

**UNCONTROLLED**

**RECORD OF TECHNICAL CHANGE**

Technical Change No. 1

Page 1 of 1

Project/Job No. WPS 104010315100

Date 3/1/01

Project/Job Name CAU 342, A23 Mercury Fire Training Pit Post-Closure Monitoring

The following technical changes (including justification) are requested by:

Allison Urton

Task Manager

(Name)

(Title)

The project time will be Unchanged.

Applicable Project-Specific Document(s): Closure Report for Corrective Action Unit 342; Area 23 Mercury Fire Training Pit, Nevada Test Site, Nevada, April 2000

Approved By:

/s/ Janet Appenzeller-Wing

Date 3/5/01

Janet Appenzeller-Wing, Project Manager  
Industrial Sites Project

/s/ Runore Wycoff

Date 3/5/01

Runore C. Wycoff, Division Director  
Environmental Restoration Division

Client Notified Yes    No    Date   

NDEP Concur Yes ✓ No    Date 4/3/01 /s/ Michael McKinnon

Contract Change Order Required Yes    No   

Contract Change Order No.   

According to the post-closure plan, initial sampling of the site was to occur within 6 months of the completion of field activities. The initial sampling did not occur until 10 months after completion of field activities. This delay was caused by the unavailability of analytical laboratories that had been audited and by the unwillingness of analytical laboratories that were willing to be audited for the very small number of air samples that are required for this project. No other projects were collecting air samples for laboratory analysis at the time the sampling was to occur.

An analytical laboratory was identified, successfully audited, and contracted with (in conjunction with another project just getting started) in the fall of 2000, and samples were collected at that time.

Nevada  
Environmental  
Restoration  
Project

DOE/NV-603



Closure Report for  
Corrective Action Unit 342:  
Area 23 Mercury Fire Training Pit  
Nevada Test Site, Nevada

Controlled Copy No.: UNCONTROLLED

Revision: 0

April 2000

Environmental Restoration  
Division

U.S. Department of Energy  
Nevada Operations Office

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**CLOSURE REPORT  
FOR CORRECTIVE ACTION UNIT 342:  
AREA 23 MERCURY FIRE TRAINING PIT,  
NEVADA TEST SITE, NEVADA**

Controlled Copy No.: **UNCONTROLLED**

**Revision 0**

**April 2000**

**Prepared for the U.S. Department of Energy  
Nevada Operations Office  
under Contract No. DE-AC08-96NV11718**

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**CLOSURE REPORT FOR  
CORRECTIVE ACTION UNIT 342:  
AREA 23 MERCURY FIRE TRAINING PIT,  
NEVADA TEST SITE, NEVADA**

Approved by: /s/ Janet Appenzeller-Wing  
Janet L. Appenzeller-Wing, Project Manager  
Industrial Sites Project

Date: 4/21/00

Approved by: /s/ Robert M. Bangerter, Jr.  
*600* Runore C. Wycoff, Division Director  
Environmental Restoration Division

Date: 4/21/00

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## **ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

---

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| AST    | Above Ground Storage Tank                           |
| BN     | Bechtel Nevada                                      |
| CADD   | Corrective Action Decision Document                 |
| CAIP   | Corrective Action Investigation Plan                |
| CAP    | Corrective Action Plan                              |
| CAS    | Corrective Action Site                              |
| CAU    | Corrective Action Unit                              |
| CR     | Closure Report                                      |
| cm     | centimeter  |
| DOE    | U.S. Department of Energy                           |
| DOE/NV | U.S. Department of Energy, Nevada Operations Office |
| EPA    | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency                |
| FFACO  | Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order        |
| ft     | foot  |
| gal    | gallon  |
| in     | inch  |
| L      | liter   |
| m      | meter   |
| $m^3$  | cubic meter   |
| mg/kg  | milligram per kilogram                              |

## **ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS (continued)**

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| NDEP            | Nevada Division of Environmental Protection |
| NTS             | Nevada Test Site                            |
| SVOC            | semi-volatile organic compound              |
| VOC             | volatile organic compound                   |
| yd <sup>3</sup> | cubic yard                                  |

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

---

The Mercury Fire Training Pit is a former fire training area located in Area 23 of the Nevada Test Site (NTS). The Mercury Fire Training Pit was used from approximately 1965 to the early 1990s and encompasses an area approximately 85 by 115 meters (m) (280 by 380 feet [ft]). The Mercury Fire Training Pit formerly included a bermed burn pit with four small burn tanks, four large above ground storage tanks (ASTs), an overturned bus, a telephone pole storage area, and areas for burning sheds, pallets, and cables. Monthly and weekly training events involved burning fuels including off-specification or rust-contaminated gasoline, diesel, and aviation fuel (JP-4), and other materials such as paint, tires, a pond liner, wood, paper, cloth, and copper cable.

Based on analytical results reported in the site characterization report, petroleum hydrocarbons were the only constituent of concern and were found beneath and downslope of the burn pit and AST areas, and beneath the telephone pole, burn shed, and overturned bus areas. In general, soil exceeding the petroleum hydrocarbon state action level (100 milligrams per kilogram [mg/kg]) was found at shallow depths (upper 1.5 m [5 ft]) in comparatively low concentrations (maximum of 4,100 mg/kg diesel at 0.3 m [1 ft] depth beneath the burn pit), and at greater depths in comparatively high concentrations (maximum of 18,000 mg/kg diesel at 7.6 m [25 ft] depth beneath the AST area).

The corrective action consisted of closure-in-place with partial excavation and disposal, administrative controls, and post-closure monitoring. Field activities began on October 25, 1999, with excavation of surficial soil (upper 0.3 m [1 ft]) and shallow soil (upper 1.5 m [5 ft]) that exceeded the state action level. Soil containing petroleum hydrocarbons at greater depths was left in place. Approximately 1,150 cubic meters (1,500 cubic yards) of hydrocarbon waste were hauled to the NTS Area 6 Hydrocarbon Landfill for disposal. On the return trips, the dump trucks hauled clean borrow soil to the site from a stockpile in Area 6. The borrow soil was backfilled and compacted into the excavations, creating a barrier to exposure from soil containing hydrocarbons left in place at greater depths. Backfilled areas were graded to a slight mound to promote surface drainage and minimize ponding. Excavation and backfilling activities were completed on November 3, 1999. On November 9 to 10, 1999, a soil gas vapor well was installed in the former AST area to facilitate collection of post-closure monitoring samples.

