



NEVADA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
BUREAU OF WASTE MANAGEMENT



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**FACT SHEET FOR A RCRA HAZARDOUS WASTE PERMIT (REVISION 1)**  
**HAWTHORNE ARMY DEPOT NEW BOMB FACILITY**  
**EPA ID #NV5210090010**  
**DRAFT PERMIT NUMBER NEVHW0027**

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The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) has developed this FACT SHEET for the draft Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Permit (DRAFT PERMIT) which NDEP intends to issue Hawthorne Army Depot for the **New Bomb facility** in Mineral County, Nevada. The DRAFT PERMIT is based on the renewal application received by NDEP for the continued operation of this hazardous waste management facility. This FACT SHEET has been prepared in accordance with the public notice requirements of *Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 444.8632* and *Chapter 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Section 124.8*. The purpose of this FACT SHEET is to provide interested citizens and other governmental agencies a summary description of the principal facts and significant issues NDEP has considered in reviewing the submitted permit application and developing the DRAFT PERMIT.

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### **FACILITY DESCRIPTION**

The Hawthorne Army Depot (HWAD) New Bomb facility is located 22 miles south of Hawthorne, Nevada on approximately 3183 acres of land in the Toiyabe National Forest in Mineral County, Nevada. The New Bomb facility is a government-owned, contractor-operated site where treatment by detonation of waste munitions, which are a RCRA hazardous waste, is performed. The agent for the facility is the U.S. Department of the Army. Routine facility operation and maintenance are performed by contract operator, SOC Nevada LLC (SOC). The New Bomb facility contains the following hazardous waste management units:

- One (1) Open Detonation Unit comprised of 20 Earthen Cells.

### **Subpart X Unit**

The DRAFT PERMIT allows the facility to detonate hazardous waste explosives at the New Bomb treatment cells which cannot be processed through either the RF-9 incinerator or other waste munition units at the HWAD Main Base facility and which cannot be otherwise recycled or reused. The New Bomb treatment unit consists of 20 earthen pits which are approximately 20-foot long by 6-foot wide and 4-feet deep, located at the base of a hill, within a box canyon at a secured site. The facility is authorized to open-detonate up to 40,000 pounds of Net Explosive Weight (NEW) per day, with an annual limit of 4,500,000 pounds NEW. The operating capacity may be further limited due to weather conditions, air quality operating permit requirements, soil investigation results, or non-compliance with Permit conditions.

### **TYPES OF WASTE TO BE HANDLED**

Waste munitions and explosive materials that will be treated at the New Bomb facility originate from the HWAD Main Base facility or, in case of emergencies, from the U.S. Government. No storage of munitions/hazardous waste occurs at the New Bomb facility. Waste munitions are detonated the same day they arrive. The facility is authorized to treat only those waste identified within the permit application. The facility is not authorized to accept chemical or biological munitions, radioactive or dioxin-containing wastes, smokes or incendiaries, or non-explosive wastes.

## **MONITORING**

The Permittee is required to conduct semi-annual surface soil sampling at, and around the open detonation pits, as described in Section II B.3 (Sampling and Analysis Plan) of the Permit Renewal Application. The Permittee is also required to complete the Sampling Plan for Risk Assessment Addendum and then utilize the results to complete an ongoing Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment (HHERA)

## **CORRECTIVE ACTION**

Pursuant to the Installation Restoration Program (IRP), one Solid Waste Management Unit (SWMU), referenced as HWAAP-I01, has been identified for a historic landfill at the New Bomb facility. In the 1990's, aerial photos of the area were reviewed and no evidence of a landfill was found. Additionally, remedial investigation conducted by the Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP) identified munition surface debris to be present in areas near the New Bomb facility, but which are ineligible for Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) funding since New Bomb is an active facility. As such, the DRAFT PERMIT (see Sections 12A and 12B) contains corrective action requirements and schedule for investigation and remedial activities.

