#### Nevada Division of Environmental Protection

Bureau of Corrective Actions, Remediation Branch updates to Nevada Environmental Activities

April 22 and 24, 2025

Presented by Ruby Wood







## Nevada Environmental Activities – LUST/Remediation Program Updates

#### Topics

- New public access of electronic case documents
- NEA as a CEM action item and project tracking tool
- Uploading and submitting case documents through NEA



## Nevada Environmental Activities – Public Access of Case Documents

- Nevada Environmental Activities (NEA) database URL: <u>https://nevadaenvironmentalactivities.ndep.nv.gov/Default.a</u> <u>spx</u>
- Can now view Remediation/LUST case documents on NEA
- Most case documents from ~2018 onward are available online
- Many historical files are still in hard copy format or not uploaded to NEA
- Can help supplement (but not replace) Phase I ESA public records requests

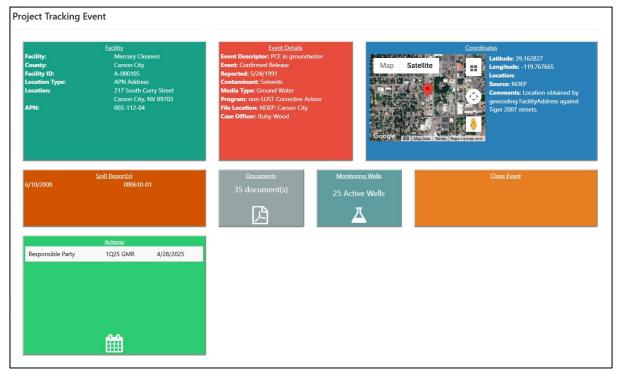


#### Nevada Environmental Activities – Public Access of Case Documents

	u like to do?										
								Search	Search Transaction		
verage Application	Case Management	Claims UST Prog	ram Cost	Proposal Administration Cer	rtifications	Certification Cl	EUs Re	mediation/LUST	T Case Spill R	eporting	
Remediat	ion/LUST Case Search	My Remediatic	n/LUST Cases	Remediation/LUST Case Action Items		Jpload Case D	ocument				
Show 50	✓ entries								Search:		
Show 50	<ul> <li>✓ entries</li> <li>Facility</li> </ul>	11	Facility ID ↓↑	Address	\$pill Num	ber ↓†	County 1	Date Reported		Closure Date	
Show 50		15		Address 3901 West Ponderosa Way Las Vegas. NV 89118			County 11 Clark				
	Facility	15	ID ↓↑	3901 West Ponderosa Way Las Vegas, NV			• • •	Reported 4		Date	
Select	Facility Asphalt Terminal	13	ID ↓↑ H-001138	3901 West Ponderosa Way Las Vegas, NV 89118 3901 West Ponderosa Way Las Vegas, NV	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		Clark	Reported 1		Date 12/03/1997	
Select	Facility Asphalt Terminal Asphalt Terminal	15	ID I1 H-001138 H-001138	3901 West Ponderosa Way Las Vegas. NV 89118 3901 West Ponderosa Way Las Vegas. NV 89118 3901 West Ponderosa Way Las Vegas. NV	980312-27	00	Clark Clark	Reported         1           04/20/1997         02/16/1998		Date           12/03/1997           05/01/1998	



#### Nevada Environmental Activities – Public Access of Case Documents





NEVADA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION 13.

#### Nevada Environmental Activities – Tracking Your Open Cases

Can view a summary screen of your Remediation/LUST cases:

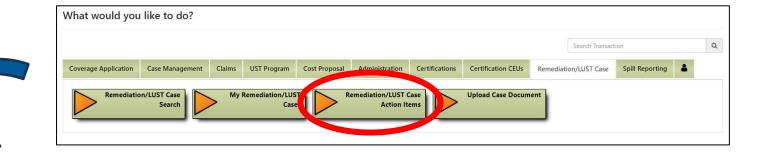
									Search Transac	tion	
Coverage A	pplication Case Manager	ment Cla		UST Prog nediatio			tions Certification		ediation/LUST Case	Spill Repo	orting
	Sear				Cases Action	items					
			-								
Show 50	v entries			-						Search:	
Show 50	✓ entries Facility	La Facili	ility ID	Jt A	dress		Spill Number	County	11 Date Reported		Case
Show 50			ility ID 02147	VI	dress /5 W Russell Rd Las Vegas, NV 89118		Spill Number 201202-02	County Clark	11 Date Reported 01/13/2023	ţţ	Case Ruby