The Post-Closure Plan includes visual inspections of the site and monitoring of soil gas vapor. Site inspections will be performed biannually (once every six months) to verify the site is intact and use-restriction requirements are being followed. The soil gas vapor monitoring will be performed initially within six months after completion of field activities to establish baseline concentrations and then biennially (once every two years) to determine if natural attenuation is degrading the remaining petroleum hydrocarbons. The analytical results will be presented in a biennial report that will also include pertinent findings from the site inspections since the last report. After six years (initial baseline sampling event plus three biennial sampling events), the effectiveness of natural attenuation will be evaluated.

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

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This Closure Report (CR) describes the remediation activities performed at the Mercury Fire Training Pit. The Mercury Fire Training Pit is a former fire training area located in Area 23 of the Nevada Test Site (NTS) (Figure 1). The Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (FFACO) of 1996 identifies the Mercury Fire Training Pit as Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 342 and Corrective Action Site (CAS) 23-56-01. Remediation of the CAU 342 is required under the FFACO of 1996.

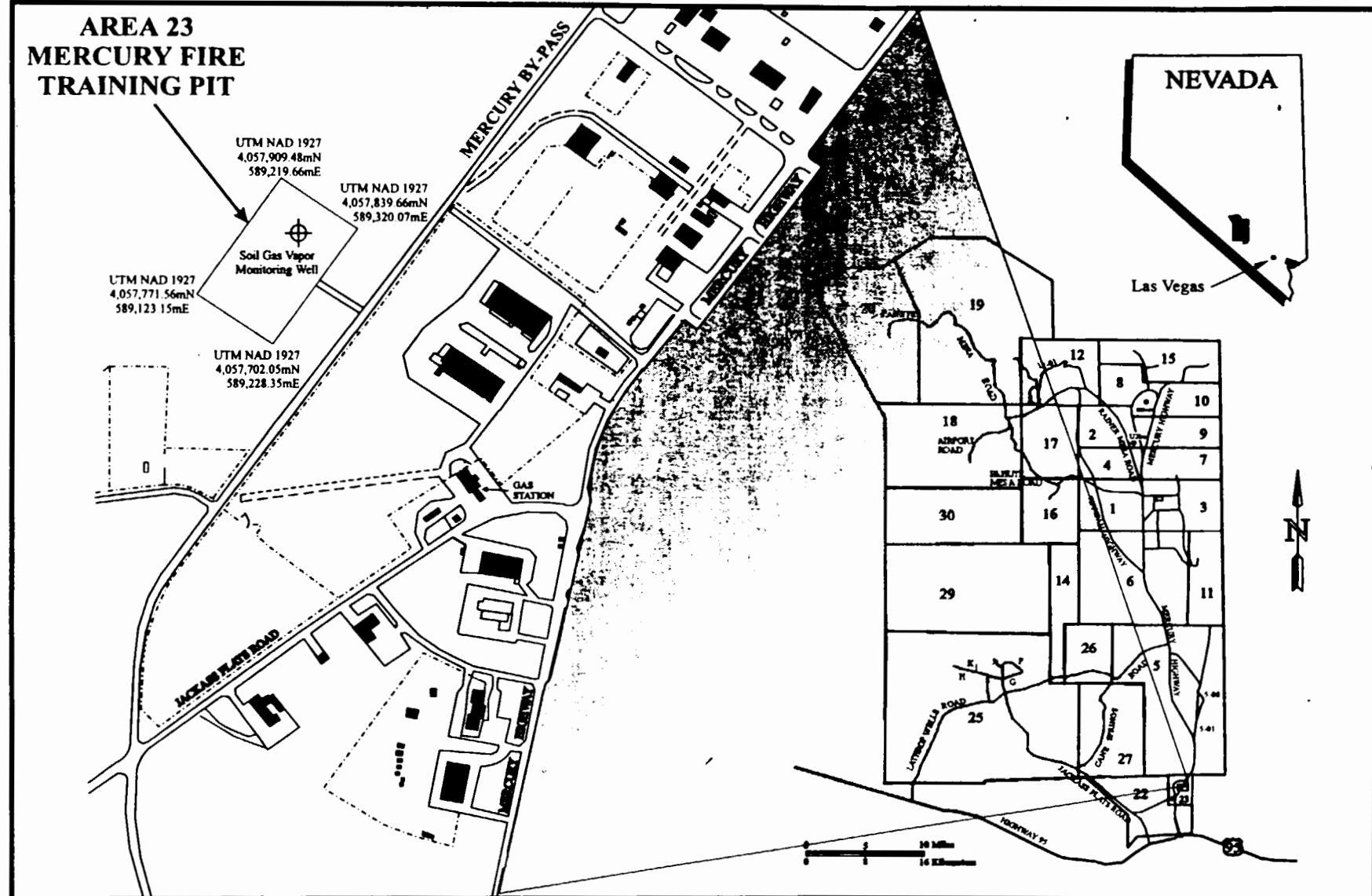
### **1.1 PURPOSE**

The purpose of this CR is to provide documentation of the completed corrective action and to provide data confirming the corrective action. The corrective action was performed following the approved Corrective Action Plan (CAP) (U.S. Department of Energy [DOE], 1999b) and consisted of closure-in-place with partial excavation, disposal, backfilling, administrative controls, and post-closure monitoring. Soil with petroleum hydrocarbon concentrations above the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) Action Level of 100 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg) (Nevada Administrative Code, 1996) was removed to a depth of 1.5 meters (m) (5 feet [ft]). The excavations were backfilled with clean fill to restore the site and to prevent contact with deeper, closed-in-place soil that exceeded the NDEP Action Level.