## **BASIS FOR THE PERMIT CONDITIONS**

The DRAFT PERMIT conditions are established pursuant to the authority of Section 3006 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) (Chapter 40 Code of Federal Regulations as codified in Part 271), 40 CFR Parts 124, and 260 through 270, Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 459-520 and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 444.842 through 444.8746, 444.940 through 444.9555, and 444.960. These laws and regulations govern the management of hazardous waste in the State of Nevada. The NDEP, as the authorized permitting agency for the State of Nevada, has reviewed the permit renewal application submitted by HWAD New Bomb and has determined that the facility can be operated under the proposed permit conditions in accordance with applicable regulations and in a manner which is protective of public health and the environment.

Unit-specific operation and maintenance requirements in the DRAFT PERMIT also contain provisions for: waste analysis for proper management of hazardous waste; contingency plan and preparedness requirements to prevent and respond to releases of hazardous waste; personnel training requirements; inspection and record-keeping requirements; corrective action; and unit-specific closure requirements. The Permittee must annually certify that open detonation is the most economically practicable method currently available for treating these waste munitions, which minimizes present and future threats to human health and the environment.

## **REQUESTED VARIANCES**

No variances were requested with this permit renewal.

## **PROCEDURES FOR REACHING A FINAL DECISION**

*Section 7004(b) of RCRA, NAC 444.8632, and 40 CFR Section 124.10* require that the public and interested agencies be given at least forty-five (45) days to comment on each draft Permit prepared under RCRA. The comment period for the HWAD New Bomb facility will end on **August 12, 2013**. Anyone wishing to submit comments on this DRAFT PERMIT must do so within this forty-five day period.

Persons should submit written comments concerning the permit conditions to NDEP either at the Carson City address shown below, through email at [mgodbout@ndep.nv.gov](mailto:mgodbout@ndep.nv.gov), or through the website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/admin/public.htm>. Comments should include all reasonably available references, factual grounds, and supporting material.

**Nevada Division of Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Waste Management  
Attn: Maureen Godbout  
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001  
Carson City, NV 89701-5249**

A public hearing may be held to hear further comments if a written notice of opposition is received and a request for such a hearing is submitted. In the event that such a public hearing is requested, a time and place for the meeting will be scheduled and announced in a separate public notice at least thirty (30) days prior to the hearing.

NDEP will respond in writing to all comments received during the public comment period and statements heard at a public hearing, in the event one is held, when making a final decision.

Under the conditions of the DRAFT PERMIT, should it become final and there is no appeal, the facility will be allowed to continue their waste management operations and conduct the required monitoring activities subject to the terms of the permit and other applicable permits and legal requirements. The facility's hazardous waste management unit and related activities are designed to comply with current state and federal requirements.

The ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD for the DRAFT PERMIT, which includes the APPLICATION, DRAFT PERMIT, and FACT SHEET, are available for public review by appointment between the hours of **8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday** at the NDEP address above. Further information and copies of the FACT SHEET may be obtained by contacting **Sean Kendrick of NDEP** by phone at **(775) 687-9474**, by email at [skendrick@ndep.nv.gov](mailto:skendrick@ndep.nv.gov), or through the website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/admin/public.htm>.

A copy of the DRAFT PERMIT may also be viewed, by appointment Monday through Thursday, at the offices of **SOC** in **Hawthorne, NV** (contact **Charles King** at **(775) 945-7317**).

When NDEP makes a final decision to either issue or deny the permit, notice will be given to HWAD New Bomb and to each person who has submitted written comments or requested a notice of the final decision. The final permit decision shall become effective thirty (30) days after service of notice of the decision unless a later date is specified or review is requested under *NAC 444.8632* and *40 CFR Section 124.19* or an appeal is filed with the State Environmental Commission (within 10 days after notice of the action of the Department) under *NAC 445B.340*. If no comments request a change in the draft permit, the final permit shall become effective immediately upon issuance.

Please bring the foregoing notice to the attention of all persons whom you believe would be interested in this matter.