



NEVADA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
BUREAU OF SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS MANAGEMENT  
FACT SHEET FOR A RCRA HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT PERMIT  
US ECOLOGY NEVADA INC. (USEN)  
EPA ID #NVT330010000  
DRAFT PERMIT NUMBER NEVHW0025



The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) has developed this Fact Sheet for the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Permit which NDEP intends to approve for the US Ecology Nevada Inc. facility in Beatty, Nevada. 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 Application for and development of a RCRA Permit for the management of hazardous waste and extending the existing permit.

### **FACILITY DESCRIPTION**

The US Ecology Nevada, Inc. (USEN) facility is located 11 miles south of Beatty, Nevada on a 480-acre site which is owned by the State of Nevada. The site is situated in a relatively remote area off highway US 95 which is surrounding by open land under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Bureau of Land Management. The USEN facility is a commercial hazardous waste treatment, storage and disposal facility. The facility consists of:

- Six (6) Container Storage Units;
- Four (4) PCB Storage Tanks;
- Two (2) Laboratory Rinse Water Storage Tanks;
- One (1) Evaporation Tank;
- One (1) Aerosol Can Recycling Unit;
- One (1) Drum Re-Use Management Area
- Four (4) Batch Stabilization Tanks (Pans 2-5);
- Four (4) Subtitle C Landfills consisting of Trench 10 (closed), Trench 11 (closed), Trench 12 (no longer active and undergoing closure), and Trench 13 (Phase A active, Phase B in construction) with a design capacity of 8.6 million cubic yards.

This facility will not accept bio-hazardous or radioactive wastes or waste containing dioxins. The facility is required to perform groundwater monitoring, corrective action and post-closure care and monitoring.

### **Landfill Disposal**

The Permit allows the facility to dispose of waste in Trench 13 (Phase A and Phase B when constructed). The total capacity of Trench 13 (all five phases together) is 5,331 acre-feet (8.6 million cubic yards). Trench 12 and Phase A of Trench 13 have been, and the remainder of Trench 13 will be, constructed with a double composite liner consisting of a primary 80-mil HDPE liner and a secondary 60-mil HDPE liner and geosynthetic clay layer (GCL), exceeding the MTR.

The two (2) closed landfills, Trench 10 and Trench 11, are in the post-closure care and maintenance phase. Trench 12 stopped receiving waste in July 2020 and is undergoing final closure. The post-closure monitoring includes removal of any liquids from the leachate collection and leak detection sumps.

The final landfill covers for USEN Trenches 11, 12 and 13 are designed to satisfy the regulatory requirements for final closure of a landfill cell. The design acknowledges prior research and operating experience that confirms the desired environmental protection can be obtained with an alternative design (*aka* Evapotranspiration or ET design) in the given arid environment. The final *alternative* cover design for Trenches 11 and 12 was approved by the NDEP in June 2009. As a performance measure, USEN installed a lysimeter system under the ET cover of Trench 11 to monitor any moisture migration through the final cover system. Data from this system is used to assess the need for additional monitoring or any potential design adjustments on the final covers at Trenches 12 and 13.

### **Tank Storage**

The tank storage portion of the facility includes four (4) Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB's) storage tanks and two(2) laboratory rinsewater tanks. The maximum amount and type of wastes that may be handled are discussed in Permit Condition 4.

### **Tank Treatment**

There are four (4) Stabilization tanks for the treatment of liquid and metal bearing wastes. One Evaporation tank is used for decontaminating equipment (trucks, etc.) and allowing the wash water to evaporate. The maximum amount and type of wastes that may be treated are discussed in Permit Condition 5. The containment system employed for these tanks is discussed in detail in Permit Application Section 10.

### **Container Storage**

USEN is permitted to store waste in containers subject to the terms and conditions of this Permit as follows: Containers are managed in the areas noted in the Container Management Plan in Permit Application Section 9. Both liquids and solids are accepted and stored for further treatment (no treatment in containers is permitted), disposal, or shipment off-site. The specific management requirements of each area are in the respective section(s) of the application. The following container storage areas are to be permitted: PCB/RCRA Storage, Dry Hazardous Waste Storage Areas # 2 & 3, Bin Storage Area (Secondarily Contained), the Container and Tank Management Building and the Container Management Building.

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

Solvents, Pesticides, Chlorinated Hydrocarbons, Reactives, Inorganic Acids/Bases Metals, state- regulated wastes, Labpacks, Containerized soils, Contaminated Soil-Remediation waste, Contaminated liquids and other waste that will be stored, treated, and disposed at USEN which originate from a wide variety of sources including industrial and environmental remediation waste. Any residues or wastes that cannot be disposed or treated onsite must be shipped to an off-site permitted treatment or disposal facility.

This facility will not accept bio-hazardous or radioactive wastes or waste containing dioxins.

### **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 wastes in the State of Nevada. NDEP, as the authorized permitting agency for the State of Nevada, has reviewed the permit renewal application submitted by USEN and has determined 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; and unit-specific closure requirements. USEN is also required to conduct corrective action due to historical (pre-RCRA) releases of hazardous chemicals at the facility. USEN has already initiated corrective action at these sites. In the draft permit, these sites are referred to as Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs).

### **REQUESTED VARIANCES**

No Variances were requested for this Permit Renewal.

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### **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 most recent comment period for the USEN draft permit ended on **September 1, 2019** (Class 2 mod for CMU #19).

The ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD for the DRAFT PERMIT, which includes the APPLICATION, AGENCY AND APPLICANT CORRESPONDENCE AND MEMORANDA, DRAFT PERMIT, and this FACT SHEET, are available for public review between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday at the NDEP offices in Carson City. The compliance history of the applicant may also be viewed during the same hours and location given above. A copy of the DRAFT PERMIT and Application may also be viewed at the USEN facility located 11 miles south of Beatty Nevada.

When NDEP makes a final decision to either issue or deny the permit, notice will be given to USEN 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 of the NDEP Administrator's decision is brought to the State Environmental Commission under NRS 445B.890. If no comments are submitted requesting a change in the draft permit, the final permit shall become effective reflecting the conditions in the draft permit

### **NAME OF PERSON TO CONTACT**

NDEP Contact: Maureen Godbout, (775) 687-9482, E-mail: [mgodbout@ndep.nv.gov](mailto:mgodbout@ndep.nv.gov)

Facility Contact: Dan Church, General Manager, (775) 553-2203 ext. 4118

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Comments should include all reasonably available references, factual grounds, and supporting material. A public hearing will be held to hear further comments if a written notice of opposition is received and a request for such a hearing is submitted by **September 1, 2019**. 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.