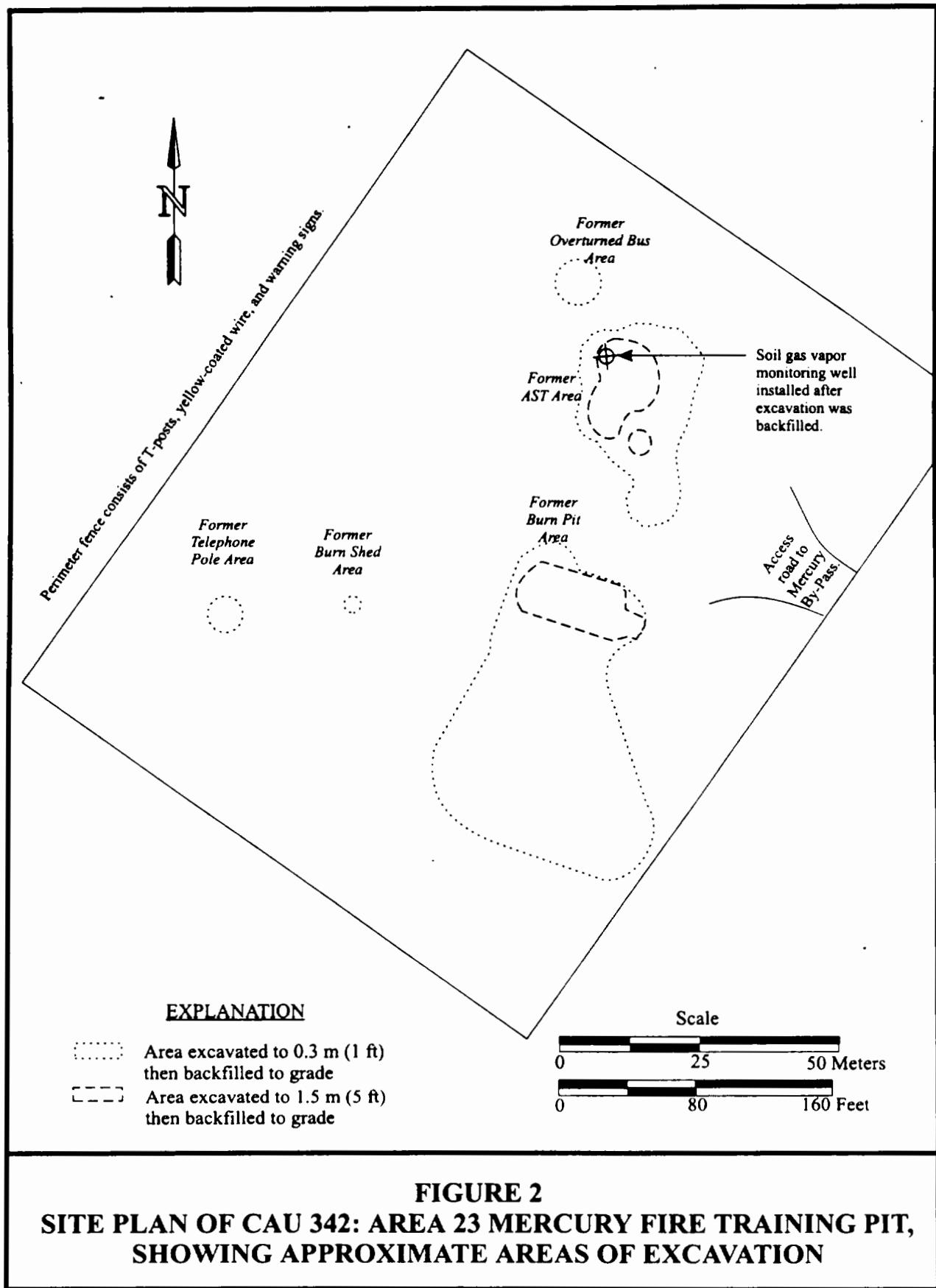
According to the Corrective Action Investigation Plan (CAIP) (DOE, 1998), the Mercury Fire Training Pit was used from approximately 1965 to the early 1990s to train fire-fighting and emergency response personnel at the NTS and encompasses an area approximately 85 by 115 m (280 by 380 ft). The location of the Mercury Fire Training Pit is shown in Figure 1 and a site plan is shown in Figure 2.

The Mercury Fire Training Pit formerly included a bermed burn pit with four small burn tanks; four large above ground storage tanks (ASTs); an overturned bus, a telephone pole storage area; and several areas for burning sheds, pallets, and cables. During the active life of the Mercury Fire Training Pit, training events were conducted at least monthly and sometimes as often as weekly. Fuels burned during these events included off-specification or rust-contaminated gasoline, diesel, and aviation fuel (JP-4). Other items burned during these events included paint, tires, a pond liner, wood, paper, cloth, and copper cable.

Approximately 570 liters (L) (150 gallons [gal]) of fuel were used for each training event resulting in an approximate total of 136,000 L (36,000 gal) of fuel used over the life of the Mercury Fire Training Pit. Unburned fuel was allowed to pool on the ground and was left to eventually volatilize or soak into the soil. In addition, fuels from the ASTs and fuels and fluids from the overturned bus leaked or spilled onto the ground. Approximately 19 L to 38 L (5 to 10 gal) of paint were also burned monthly until sometime in the 1970s.



**FIGURE 1**  
**LOCATION OF CAU 342: AREA 23 MERCURY FIRE TRAINING PIT, NEVADA TEST SITE**



The following interim actions and initial site characterization were performed at the site in 1997 and 1998 and were reported in the CAIP (DOE, 1998):

- Sampling of telephone poles and of liquids in the ASTs.
- Removal of liquids from the ASTs.
- Steam cleaning of the tanks.
- Removal of all surface debris from the site.
- A passive soil gas survey was performed.

A final phase of site characterization was performed in May and June 1998, included collection and analysis of surface and near-surface soil samples, and was reported in the Corrective Action Decision Document (CADD) (DOE, 1999a). The CADD (DOE, 1999a) concluded that the concentrations in soil of gasoline, diesel, and unknown hydrocarbons exceeded the NDEP Action Level of 100 mg/kg in the following areas:

- Former AST Area - Hydrocarbon concentrations in the shallow soil (upper 1.5 m [5 ft]) beneath, and downslope of, the former AST area exceeded the NDEP Action Level with a maximum of 4,000 mg/kg diesel and unknown hydrocarbons at a depth of 0.3 m (1 ft). Elevated hydrocarbon concentrations extended to greater depths beneath the former AST area, reaching a maximum of 18,000 mg/kg diesel at a depth of 7.6 m (25 ft). The sample with 18,000 mg/kg diesel also contained 480 mg/kg xylene, which exceeded the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region IX Preliminary Remediation Goal of 320 mg/kg (EPA, 1996).
- Former Burn Pit Area - Hydrocarbon concentrations in the shallow soil (upper 1.5 m [5 ft]) beneath, and downslope of, the former burn pit area exceeded the NDEP Action Level with a maximum of 4,100 mg/kg diesel at a depth of 0.3 m (1 ft). Elevated hydrocarbon concentrations extended to greater depths beneath the former burn pit area, reaching a maximum of 10,000 mg/kg unknown hydrocarbons at a depth of 3 m (10 ft) and 10,000 mg/kg diesel at a depth of 6 m (20 ft).
- Former Overturned Bus, Telephone Pole, and Burn Shed Areas - Surface soil (upper 0.3 m [1 ft]) in these three areas had concentrations as great as 1,400 mg/kg waste oil, 440 mg/kg unknown hydrocarbons, and 130 mg/kg unknown hydrocarbons, respectively.

