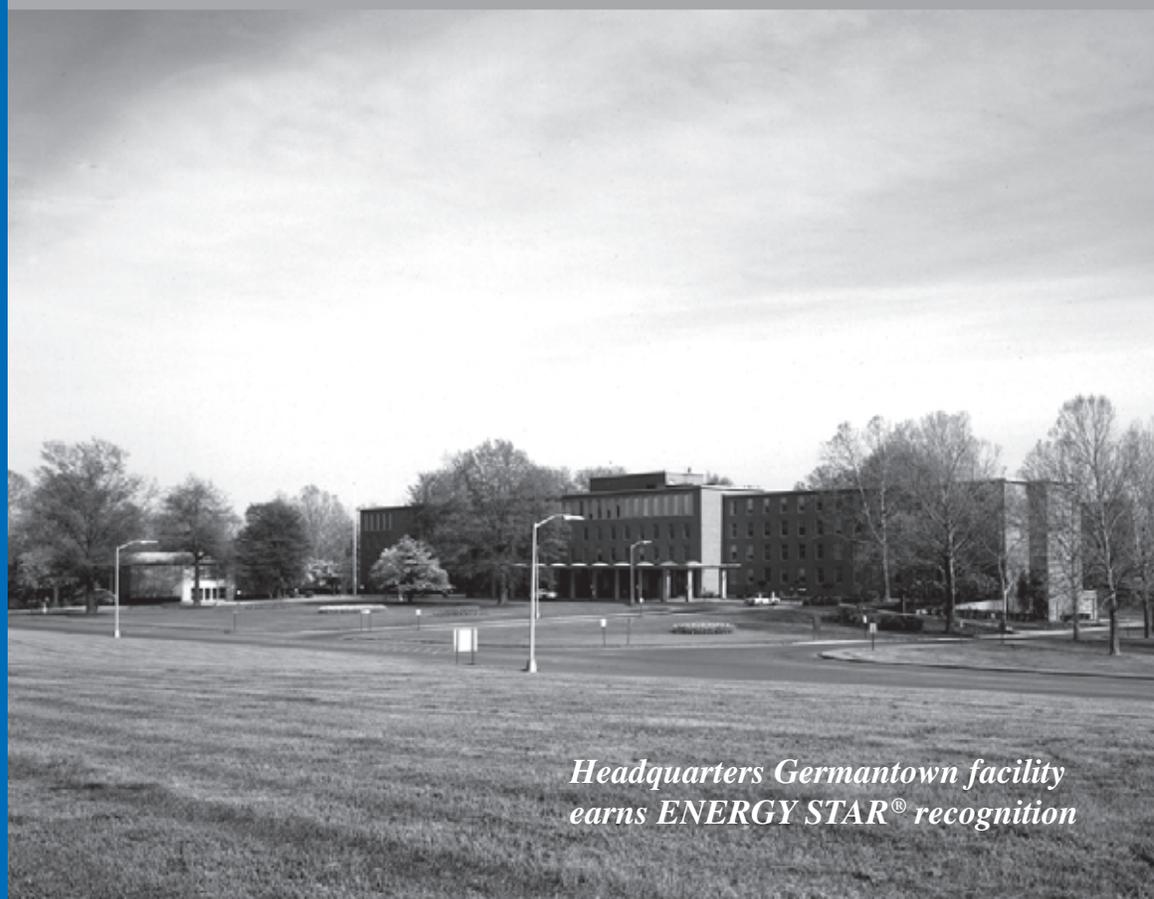


**Secretary
proposes
international
hydrogen
partnership**

**Los Alamos,
Idaho Labs
contracts to be
competed**

**BPA begins new
transmission
line construction**



*Headquarters Germantown facility
earns ENERGY STAR® recognition*

U.S. Department of Energy



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Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham praises the Department of Energy's (DOE) work in the completed Human Genome Project and announces increased funding for a Maryland firm's research related to DOE's Genomes to Life program.



Two protocols on energy efficiency and renewable energy are signed following the April 7-8, 2003, meeting of the U.S.-Russia Energy Working Group at Department of Energy Headquarters, Washington, D.C.

