

Nye County
Department of Natural Resources and Federal Facilities
1210 E. Basin Road, Suite #6
Pahrump, NV 89048
Phone: 775-727-7727 Fax: 775-727-7919
Contact: Les W. Bradshaw

February 29, 2000
For Immediate Release

ANOMALOUS RESULTS FOUND IN EWDP HOLE

Early preliminary data of geochemical sampling in one of Nye County's Early Warning Drilling Program Phase II (EWDP) holes yielded higher than background levels of radioactivity. Nye County scientists are verifying these preliminary results by re-sampling and rerunning sample splits. It is not known at this time what the source of the radioactivity might be.

"Good science dictates that we verify these initial results. We moved quickly to do that. We will have additional results in a few days," said Les Bradshaw, Department Manager of the Nye County Department of Natural Resources and Federal Facilities. "Until we verify these preliminary results, we will not be able to determine the source of the anomaly and determine what it might mean."

The hole is being drilled as part of Nye County's Early Warning Drilling Program, a well-drilling program aimed at gathering additional geological and hydrological data south of the Nevada Test Site. Samples from the drill holes are routinely run for a wide variety of information at labs independent of the U.S. Department of Energy. Drilling and sampling are scheduled to continue through 2000.