NEVADA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION 13

#### Nevada Environmental Activities – Action Item Tracking

Can view a summary screen of your action items:



	Facility 斗	Facility ID	Address 41	Spill Number 🛛 🕸	County 1	Date Reported	Action Item 🛛 🕸	Action Item Due Date 🛛 🕸
Select	Green Valley Grocery #30	8-002147	6875 W Russell Rd Las Vegas, NV 89118	201202-02	Clark	01/13/2023	4Q24 GMR	01/28/2025
Select	Green Valley Grocery #30	8-002147	6875 W Russell Rd Las Vegas, NV 89118	201202-02	Clark	01/13/2023	ESA Report	11/08/2024
Select	Mercury Cleaners	A-000105	217 South Curry Street Carson City, NV 89703		Carson City	05/24/1991	3Q24 GMR Due	09/28/2024



NEVADA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

7

- CEMs can now submit case deliverables through NEA
- Easy tracking, no more losing emails
- Fast publication to public record on NEA website
- User's Guide available on NEA

Corrective Actions User Guide	
	Search Guides Q
> Account Access	
Account Management	
> System Management (Site Administrator)	
D Enrollment	
> Certification Program (CEM, UTH, UTT, ABC Operator Trainers)	
Staff - External User Management	
D UST Functionality	
D Claims	
> 7530 Process	
Direct Payment	
D Critical Infrastructure	
Document Management	
D Office of Fiscal Management (OFM)	
D Cost Proposals	
Staff Contiff the Program	
Remediation/LUST Cases	
Submitting a Remediation/LUST Case Document	
Overview This guide instructs CEMs and CEM Assistants how to submit Remediation/LUST case for Case Officer review.	documents to Nevada Environmental Activities (NEA)



									Search Tran	nsaction		
overage Applic	ation Case Management	Claims	UST Program	Cost Proposal	Administrati	on Certificat	ions Certification CE	Us Re	emediation/LUST Cas	se	Spill Reporting	2
Rem	ediation/LUST Case Search	> My I	Remediation/LUS Case		emediation/LL Actio	JST Case on Items	Upload Case Do	ocument				
Show 50	Case ▼ entries									S	earch:	
		ļ£	Facility ID	11 Spill Number	11	County	1 Date Reported	ţţ	Case Officer		earch: Closure Date	
	✓ entries		Facility ID 8-002147	J]         Spill Number           201202-02		County Clark	Date Reported           01/13/2023	ţţ	Case Officer Ruby Wood			
Show 50	<ul> <li>✓ entries</li> <li>Facility</li> </ul>	ŧ						ţţ				



NEVADA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION 13.

Upload Event Document					
Facility	Facility ID	Spill Number	County	Date Reported	Case Officer
Green Valley Grocery #30	8-002147	201202-02	Clark	01/13/2023	Ruby Wood
Custom Name					
Date					
Document Type	Conceptual Site Model	~			
Document	Browse or Drag & Drop Document		Save & Su	bmit	
Previous					



NEVADA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION 13

	Coverage Application	Case Management	Claims	UST Program	Cost Proposal	Administration	Certifications	Certification CEUs	Remediation/LUST Case	Spill Reporting	*		
	Coverage App Resume Coverage App Application												
A	tion Required 🔮								Search Actions			Q	
		ate that you are eligible for Mercury Cleaners, Fac							ansaction to begin the exam r	registraion process			
	4Q24 GMR for G	reen Valley Grocery #30,	Facility to a		,	- go to opiona case	ocument to subm	it the subject deliverabl	le.				
	ESA Report for G	reen Valley Grocery #30,	, Facility ID	8-002147 is overdu	ie by 159 days. Plea	se go to Upload Cas	e Document to sub	mit the subject delivera	ble.				