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The Department of Energy's (DOE) Savannah River Site in South Carolina makes its 100th shipment of transuranic waste to DOE's Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in New Mexico, six years ahead of the original schedule.



On our cover

The Department of Energy (DOE) Headquarters office facility in Germantown, Md., (pictured in the bottom photograph) has been designated an energy-efficient ENERGY STAR® building. On April 23, 2003, in a ceremony at the complex, Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy David Garman and Jean Lupinacci, Chief, ENERGY STAR Building Program, Environmental Protection Agency, presented the award plaque to James Campbell, Acting Director, Office of Management, Budget and Evaluation.

In the top photograph, with Garman, Lupinacci, and Campbell (seated, l-r), is the team of employees that played a major role in helping the Germantown facility achieve its 41 percent reduction in energy consumption. Standing, l-r, are Victor Petrolati, Michael Watkins, Edward Danchik, Charles Kuzas, David Wilson, Michael Shincovich, Will Prue, Ken Grossnickle, Brian Costlow, Douglas Bielan, Randy Huff, Virgil Denning, Floyd Pierce, Harry Callis, James Devilbiss, and James Seek.

For more on the Germantown ENERGY STAR recognition, see page 4. ❖

Secretary calls for international hydrogen research collaboration, energy cooperation

On April 28-29, 2003, Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham was in Paris, France, for meetings and to address the International Energy Agency (IEA) Ministerial Meeting. Paris was the first stop of a five-day trip that included later visits to Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and Spain.

In his remarks to the IEA, Secretary Abraham called for international cooperation in advanced research and development that will support the deployment of hydrogen energy technologies. He proposed an “International Partnership for the Hydrogen Economy” that will establish cooperative and collaborative efforts in hydrogen production, storage, transport, and end-use technologies; common codes and standards for hydrogen fuel utilization; and the sharing of information necessary to develop a hydrogen fueling infrastructure.

“International cooperation is key to achieving hydrogen and fuel cell program goals such as those President Bush stated in his recent State of the Union address,” Secretary Abraham said. “Partnerships that leverage scarce resources, develop technology standards, and foster private-public technology and infrastructure collaboration can more easily overcome the technological and institutional barriers that inhibit the development of a cost-competitive, standardized, widely accessible and safe hydrogen economy.”

A growing number of countries have committed to accelerate the development of hydrogen energy technologies in order to improve their energy, economic, and environmental security. For example, the United States has committed \$1.7 billion for the first five years of a long-term research and development program for hydrogen, hydrogen infrastructure, fuel cells, and hybrid vehicle technologies. The European Union has committed up to two billion Euros to long-term research and development of renewable and hydrogen energy technologies.



Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham toured the U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) during his visit to Qatar and visited with Army General Tommy Franks, Commander, CENTCOM (center, left), and the troops. (Photo by Department of Defense)

“The world is moving toward the hydrogen economy,” Secretary Abraham said. “Working closely together, we can bring about the transformation...as smoothly, as efficiently, and as quickly as possible. If we do so, our children and grandchildren...can grow up in a world marked by energy security, economic vitality, and a healthy environment.”

More information on the initiative and the Secretary’s remarks are available at <http://www.energy.gov/HQPress/releases03/aprpr/pr03089.htm>.

Middle East, Spain

On April 30, Secretary Abraham traveled to Doha, Qatar, and Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, to discuss international energy issues and promote international energy dialogue.

In Doha, he met with H.E. Abdulla Bin Hamad Al-Attiyah, Minister of Energy, Industry, Water and Electricity of the State of Qatar, and with other Qatar leaders, including Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar.

While in Qatar, Secretary Abraham toured the U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) and visited with the troops. He also met two Department of Energy (DOE)

employees detailed to CENTCOM in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom—Lt. Col. Dave Lannom, USAF, and Anthony (A.J.) Gipson of the Office of Emergency Operations, National Nuclear Security Administration. The two are providing DOE expertise in oil and gas infrastructure and energy assurance issues and nuclear/radiological emergency response actions.