## 1.2 SCOPE

The corrective action as implemented consisted of the following steps:

- Preplanning and site preparation, including preparation of all plans and permits, approval of a source of borrow material, delineation of excavation boundaries, and mobilization of equipment and personnel to the site.
- Excavation of surficial and shallow soil containing petroleum hydrocarbons to designated boundaries.
- Visual inspection and additional excavation beyond the designated boundaries, if needed.
- Hauling the excavated soil for disposal in the Area 6 Hydrocarbon Landfill.
- Hauling clean borrow material back to the site and backfilling the excavations in order to create a barrier to exposure from soil containing hydrocarbons left in place at greater depths.
- Grading of backfilled areas to promote surface drainage and prevent ponding.
- Restricting access and usage of the site by repairing perimeter fencing, installing warning signs, and enacting administrative use restrictions.
- Installing a soil gas vapor monitoring well and implementing a post-closure plan.

## 1.3 CLOSURE REPORT CONTENTS

This document is divided into the following sections in accordance with the approved FFACO Closure Report (CR) standardized outline:

- Section 1.0 - Introduction (purpose, scope, contents).
- Section 2.0 - Closure Activities (description, deviations, schedule, site plan).
- Section 3.0 - Waste Disposition (wastes encountered and their appropriate disposal).
- Section 4.0 - Closure Verification Results (verification activities, use restrictions).
- Section 5.0 - Conclusion (post-closure plan, closure recommendations).
- Section 6.0 - References.

The appendices of this document have been modified from the approved FFACO outline. The following FFACO outline appendices have not been included or revised as indicated below:

- Closure Certification - This appendix is not applicable for this site with closure-in-place.
- As-Built Documentation - This appendix is not applicable for this site as there are no engineered structures remaining except for the soil gas vapor monitoring well.
- Confirmation Sampling Test Results - This appendix is not applicable for this site as confirmation sampling was not planned or performed.
- Modifications to the Post-Closure Plan - This appendix is not applicable for this site as no changes have been made to the plan as described in CAP (DOE, 1999b).

The appendices included in this document are provided as follows:

- Appendix A: Waste Disposition Documentation.
- Appendix B: Use Restriction Information.
- Appendix C: Post-Closure Inspection Form.

## **2.0 CLOSURE ACTIVITIES**

This section of the CR details the specific corrective action activities implemented and completed during the closure of CAU 342. This section also provides a detailed schedule of site activities as completed.

### **2.1 DESCRIPTION OF CORRECTIVE ACTION ACTIVITIES**

#### **2.1.1 Preplanning and Site Preparation**

Several planning documents were prepared prior to beginning corrective action activities at CAU 342. These plans included the CAP (DOE, 1999b), Field Management Plan (Bechtel Nevada [BN], 1999a), Site Specific Health and Safety Plan (BN, 1999b), a construction work package, and an excavation permit. No above ground or underground utilities were determined to exist at the site. In addition, a National Environmental Policy Act checklist was prepared and a pre-activity site survey was performed by a biologist. The survey confirmed the absence of sensitive animal or plant species and the biologist concluded that desert tortoise clearance surveys would not be necessary. Planned excavation and drilling locations were marked. Surplus borrow material stockpiled at the Area 6 Decon Pond site was identified as a source of backfill. Site access was readily controlled because of the single entrance onto the site.

A Readiness Review meeting was conducted on October 20, 1999. Personnel and equipment were mobilized to the site beginning on October 21, 1999. On October 25, 1999, the pre-job briefing was held and field work began.

#### **2.1.2 Partial Excavation of Hydrocarbon-Impacted Soil**

Excavation of soil containing petroleum hydrocarbons above action levels to a depth of 1.5 m (5 ft) began on October 25, 1999, and ended on November 3, 1999. Five areas, shown in Figure 2, were excavated using either a backhoe or front-end loader to a depth of 0.3 m (1 ft): burn pit area, AST area, overturned bus area, telephone pole area, and burn shed area. A subarea within the burn pit area, and two subareas within the AST area, were excavated to a depth of 1.5 m (5 ft). After reaching planned lateral and vertical boundaries, as indicated in the CAP (DOE, 1999b), the excavations were visually inspected for staining by the Technical Lead to determine if further excavation was necessary. Several additional areas of stained soil were identified and excavated to a depth of 0.3 m (1 ft). Soil containing petroleum hydrocarbons at depths greater than 1.5 m (5 ft) was not removed. A water truck was used for dust suppression.

### **2.1.3 Hauling and Disposal of Waste**

The excavated soil was loaded into end-dump trucks and covered with tarps for transport to the Area 6 Hydrocarbon Landfill. Loads were measured on a portable truck scale at the entrance to the Area 6 Hydrocarbon Landfill or at the permanent truck scale located at Gate 100. A total of 1,150 cubic meters ( $m^3$ ) (1,500 cubic yards [ $yd^3$ ]) of impacted soil were hauled to, and disposed in, the Area 6 Hydrocarbon Landfill. Based on process knowledge and analytical results from the site characterization, a Radiological Control Technician exempted the waste loads from radiological survey.

### **2.1.4 Hauling and Backfilling of Borrow Material**

On the return trip from the Area 6 Hydrocarbon Landfill, the dump trucks were loaded with borrow soil that had been stockpiled at the Area 6 Decon Pond. A front-end loader was used to load the end-dump trucks and a water truck was used for dust suppression. The loads were covered by a tarp for transport to the Mercury Fire Training Pit where the borrow material was placed as backfilled. Backfill was placed in 0.2-m (8-inch [in]) lifts and wheel-compacted using the front-end loader. Where access was restricted, soil was compacted with downward blows of the backhoe bucket until wheel compaction was possible. All excavations were backfilled, compacted, and mounded slightly above grade to minimize ponding of surface water. The clean backfill created a barrier to exposure from the soil left in place at depths greater than 1.5 m (5 ft) that contained petroleum hydrocarbons above action levels.

### **2.1.5 Installation of Soil Gas Vapor Monitoring Well**

On November 9 through 10, 1999, a truck-mounted hollow-stem auger drill rig was used to install a soil gas vapor monitoring well in the northwest portion of the former AST area, as shown in Figure 2. The augers had an outer diameter of 18.4 centimeters (cm) (7.25 in). Soil sampling was performed below a depth of 1.5 m (5 ft) using a 0.7-m (2-ft) long 5-cm (2-in) diameter stainless-steel soil sampler driven ahead of the auger bit with a drop hammer. Sample recoveries were poor due to the rocky soil. Where sufficient soil was recovered, samples were field tested for total petroleum hydrocarbons using a field test kit. Soil sampling was terminated at a depth of 6.1 m (20.1 ft) and the borehole was terminated at a depth of 6.7 m (22 ft). Groundwater was not expected and was not encountered. Soil descriptions, sampling intervals, field test kit results, and well construction details are summarized in Figure 3.

The soil gas vapor monitoring well was constructed using the hollow-stem augers as temporary conductor casing. The well casing consisted of 5-cm (2-in) diameter Schedule-40 Polyvinyl Chloride with threaded joints and a well screen of 0.5-millimeter (0.020-in) machine-cut slots in the 4.4 to 5.9-m (14.5 to 19.5-ft) depth interval.