## Thank You – Questions?

Nevada Environmental Activities (NEA) Homepage:

https://nevadaenvironmentalactivities.ndep.nv.gov/

#### **Contact Information:**

Remediation Branch Supervisor Ruby Wood: 775-687-9383, <u>rwood@ndep.nv.gov</u>



## Certified Environmental Manager (CEM)Program Overview and Updates

#### April 2025

Presented by Zach Lamebull Mike Cabble







#### **Certification Program History**

NDEP's certification program began under Assembly Bill 734 during the 1989 legislative session in response to consumer protection concerns. The adopted requirements were added to NRS 459.500, which includes the following:

- A requirement to create regulations through the State Environmental Commission (SEC) to certify consultants engaged in the response, cleanup, or management of hazardous waste, hazardous material, or regulated substances.
- Allowed the SEC to require, through regulation, that an entity responsible for a spill, leak, or accident involving a hazardous waste, hazardous material, or regulated substance obtain advice from a consultant certified by NDEP.
- Provided authority to the SEC to establish standards relating to education, experience, performance, and financial responsibility required for the certification of consultants.



#### **Certification Program History**

- In 1991, the SEC adopted regulations (NAC 459.970 NAC 459.97295) establishing NDEP's certification program of certain consultants and contractors. These regulations also define the term "Environmental Manager".
- An environmental manager is certified by the NDEP to act as a consultant relating to:
  - The management of hazardous waste;
  - The investigation of a site to determine the release or potential release of a hazardous substance;
  - The sampling of air, soil, surface water, or groundwater to determine the release of a hazardous substance;
  - The response to and cleanup of a released hazardous substance; or
  - $\circ$   $\;$  The remediation of water or soil contaminated by a hazardous substance.
- A consultant who is hired for a fee or in conjunction with other services for which a fee is charged, must be certified by the NDEP.



ENVIRONMENTA PROTECTION

#### **Certification Program History**

- Not many regulatory amendments have been made regarding environmental managers since the certification program's inception in 1991; however, there were two recent exceptions of note:
  - The first was in December of 2020, where new regulations (NAC 459.99951 NAC 459.99972) created a disciplinary action process for NDEP to pursue in the event a certified environmental manager has not performed in accordance with the Standards of Practice set forth in NAC 459.9729.
    - NAC 459.97295 was added to the certification program regulations to create a process through which an aggrieved person who is <u>not</u> subject to disciplinary action can present information to NDEP management to reverse an action they believe is incorrect or based on inadequate information.
  - The most recent update was in September of 2022 driven by audit findings, which are covered in greater detail on the following slides.



ENVIRONMENTAI PROTECTION

#### **Requirement Updates Background**

- In January 2021, the Nevada Division of Internal Audits (DIA) provided a report of audit findings to the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP). Among other findings, the report alleged Nevada's environmental manager certification program was not as robust as other state certification programs.
- Based on DIA's review of other states, continuation of education and/or periodic testing was required for renewal of State-issued certifications, which was missing in Nevada.
- The DIA recommended NDEP strengthen CEM certification requirements to ensure certified individuals have a strong working knowledge to manage and oversee remediation projects.



#### **Requirement Updates Background**

- To address the findings of the DIA report, NDEP proposed program amendments for applicant education and experience updates as well as the addition of a continuing education requirement for CEMs renewing their certification. Lastly, to support these amendments, application and exam fees were increased to \$150 and \$200, respectively.
  - Public workshop held in February 2022.
  - The amended regulations were adopted by the State Environmental Commission in June 2022.
  - Following approval by the Legislative Commission, the regulations became effective September 28, 2022
  - Codified Regulations: NAC 459.970 NAC 459.97295



#### **Current CEM Requirements**

- New applicants must have a college degree in engineering or environmental sciences and 3 years of environmental experience within the last 5 years.
  - Note, the option to demonstrate a combination of education and experience in lieu of a college degree has been removed.
- NDEP used a phased approach to gradually ramp up the number of CEUs required based on a CEM's expiration date. As of March 1, 2025, all CEMs renewing their certification must demonstrate 24 CEUs.
- All CEUs must be submitted for review with supporting documentation prior to or at the time their renewal application is submitted.
- The Nevada Environmental Activities online system is used to submit, review, approve, manage, and track applications and CEUs. Both staff and CEMs have access to this system:
  - o <u>https://nevadaenvironmentalactivities.ndep.nv.gov/</u>



#### **Application Requirements and Policies**

- Summary of CEM applicant requirements (NAC 459.972):
  - In accordance with NAC 459.972(1), applicant is to demonstrate they are *"of good character and reputation..."* determined by submittal of an application which includes the following:
- A color photograph of the applicant which is approximately 2 inches by 2 inches;
  - Note this requirement pairs with NAC 459.9729(1)(c), to demonstrate the certificate holder is who they say they are)
- A statement signed by the applicant under penalty of perjury declaring the details of all pleas of guilty or nolo contendere in any criminal proceeding and all convictions of any crimes; and
- Three letters of reference from natural persons with experience in the services of that classification attesting to the applicant's moral character and competence in that classification.