In Riyadh, Secretary Abraham met with Saudi Arabian officials, including Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources H.E. Ali Al-Naimi. During his meeting with Minister Al-Naimi, Secretary Abraham announced the United States’ support for an initiative to create a small, permanent Secretariat to enhance the operations of the International Energy Forum (IEF). The IEF is an informal group of about 50 countries and international organizations dedicated to promoting better understanding of international oil and energy market developments and policy issues among its members.

From Saudi Arabia, Secretary Abraham continued on to Spain for meetings with Spanish officials on May 1. Those officials included President of Spain Jose Maria Aznar, Vice President of Spain Rodrigo Rato, and European Union Energy Minister Loyola DePalacio. ❖

DOE Germantown an energy-efficient 'star'

The Department of Energy (DOE) Headquarters office facility in Germantown, Md., has been designated an energy-efficient ENERGY STAR® building. ENERGY STAR is a voluntary labeling program sponsored by DOE and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that promotes energy-efficient choices in products and facilities.

The achievement was celebrated during Headquarters' observance of Earth Week 2003, in an April 23 ceremony at the Germantown facility. Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy David Garman and EPA's Chief of the ENERGY STAR Building Program Jean Lupinacci presented an award plaque to James T. Campbell, Acting Director, Office of Management, Budget and Evaluation.

"Achieving the ENERGY STAR label...demonstrates that the Energy Department is 'walking the walk' and leading by example in energy efficiency," Assistant Secretary Garman said. "There is no better place to start than in our own backyard."

To qualify for an ENERGY STAR

buildings label, a facility's energy consumption is measured on a scale of 0 to 100. Commercial, industrial, and Federal buildings earning a score of 75 or greater while maintaining an acceptable indoor environment qualify for the award. DOE's Germantown facility received a score of 83.

The Office of Management, Budget and Evaluation takes seriously its responsibility to reduce energy consumption at DOE Headquarters. Between 1987 and 2002, energy conservation projects at the Germantown facility have allowed the Department to meet the challenges set forth in Executive Order 13123. The Executive Order, dated June 3, 1999, requires each Federal agency to develop and implement a program to reduce energy consumption in its buildings by 30 percent by the year 2005 and 35 percent by 2010.

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2002, the Germantown facility achieved a 41 percent reduction in energy consumption as compared to the FY 1985 base, exceeding the goals set forth in the Executive Order by eight

years and achieving an overall savings of \$2.68 million. Projects contributing to the reduction in energy consumption include:

- installing new roofs with high insulation properties and a building-wide Energy Management Control System;
- replacing all lighting and existing windows with energy-efficient fixtures and windows;
- constructing a new energy-efficient CFC free refrigeration plant; and
- purchasing 826,700 kilowatt-hours worth of Green-e certified renewable power from PEPCO in FY 2002 and FY 2003, accounting for 8 percent of Germantown's electric power consumption.

Germantown is the fifth DOE facility to earn the ENERGY STAR label. The other facilities are Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Building 69; Nevada Test Site, Buildings 117 and 132; and Oak Ridge National Laboratory, the Buildings Technology Center Headquarters. ❖

Take a moment to remember

On Memorial Day, May 26, 2003, at 3 p.m. local time, Americans are being asked to take a moment, to pause for one minute, to remember and honor all of the men and women who have died in service to our country and for our liberties. The voluntary pause in activities is not intended to replace Memorial Day ceremonies, but to highlight the purpose of Memorial Day and to reach those who may not partake in any tributes.

"This act of national unity is designed to encourage people to reflect for one minute on those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedoms and what it means to be an American. It is a moment that everyone can spare," said Carmella LaSpada, Executive Director, White House Commission on the National Moment of Remembrance.



In May 2000, a Gallup poll asked Americans the meaning of Memorial Day. Of the people surveyed, only 28 percent were able to explain correctly the reason behind Memorial Day and only 30 percent of these people planned to visit a veteran's

cemetery or grave. The White House Commission on the National Moment of Remembrance was established by Congress and Public Law 106-579 on Dec. 28, 2000, to put "memorial" back in Memorial Day and to reclaim the day for its original purpose of honoring America's fallen heroes. More information on the Commission and its mission is available at <http://www.remember.gov>.