**Bechtel Nevada**

**Drill Log and  
 Well Completion Diagram**

**Page 1 of 1**

**PROJECT: CAU 342, CAS 23-56-01**

**GEOLOGIST/LOGGER: S. M. Parsons-DePry**

**LOCATION: NW edge of AST plume**

**DRILLING COMPANY: Bechtel Nevada**

**BEGINNING DATE: November 9, 1999**

**DRILL RIG MODEL: Mobile Drill B-59**

**ENDING DATE: November 10, 1999**

**DRILLING METHOD: Hollow-stem auger**

**GROUND SURFACE ELEVATION:**

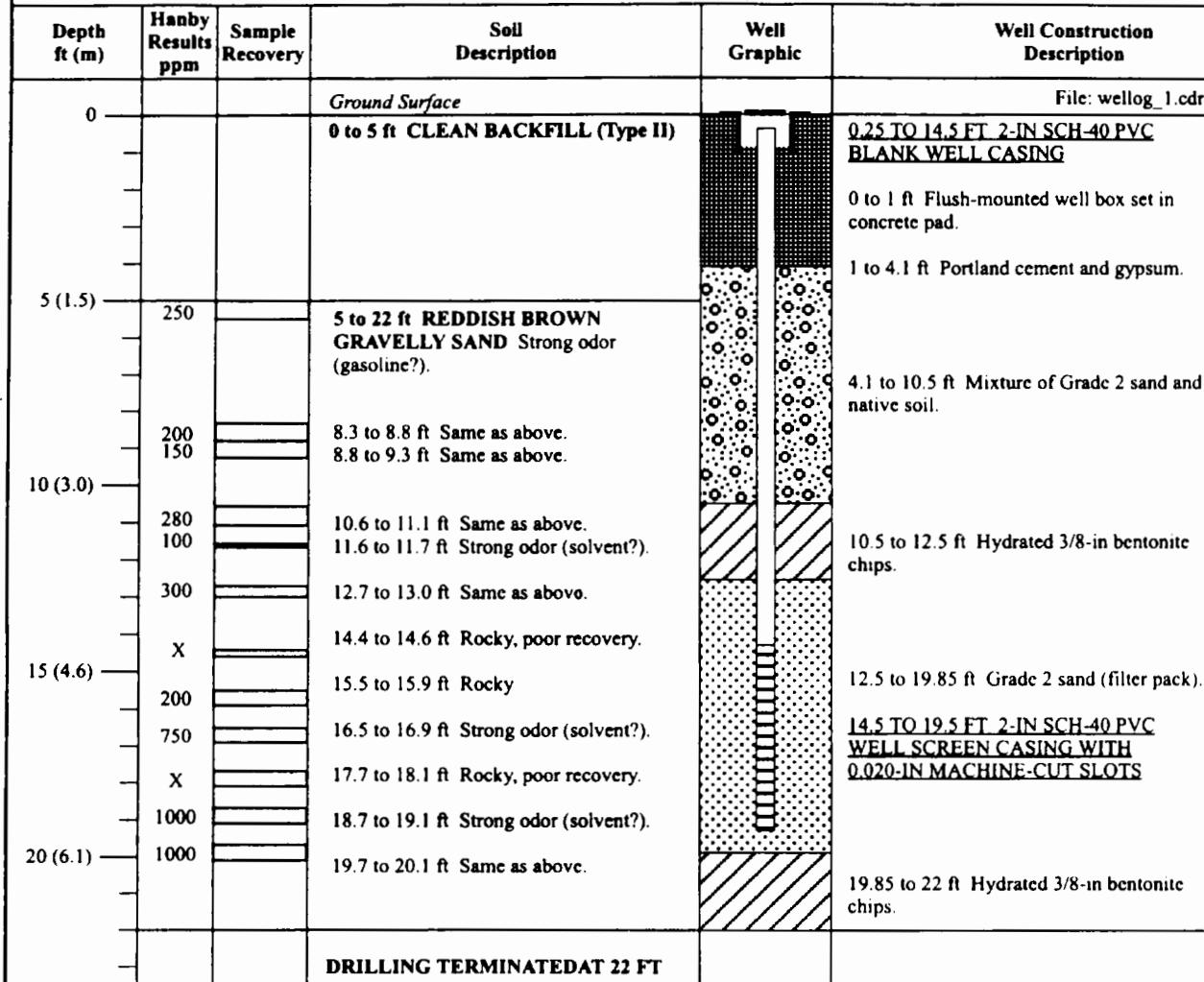
Approx 3740 ft above mean sea level

**SAMPLING METHOD:** 2-ft (0.6-m) long by 2-in (5-cm) diameter stainless-steel soil sampler lined with brass sample tubes and advanced with drop hammer

**BOREHOLE DIAMETER:** 7.25 in (18.4 cm)

**BOREHOLE COMPLETION:** Soil Gas Monitoring Well

**BOREHOLE TOTAL DEPTH:** 22 ft (6.7 m)



**FIGURE 3**  
**SOIL GAS VAPOR MONITORING WELL,**  
**CAU 342: AREA 23 MERCURY FIRE TRAINING PIT**

The annular space of the soil gas vapor monitoring well was filled with following material:

- 0 to 0.3 m (0 to 1 ft) depth, surface completion (well box set at grade in concrete pad).
- 0.3 to 1.25 m (1 to 4.1 ft) depth, portland cement with gypsum.
- 1.25 to 3.2 m (4.1 to 10.5 ft) depth, fill (Grade 2 sand and collapsed native soil).
- 3.2 to 3.8 m (10.5 to 12.5 ft) depth, hydrated 1-cm (3/8-in) bentonite chips.
- 3.8 to 6.1 m (12.5 to 19.85 ft) depth, Grade 2 sand filter pack.
- 6.1 to 6.7 m (19.85 to 22 ft) depth, hydrated 1-cm (3/8-in) bentonite chips.

#### **2.1.6 Decontamination of Equipment**

After the final load of excavated soil was handled, the bucket and tires of the backhoe and loader were cleaned by brushing off visible residue and then washing the buckets with an Alconox® detergent solution and rinsing the tires with water. Rinsate was contained in excavated soil already containing petroleum hydrocarbons. Drilling augers were wrapped in plastic and transported to the Area 6 sub-dock where they were pressure washed and the rinsate directed to an oil-water separator.

#### **2.1.7 Perimeter Fence and Warning Signs**

The existing perimeter fence consisted of T-posts and two strands of yellow rope. The weathered yellow rope was replaced with yellow-plastic coated steel wire with warning signs reading: "Warning: Underground Petroleum Hydrocarbon Contamination. Contact Environmental Restoration (295-7946) before working in this area. FFACO CAU 342." The perimeter fence encloses a rectangular area approximately 85 by 115 m (280 by 380 ft).