ENVIRONMENTA PROTECTION

#### **Application Requirements and Policies**

Demonstrate one meets minimum standards:

- A bachelor's or advanced degree from an accredited college or university in an area relating to the environment including, but not limited to, environmental science, engineering, geology, hydrology, hydrogeology, biology, toxicology, environmental health, physics, industrial hygiene or chemistry; and
  - Note, if you currently are a CEM and were able to sit for the exam by qualifying by work experience alone, do not let your CEM lapse as you will no longer qualify until you meet the education requirement. Before the regulation change, work experience alone could qualify you to sit for the CEM exam.
- At least 3 years of relevant environmental experience within the 5 years immediately preceding the date of the application. Relevant experience is parsed into categories on the application.
- Pass an examination pursuant to NAC 459.9726.



#### **Application Review and Exam Requirements**

- Notify applicant within 6 weeks of receipt of the full application packet and indicate whether it has been approved or rejected (NAC 459.9726(1)).
- Exam requirements for new CEM applicants (NAC 459.9726(2-8)):
  - \$200 fee for exam. Payment must be received at least 30 days prior to the exam date.
  - An exam is to be given by the Certification Program at least once a year.
    - The CEM exam is currently offered twice/year; one in Carson City and one in Las Vegas.
    - It will be the policy of the Certification Program to identify the time and place of the exam at least 3 months prior and will be posted to the Certification website.
  - The exam is property of the Certification Program and must remain confidential (NAC 459.9726(6)).



#### **Certification Exam Requirements (Continued)**

- 6 If an applicant fails the exam (i.e., scores below the required 70% passing grade, the applicant can re-test by registering for a subsequent exam and satisfying repayment of the full exam fee (NAC 459.9726(7)).
- An approved CEM application will remain on file and active for 2 years following the date on which all application materials were received by the Certification Program.
  - The applicant may register for an initial exam within this 2-year window.
  - An applicant who fails to take the exam or does not pass the exam within this 2-year period must re-apply by submitting a full application package and paying the application processing fee in effect at that time (NAC 459.9726(8)).
  - The 2-year clock begins on the date the Certification Program receives all parts of an application package; it does not start at the later date when the Certification Program has completed review of the packet and determined the applicant is eligible.



ENVIRONMENTA PROTECTION

#### **Duration of Certification**

Each certificate is valid for 2 years after the date of issuance. (NAC 459.9727).

- The certificate expires on the last day of the second year, and it is a violation to continue to perform the work of an environmental manager prior to receiving the renewed certificate.
- The renewed certificate will start on the calendar day following the expiration date. Late renewal <u>will not</u> alter your certification period or expiration date.



#### **Certification Renewal**

- NAC 459.9728 allows a one-year grace period beyond the expiration in which to renew the certificate.
- A CEM must submit an application for renewal on the form specified by the Certification Program accompanied by payment of the renewal fee; currently \$150 (NAC 459.9728(2-3)).
- Complete an examination for renewal if the Certification Program has determined that such a renewal examination is appropriate (NAC 459.9728(4)).
  - This regulation is broad and doesn't limit the Certification Program on when it will require re-examination if a valid certificate has lapsed, but as a matter of policy we require a person that was a CEM to undergo the initial application and exam process if they do not renew within one-year of expiration.



#### **Certification Renewal – Continuing Education Units**

- Successfully complete at least 24 hours of continuing education during the immediately preceding 2 years and submit with his or her application for renewal, sufficient proof of the completion of such hours, as determined by the Division (NAC 459.9728(5)).
  - Continuing Education Units (CEUs) must be completed in the period beginning exactly 2 years preceding the certificate expiration date and not more than one year after the certificate expiration date, consistent with the regulatory one-year grace period.
    - The 24 CEU requirement necessary to renew in the next renewal cycle cannot include completion of the grace period education/training used to satisfy the previous 2-year certification period. For example, if you complete an 8-hour HAZWOPER refresher after your expiration date and use those credits to satisfy the previous 2-year renewal cycle, you cannot use those 8 credits again for the following renewal cycle.
  - CEU credits cannot be carried over to the next renewal cycle if you input over your required amount.



