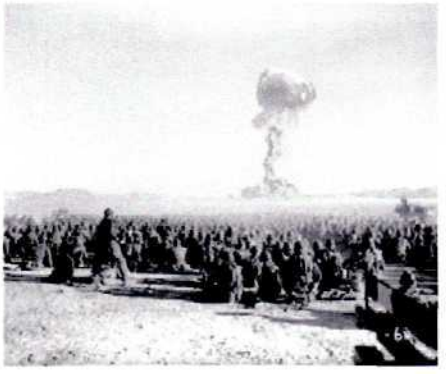


The beginning of an era

Troops in 1951 observe the test of a 21-kiloton nuclear bomb from a mere six miles away at the Nevada Test Site, the first such field exercise done on land.

Nevada Test Site: First year yields 100 percent fee rating

Client: U.S. Department of Energy, National Nuclear Security Administration

It's been nearly a year since CH2M HILL and its partnering companies in the National Security Technologies consortium arrived at the Nevada Test Site, a large U.S. Department of Energy reservation north of Las Vegas.

By all accounts, it's going well. The management and operations transition was completed, the client awarded the team a 100 percent fee rating for 2006, and the difficult task of designing and scheduling a transuranic waste program was mapped out.

CH2M HILL directly oversees environmental management at the site, including the transuranic program. Responsibilities include the conceptualization, research, development, testing and demonstration initiatives for environmental restoration and monitoring, science and technology development, and waste management. Waste management encompasses the safe, efficient and compliant disposal of low-level and low-level-mixed radioactive waste as well as safe and compliant removal of the highly radioactive transuranic waste.

"We're bringing all the expertise and innovation gained from our more than 10 years at Rocky Flats in Colorado to the Nevada Test Site," said CH2M HILL's John Ciucci, director of Environmental Management. "Our exceptional staff is accomplishing extremely challenging work that previously hadn't been done here in Nevada."

NSTec, which also includes Northrup Grumman, AECOM and Nuclear Fuels, has a contract to manage and operate the site as well as its facilities in North Las Vegas and at: Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada; Andrews AFB, Washington, D.C.; Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico; Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Santa Barbara, California. The value of the performance-based contract is $500 million annually and could be extended an additional five years.

The Nevada Test Site, covering 1,350 square miles (3,500 km^2), was established in 1951. For four decades it was used to test nuclear weapons, until testing was banned in 1992. Its current mission is for chemical spill testing, emergency response training, conventional weapons testing, nuclear subcritical tests, waste management and environmental technology studies.

Beyond environmental management, NSTec's scope of work includes: remote field experiments and operations; physical and environmental science; design and fabrication of electronic, mechanical and structural systems; remote and robotic sensing; the laboratory facilities management; engineering, construction and mining operations; and chemical, explosive and hazardous materials systems and technologies. *Cont'd on pg 5*

Workers are placing prepackaged transuranic waste into a container that will be shipped to a permanent offsite storage facility.

These containers hold the remnants of glove-boxes used in processing radioactive materials. Low-level and some mixed low-level waste is permanently disposed of onsite.

Cont'd from pg 4

A priority for CH2M HILL staff is the transuranic project. This entails maintaining the long-term program to remove all legacy waste from the site. In addition to developing a waste-disposal plan, to date the team has:

- profiled and disposed of empty drums used for processing radioactive waste during the past two years
- developed a strategy to process oversized glove-boxes (used in processing radioactive materials) that reduced the amount of waste by up to 75 percent
- removed a massive assembly line style, highly contaminated glove-box ahead of schedule

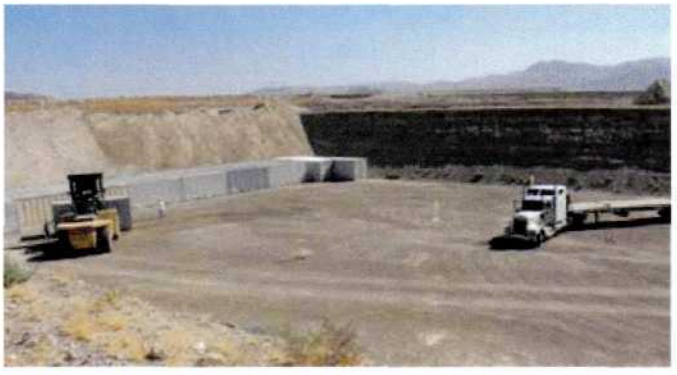
The latter was a significant milestone. "The removal resulted in the rating being downgraded from a nuclear facility to a radioactive facility," said Pat Arnold, a CH2M HILL employee who is in charge of radiological waste services.

The environmental management team is also working on the remediation and disposition of legacy contamination and developing cost-effective ways to decontaminate and decommission facilities. Developing a geologic framework for the Nevada Test Site, plugging legacy boreholes no longer needed for the study of contamination movement (reducing potential risks for below-ground contamination), and remediation and closure support at other locations are just a sampling of the work CH2M HILL currently has underway.

For more information on the Nevada Test Site: www.nv.doe.gov.
For more on NSTec: www.nstec.com.

The Nevada Test Site, covering 1,350 square miles (3,500 km^2), was established in 1951. For four decades it was used to test nuclear weapons, until testing was banned in 1992.

Weapons testing left this crater-scarred landscape at the Nevada Test Site.



This is a typical disposal cell for low-level waste.