#### **2.1.8 Administrative Land Use Restrictions**

On December 14, 1999, the locations of the four perimeter-fence corners (as well as the soil gas vapor monitoring well) were surveyed for use restriction purposes. The Land Use Restriction form with survey data was submitted on February 1, 2000, and a copy is included in Appendix B.

## **2.2 DEVIATIONS FROM THE CAP AS APPROVED**

No significant deviations occurred from the approved scope of work as outlined in the CAP (DOE, 1999b).

## **2.3 CORRECTIVE ACTION SCHEDULE AS COMPLETED**

The corrective action field activities began on October 25, 1999, and were completed on November 17, 1999. A few minor fence repairs were done on January 10, 2000. A corrective action schedule as completed is provided in Table 1.

## **2.4 SITE PLAN / SURVEY PLAT**

The final as-built site plan was not surveyed because there are no engineered structures remaining at the site. A site plan showing the approximate locations of the perimeter fence, soil gas vapor monitoring well, and former excavations is shown in Figure 2. Surveyed coordinates for the perimeter fence corners and soil gas vapor monitoring well are shown in Figure 1.

**TABLE 1 - CAU 342 CORRECTIVE ACTION SCHEDULE AS COMPLETED**

| Activity ID  | Activity Description                         | Cal ID | Actual Start | Actual Finish | FY00 |     |     |     |   |
|--|--|--------|--------------|---------------|------|-----|-----|-----|---|
|  |  |        |              |               | OCT  | NOV | DEC | JAN | F |
| <b>CAU 342 CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN - AS COMPLETED</b> |  |        |              |               |      |     |     |     |   |
| C34201   | Mobilize Excavation Equipment                | 2      | 21OCT99      | 25OCT99       |      |     |     |     |   |
| C34211   | Excavate Impacted Soil/Haul To A6LF          | 2      | 25OCT99      | 03NOV99       |      |     |     |     |   |
| C34221   | Haul Borrow Soil/Backfill Excavations        | 2      | 25OCT99      | 04NOV99       |      |     |     |     |   |
| C34231   | Demobilize Excavation Equipment              | 2      | 03NOV99      | 04NOV99       |      |     |     |     |   |
| C34241   | Repair Perimeter Fence/Install Warning Signs | 2      | 03NOV99      | 17NOV99       |      |     |     |     |   |
| C34251   | Mobilize Drilling Equipment                  | 2      | 09NOV99      | 09NOV99       |      |     |     |     |   |
| C34261   | Drill/Install Soil Gas Monitoring Well       | 2      | 09NOV99      | 10NOV99       |      |     |     |     |   |
| C34271   | Demobilize Drilling Equipment                | 2      | 10NOV99      | 10NOV99       |      |     |     |     |   |
| C34281   | Haul Drilling Wastes to A6LF                 | 2      | 17NOV99      | 17NOV99       |      |     |     |     |   |

Sheet 1 of 1

## **3.0 WASTE DISPOSITION**

---

The 85 truck loads of excavated soil and debris generated as part of the corrective action field activities were disposed in the Area 6 Hydrocarbon Landfill between October 25, 1999 and November 17, 1999. Nearly all the waste was soil - approximately one  $\text{yd}^3$  consisted of plastic sheeting, sand bags, and other debris found at the site. Each load was weighed either on the permanent truck scale at Gate 100 or on a portable truck scale that was temporarily located at the Area 6 Hydrocarbon Landfill. Each load was accompanied by a load verification form and was logged into the landfill daily access register. The average load was approximately  $14 \text{ m}^3$  ( $18 \text{ yd}^3$ ), and 23 metric tons (25 short tons), for a total of  $1,150 \text{ m}^3$  ( $1,500 \text{ yd}^3$ ) and 1,900 metric tons (2,100 short tons) of waste disposed. Waste disposition summary documentation is included in Appendix A.

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## **4.0 CLOSURE VERIFICATION RESULTS**

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### **4.1 VERIFICATION ACTIVITIES**

Verification soil samples at CAU 342 were not required (DOE, 1999b) for the following reasons:

- Potential release sources had been previously removed (DOE, 1998)
- Areas exceeding, and not exceeding, the NDEP Action Level had already been determined in the site characterization (DOE, 1999a).
- Soil below a depth of 1.5 m (5 ft) exceeding the NDEP Action Level was closed in place.

As a final check, however, completed excavations were visually inspected for staining by the Technical Lead, minor amounts of additional discolored soil in several areas was removed, (estimated to be less than 4 m<sup>3</sup> [5 yd<sup>3</sup>]).

The excavations were backfilled after verbal approval was given to terminate excavation activities. Clean backfill was placed in 0.2-m (8-in) lifts and compacted either by downward blows of the backhoe bucket or by several passes of the backhoe or loader. The compacted backfill was mounded slightly above grade to minimize ponding. Confirmation compaction testing was not required (DOE, 1999b).

### **4.2 USE RESTRICTION**

All soil at depths less than 1.5 m (5 ft) and containing petroleum hydrocarbons at or above the NDEP Action Level was removed and replaced with clean backfill. All soil at depths greater than 1.5 m (5 ft) and containing petroleum hydrocarbons at or above the NDEP Action Level was left in place. The clean backfill creates a substantial barrier to exposure if land use is regulated. In addition to the perimeter fence and warning signs, administrative controls were implemented by submitting a use restriction form (Appendix B).

Future use of any land related to CAU 342 is restricted from any activity that may alter or modify the containment controls as approved by the state, unless appropriate concurrence is obtained in advance.

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## **5.0 CONCLUSION**

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### **5.1 POST-CLOSURE PLAN**

The CAU 342 Post-Closure Plan consists of biannual (once every six months) site inspections and biennial (once every two years) soil gas vapor monitoring. The site inspections will document the condition of the site and determine if repairs, additional backfilling, or more effective use restrictions are needed. The soil gas vapor monitoring will determine if the remaining petroleum hydrocarbons beneath the AST area are undergoing natural biodegradation. Initial inspection and baseline soil gas monitoring will be done within six months after completion of field activities.

Additional, nonscheduled inspections may be required after severe weather events such as flash flooding or high winds. The post-closure inspection form is included in Appendix C. Identified maintenance and repair requirements will be remedied within 90 days of discovery and documented in writing at the time of repair.

Soil gas samples will be submitted to a qualified laboratory for analysis of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) (EPA Method TO-14A) and semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs) (EPA Method TO-13A modified). In addition, the soil gas vapor will be field screened for oxygen, carbon dioxide, methane, and VOCs using a micro gas chromatograph or similar instrument.