#### **CEU Requirements**

- CEUs must be applicable to the practice of a professional environmental manager as described in regulation NAC 459.9704 to be accepted. Policy limiting acceptable continuing education credits for environmental manager certification has been adopted to meet the intent of the regulation. This addresses the audit finding that previous technical requirements to apply for and maintain the CEM were not robust. The renewal application requires CEMs to demonstrate ongoing work experience in any of these six categories: RCRA Wastes, Site Investigation, Sampling, Release Response, Release Clean Up, and Remediation. Acceptable continuing education is to be related to these professional areas.
  - Continuing education credit will <u>not</u> be given for non-technical professional development such as business development and marketing, human resources and management, business or contractual law, ethics or similar.
  - Credit will <u>not</u> be given for workplace required training such as sexual and other harassment, active shooter threats, or similar.



#### **CEU Requirements**

- The certificate holder renewing must submit proof of completion of CEUs in a form determined by the division.
- Applicants must provide a copy of a certificate, agenda or receipt that shows they have attended the course or training for which they are requesting credit.
- With the exception of OSHA HAZWOPER, other OSHA trainings, and MSHA 8-hour refresher trainings, <u>CEMs are not allowed to repeat the same</u> <u>trainings within three biennial renewal cycles</u>.
  - No more than 16 of the 24 hours required may be applied using the above refresher training courses in a 2-year renewal period.



#### **CEU Requirements**

- Attendance of a conference or technical meeting is acceptable, but credit hours will only be given consistent with the time length of the seminars, sessions, talks, etc. one attended. A conference agenda or schedule is to be provided that provides sufficient detail for the program to determine the subject of the requested credits are consistent with the continuing education intent. As an example, an 8-hour conference that includes a 1.5hour welcoming session and 1.5-hr lunch, two 1-hour sessions before lunch break and three 1-hr sessions after lunch break will receive five credit hours of continuing education.
- Completion of renewal applications and upload of CEUs must be performed using the Nevada Environmental Activities (NEA) site:
  - https://nevadaenvironmentalactivities.ndep.nv.gov/
- Continuing education units can be added to the NEA system at anytime and as acquired using the Manage Continuing Education Units transaction. By doing so, these CEUs will be available in the CEU Library when submitting the renewal application streamlining the renewal review process.



#### **CEU Library – Use, Review, and Approval**

- The Certification Program has created an online library of reviewed and approved training the CEM can use to conveniently complete their renewal application or select from in the Manage CEUs transaction. Both the library and Manage CEUs transactions can be accessed by logging into your account on the NEA site.
- If a CEU is not present in the library, a CEM can petition the program to add any relevant training they believe meets the intent of the continuing education requirement by using the Suggest CEM CEU transaction.
  - Adding new materials to the library requires identifying the training method, title, education provider, number of units, course content, a URL if web-based, or agenda for review by program staff.
  - If accepted, the training or course will be added to the library, and you will be notified of its acceptance. If denied, you will be provided with an explanation for the denial.



#### **CEU Library – Use, Review, and Approval**

- The Certification Program is aware that some courses and training that meet the intent of the regulation do not provide a certificate of completion, have no cost, and otherwise have no documentation that one has completed the offering. This is true of a number of online trainings and brownbag seminars. In these cases, the applicant must:
  - Write a synopsis of the course or training's content,
  - Identify the name and credentials of the instructor,
  - And provide other relevant details necessary to determine its relevance to the environmental manager certification.
- The training information is to be uploaded to the NEA system using the Suggest CEM CEU transaction and the above synopsis is to be saved as a pdf file to upload. If approved, it will be added to the library, where it can be selected while completing the renewal application or via the Manage Continuing Education Units transaction.



# ThankYou

Continuing Education CEU webpage:

https://ndep.nv.gov/environmentalcleanup/certification/certified-environmentalmanager/continuing-education

**Contacts:** NDEP, Certification Program Branch <u>cert\_info@ndep.nv.gov</u> <u>https://ndep.nv.gov/environmental-cleanup/certification</u>

Zachary Lamebull, Environmental Scientist 775-687-9480 <u>zlamebull@ndep.nv.gov</u>

Mike Cabble, Environmental Scientist 775-687-9488 <u>mcabble@ndep.nv.gov</u>



