center, Nevada Test Site" (DOE/EA-0864). This latest EA incorporates the change in facility name, more accurately reflects current activities and technology, and incorporates revisions to State of Nevada air quality regulations. A Finding of No Significant Impact was signed on September 18, 2002.

4.2 NTS Wind Farm

On July 25, 2001, the NNSA announced its intent to prepare an EIS in accordance with NEPA for a proposed Wind Farm at the NTS. This EIS would evaluate the range of reasonable alternatives for a private enterprise project to construct, operate, and maintain a wind farm for production of electrical power. The action alternatives considered included a range of electrical generating capacities up to 600 megawatts at various locations on the NTS. On July 5, 2002, the Administrator of the NNSA decided to cancel consideration of the wind farm proposal on the NTS due to potentially significant adverse impacts to national security missions of the U.S. Air Force at the Nevada Test and Training Range, which has boundaries contiguous with the NTS on three sides. A Notice of Withdrawal of Intent to prepare the EIS was published on January 10, 2003 in the Federal Register, Volume 68, No. 7.

5 EIS ACTIVITIES/STATUS

5.1 Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Nevada Test Site and Off-Site Locations in the State of Nevada: Five-Year Review

NNSA/NSO prepared an SA to document its five-year review of the NTS EIS. The purpose of the review was to determine whether the existing EIS remains adequate or whether to prepare a new site-wide EIS or supplement the existing EIS. Based on the analysis in the SA, NNSA/NSO determined that there are no substantial changes to the NTS EIS or ROD or significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns, and that no supplemental EIS is needed.

5.2 Proposed Relocation of the TA-18 Missions

The NNSA issued a ROD on the proposed relocation of Technical Area 18 (TA-18) capabilities and materials at the Los Alamos National Laboratory in the State of New Mexico. The ROD is based on the information and analysis contained in the "TA-18 Relocation Environmental Impact Statement" (DOE/EIS-319), and other factors, such as programmatic and technical risk, construction requirements, and cost. NNSA decided to implement the Preferred Alternative, which would relocate Security Category I/II missions and related materials to the Device Assembly Facility at the NTS. This alternative includes facility modification and transportation of special nuclear materials and equipment required to support Security Category I/II missions. NNSA has determined that additional studies are required regarding Security Category III/IV alternatives, and thus did not make a decision at this time on these alternatives.