A report will be prepared following each biennial soil gas vapor monitoring event. The biennial report will include completed site inspection forms, repair records (if any), soil gas analytical results and discussion, and recommendations. A copy of each biennial report will be submitted to the NDEP. Sampling will continue for six years (an initial sampling event followed by three biennial sampling events.) If after six years the analytical results show that natural attenuation is decreasing petroleum hydrocarbon levels in the soil, monitoring will be discontinued. If levels are not shown to be decreasing after six years, a determination will be made by DOE/NV and NDEP as to how to proceed.

### **5.2 CLOSURE RECOMMENDATION**

The information presented in this report documents that the closure of CAU 342: Mercury Fire Training Pit was accomplished following the NDEP-approved CAP (DOE, 1999b).

The DOE/NV requests that a Notice of Completion be issued by the NDEP to DOE/NV for the closure of CAU 342 (CAS 23-56-01) and that CAU 342 be moved from Appendix III to Appendix IV of the FFACO "Closed Corrective Action Units."

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## **6.0 REFERENCES**

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BN, see Bechtel Nevada.

Bechtel Nevada, 1999a. Field Management Plan for Corrective Action Unit 342: Area 23 Mercury Fire Training Pit, Nevada Test Site, Nevada, Las Vegas, NV.

Bechtel Nevada, 1999b. Site Specific Health and Safety Plan for Corrective Action Unit 342: Area 23 Mercury Fire Training Pit, Nevada Test Site, Nevada, Las Vegas, NV.

DOE, see U.S. Department of Energy.

EPA, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

FFACO, see Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order.

Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order of 1996. Prepared by Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, U.S. Department of Energy, and U.S. Department of Defense.

Nevada Administrative Code, 1996. NAC 445A.2272, "Contamination of Soil: Establishment of Action Levels." As adopted by the Nevada Environmental Commission, Carson City, NV.

U.S. Department of Energy, Nevada Operations Office, 1998. Corrective Action Investigation Plan for CAU 342: Area 23 Mercury Fire Training Pit, Nevada Test Site, Nevada, DOE/NV--498, UC-700, Las Vegas, NV.

U.S. Department of Energy, Nevada Operations Office, 1999a. Corrective Action Decision Document for Corrective Action Unit 342: Area 342 Mercury Fire Training Pit, Nevada Test Site, Nevada, Rev. 1, DOE/NV--534, Las Vegas, NV.

U.S. Department of Energy, Nevada Operations Office, 1999b. Corrective Action Plan for Corrective Action Unit 342: Area 342 Mercury Fire Training Pit, Nevada Test Site, Nevada, DOE/NV--559, Las Vegas, NV.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1996. Region IX Preliminary Remediation Goals (PRGs), San Francisco, CA.

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**APPENDIX A**

**WASTE DISPOSITION DOCUMENTATION**

# Bechtel Nevada

## Interoffice Memorandum

**To:** W. F. Johnson  
**From:** C. A. Stowell, Project Manager  
Solid Waste Operations

**Date:** February 14, 2000

**No.:** 2150-CS-00-0025

**Subject:** Waste Disposal Documentation for Corrective Action Unit (CAU) 340 and 342  
Project No. N/A

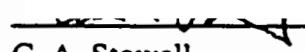
Between November 8, 1999 and January 13, 2000, Nevada Test Site (NTS) landfills received approximately 3,029 tons of waste from CAU 340 remediation activities.

- Approximately 71 tons of hydrocarbon impacted waste were disposed at the NTS Area 6 Hydrocarbon Class III Industrial Solid Waste Disposal Site (SWDS).
- Approximately 2,937 tons of waste were disposed at the NTS Area 23 Class II Municipal and Industrial SWDS.
- Approximately 21 tons of waste were disposed at the NTS Area 9 U10c Class III Industrial SWDS.

Additionally, on December 16, 1999, approximately 16 tons of hazardous waste from CAU 340 remediation activities was transported from the NTS to Aragonite, UT for disposal. Enclosed is a copy of the Uniform Hazardous Waste Manifest associated with this waste.

Between October 25, 1999 and November 3, 1999, the Area 6 Hydrocarbon Class III Industrial Solid Waste Disposal Site received approximately 2,118 tons of hydrocarbon impacted waste from CAU 342 remediation activities.

/s/ Signature on file

  
C. A. Stowell

FEC/CAS:cjs  
Subject Code: WMT3

Enclosures: as stated

cc w/o encs.  
Correspondence Control, NLV008  
J. M. Holden, NTS207  
C. J. Schwartze, NTS207

00, 10 26 21 21 01

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**APPENDIX B**

**USE RESTRICTION INFORMATION**

## CAU Use Restriction Information

CAU Number/Description: CAU 342: Area 23 Mercury Fire Training Pit

Applicable CAS Numbers/Descriptions: CAS 23-56-01: Former Mercury Fire Training Pit

Contact (organization/project): DOE/NV Industrial Sites Project Manager

Surveyed Area (UTM coordinates; Zone 11, NAD 27): Four corners of perimeter fence

North: 4,057,909.48mN; 589,219.66mE. East: 4,057,839.66mN; 589,320.07mE.

South: 4,057,702.05mN; 589,228.35mE. West: 4,057,771.56mN; 589,123.15mE.

Survey Date: December 14, 1999 Survey Method (GPS, etc.): GPS

Site Monitoring Requirements: Visual inspection as specified by the closure documentation

Required Frequency (quarterly, annually?): Biannually (once every six months)

If Monitoring Has Started, Indicate Last Completion Date: N/A

### Use Restrictions

The future use of any land related to this Corrective Action Unit (CAU), as described by the above surveyed location, is restricted from any DOE or Air Force activity that may alter or modify the containment control as approved by the state and identified in the CAU Closure Report or other CAU documentation unless appropriate concurrence is obtained in advance.

Comments: See the Closure Report for additional information on the condition of the site and any monitoring and/or inspection requirements.

