Owyhee Combined School
Owyhee, Elko County

SITE BACKGROUND

The Owyhee Combined School is operated by the Elko County School District on land owned by the Duck Valley Shoshone-Paiute Tribes. An above-ground diesel fuel storage tank existed on the property adjacent to the main school building in the 1980s. An underground pipe transported heating fuel from the above-ground tank to fill the underground storage tank (UST) that fed the boilers. At an unknown date, one or more spills occurred during the filling of the underground storage tank. The location affected by the contaminated soil was in the middle of the playground. The above-ground tank, supply line, and underground tank have since been replaced. In 2006 the Elko County School District applied and was approved for Nevada Brownfields Program (NBP) funding to conduct remediation activities on the contaminated soil.

FUNDING

Activity	NBP Funding	Date
Soil and Groundwater Assessment & Site Remediation	$316,271	2006

SITE LOCATION

- 100 Academic Way, Owyhee, Elko County

RESOURCES

To learn more about the Nevada Brownfields Program, visit:
https://ndep.nv.gov/environmental-cleanup/brownfields

SITE INVESTIGATIONS

A soil and groundwater assessment was conducted with the goal of assessing the site for petroleum hydrocarbon contamination and any other comingled hazardous substance issues.
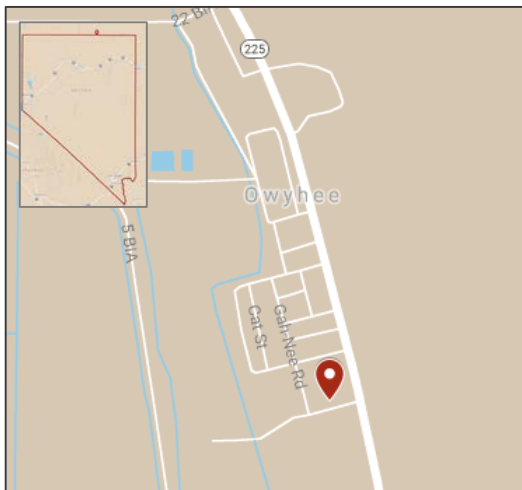
CLEAN-UP ACTIVITY

170 tons of asphalt surface that was above the affected area was removed and disposed of. 789 tons of petroleum-containing soil in the vicinity of the former UST was excavated and disposed of. Following confirmation soil samples, aggregate base was used to backfill the excavation, and asphalt concrete paving was placed over it.

Based on the confirmation soil samples, petroleum-impacted soil remains present outside the area of excavation, and a potential exists to encounter petroleum-containing soil is excavation outside the area or depth of the backfill is performed.