The FY 2017 National Defense Authorization Act gave NNSA the authority to protect facilities from unauthorized unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) that may pose threats to the safety or security of assets and personnel.

“NO DRONE ZONES”

NNSA is taking action to detect, identify, track, and mitigate potentially malicious UAS at its sites.

The Federal Aviation Administration has established “no drone zones” at NNSA facilities that contain Category I Special Nuclear Material (the highest risk category as defined by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission).

The “no drone zone” flight restriction may extend up to 400 feet over designated sensitive sites.

If a UAS poses a threat, the site is authorized to disrupt the system, seize or exercise control, confiscate, or use reasonable force to disable, damage, or destroy the UAS.

NNSA continuously evaluates the security posture for all of its facilities and adjusts as needed.

RESTRICTED SITES

Sandia National Laboratories in New Mexico is covered by Kirtland Air Force Base restrictions.

Savannah River Site in South Carolina has established restricted airspace over several critical facilities.

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California and Kansas City National Security Campus in Missouri do not house Category I Special Nuclear Material.

OTHER SITES

PUBLIC OUTREACH

NNSA has coordinated with federal, state, and local law enforcement, other government agencies, air fields, hospitals, and emergency operations centers to establish appropriate agreements regarding these restrictions.

NNSA sites have proactively informed local communities with press releases, flyers, posters, and signage to give fair warning to local flight operators.