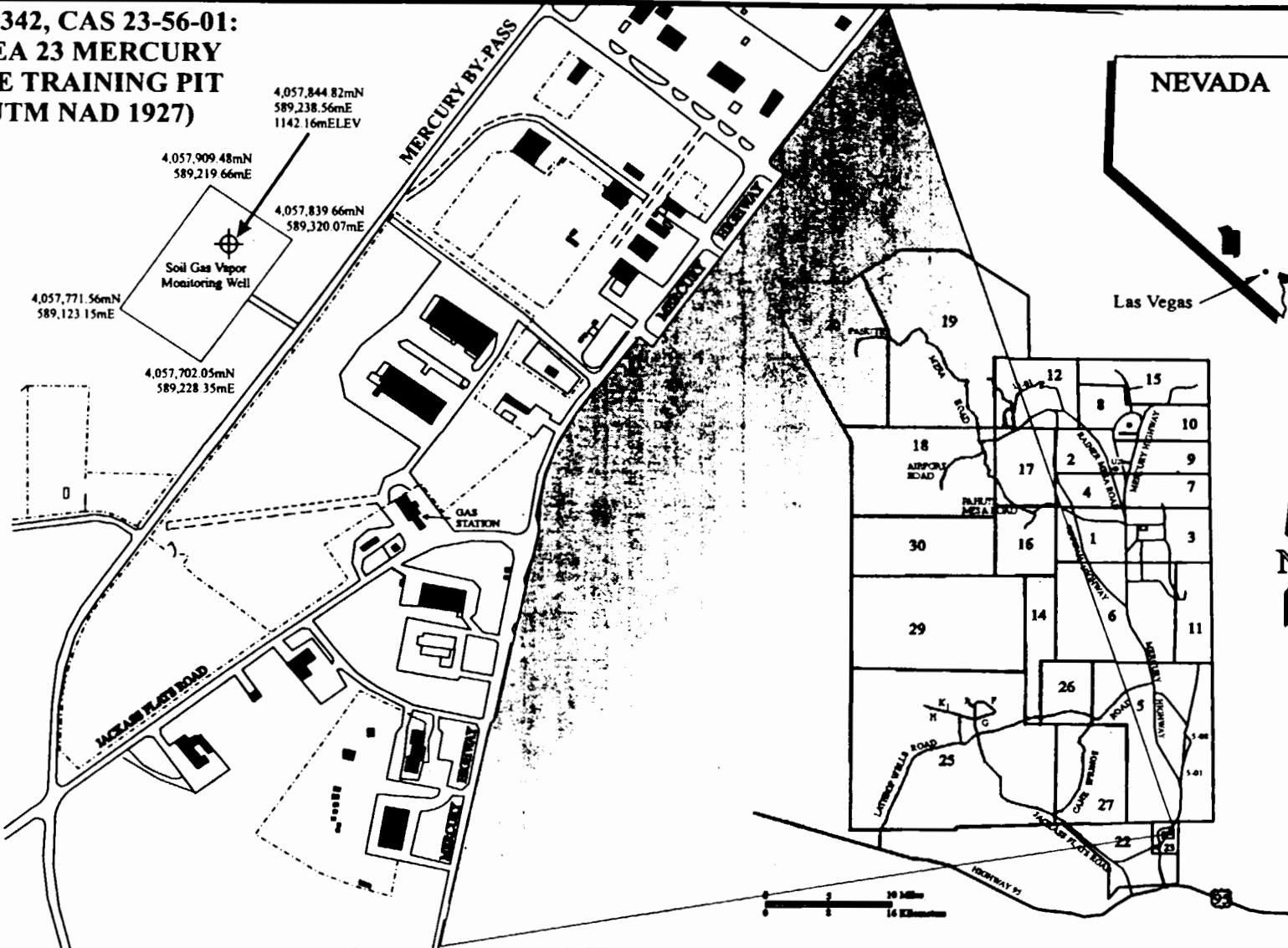
Submitted By: /s/ Signature on file

Date: 2/5/00

cc with copy of survey map:

CAU Files (2 copies)

**CAU 342, CAS 23-56-01:  
AREA 23 MERCURY  
FIRE TRAINING PIT  
(UTM NAD 1927)**



**FIGURE 1**  
**CAU 342, CAS 23-56-01: AREA 23 MERCURY FIRE TRAINING PIT, NEVADA TEST SITE**

**APPENDIX C**

**POST-CLOSURE INSPECTION FORM**

## CAU 342: AREA 23 MERCURY FIRE TRAINING PIT POST-CLOSURE INSPECTION FORM

Inspect the well and surrounding area. Look for any unusual change in the unit such as accumulation of water, chemical odors, deterioration of structures, etc. Refer to the previous inspection of the unit in order to identify any changes. Inspections should be completed after a problem is reported by a contractor, DOE, NDEP, ER or other BN employees. Post Closure Care inspections will be done twice a year.

### GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Date of inspection: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Facility Manager (name and organization): \_\_\_\_\_
3. Reason for inspection: Biannual: \_\_\_\_\_ Problem Reported: \_\_\_\_\_ Unusual weather: \_\_\_\_\_  
Details (Name, organization and telephone number of person reporting problem): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Describe weather conditions over the past few weeks (high winds, precipitation, local flooding):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### MONITORING WELL AND GENERAL SITE CONDITION

5. Condition of monitoring well and cover (cracked, tilted):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Condition of fencing (breaks, tilted, damaged):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Condition of signs (missing signs, fading, damaged):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Signs of erosion indicating runoff or runon (into) the area that could impact the monitoring well?  
No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, explain:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**CAU 342: AREA 23 MERCURY FIRE TRAINING PIT  
POST-CLOSURE INSPECTION FORM (Continued)**

**AREA SURROUNDING WELL**

9. Describe any significant changes in the general area (within several hundred feet of the unit) from the previous inspection. Changes can include water in the area, change in land use, storage of materials nearby, soil piles, change in use of the facility, etc. \_\_\_\_\_

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10. What is the (possible) effect of the change? \_\_\_\_\_

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11. Other comments or observations: \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

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12. Recommendations: \_\_\_\_\_

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13. Does the finding(s) of this inspection require another inspection prior to the scheduled monthly inspection? No \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, date of next inspection: \_\_\_\_\_

*Significant changes noted must be notified to the Project Manager and Task Manager upon return to the office.*

Inspected by: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of other persons on inspection (print):

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**NEVADA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
DOCUMENT REVIEW SHEET**

## DOCUMENT REVIEW SHEET

Document Title/Number: Draft Closure Report for Corrective Action Unit 342: Area 23 Mercury Fire Training Pit

Document Date: March 2000

Revision Number: DRAFT

Originator/Organization: BN/ER

Date Comments Due: March 31, 2000

Reviewer/Organization: NDEP (letter dated April 11, 2000, from Michael D. McKinnon to Runore C. Wycoff)

| Comment Number/<br>Location | Type | Comment  | Comment Response   | Accept |
|-----------------------------|------|--|--|--------|
| 1                           | M    | Page 4, sixth bullet: wording implies 18,000 mg/kg diesel was detected at a depth of 50 ft bgs although analytical data indicates this concentration was detected at a depth of 25 ft bgs. Depth of maximum contaminant concentration needs clarification. | This bullet has been reworded to state the greatest concentration (18,000 mg/kg diesel) was found at a depth of 25 ft. | Yes    |

a. Comment Types: M=Mandatory S=Suggested

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