As in previous years, most Department of Energy and contractor employees will be enjoying Memorial Day as a Federal holiday and a day off from work. This year, at 3 p.m., take time to observe in your own way a Moment of Remembrance and respect. Let's reflect on our freedoms and the sacrifices made by many so that we can enjoy them. Let's make this a national moment for many years to come! ❖

Secretary praises human genome success

Fifty years ago, in April 1953, researchers Francis Crick and James Watson published their historic paper describing the double-helix structure of DNA, an achievement which earned them the Nobel Prize in 1962. In 1986, at the recommendation of its scientist Dr. Charles DeLisi, the Department of Energy (DOE) launched the effort to determine the DNA sequence of the human genome. Seventeen years later, on April 14, 2003, DOE and the National Institutes of Health announced the successful completion of the Human Genome Project and discussed the future of genomics research.

"I am very proud of the Department of Energy's historic role in the sequencing of the human genome—and very excited by the promise of DOE's Genomes to Life initiative," Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham stated when told of the accomplishment. "...DOE's Office of

Science did more than launch the historic quest to discover the genetic blueprint of human beings. DOE also developed cost-effective sequencing and computational technologies and methods that made possible the unraveling of the human genetic code.

"Bringing together the research capabilities of three of our national laboratories—Lawrence Berkeley, Lawrence Livermore, and Los Alamos—DOE founded the Joint Genome Institute, one of the world's largest and most productive public genome sequencing centers. Indeed, DOE's Joint Genome Institute completed the sequencing of three of the human genome's chromosomes—numbers 5, 16, and 19—which together contain some 12,000 genes, including those implicated in forms of kidney disease, prostate and colorectal cancer, leukemia, hypertension, diabetes, and atherosclerosis.

"Now, DOE once again is pioneering discovery-class science....DOE's Genomes to Life program is developing new knowledge about how microorganisms grow and function and will marry this to a national infrastructure in computational biology to build a fundamental understanding of living systems. The thrust of Genomes to Life is aimed at DOE concerns: developing new sources of energy; mitigating the long term impacts of climate change through carbon sequestration; and cleaning up the environment.

"DOE's Genomes to Life research stands on the shoulders of discoveries made precisely because DOE was willing to take the risk and begin a program in gene sequencing some 17 years ago. We are very proud of that tradition and of that legacy. Congratulations to all those who have helped in this historic effort." ❖

DOE boosts firm's funding for genomic research

The Department of Energy (DOE) is increasing its funding to the Institute for Biological Energy Alternatives (IBEA) for research to better understand microbial communities and to develop new, biological methods to capture carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and to produce hydrogen. IBEA, headed by J. Craig Venter, Ph.D., will receive \$3 million per year for the next three years. This is in addition to the current three-year DOE grant to IBEA of \$1 million per year.

Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham announced the funding increase in remarks to IBEA researchers and staff during an April 24, 2003, visit to affiliate organization, The Institute for Genomics Research (TIGR), Rockville, Md. TIGR will collaborate with IBEA on the work.

"Craig Venter is a pioneer who led the private sector effort in genomic research of the 20th century and we are excited that he is focusing his techniques on America's energy challenges of the 21st century," Secretary

Abraham said. "These additional funds may lead to the development of new methods for carbon sequestration or alternative energy production and will work to engineer a particular type of microbe that could produce hydrogen, an important component in our clean energy future."

With the new funds, IBEA scientists will determine the genetic sequences of all the microorganisms occurring in a natural microbial community. The research is related to the Department's Genomes to Life program managed by DOE's Office of Science.

The program aims to understand the activities of single-cell organisms on three levels: the proteins and multi-molecular machines that perform most of the cell's work; the gene regulatory networks that control

these processes; and microbial associations or communities in which groups of different microbes carry out fundamental functions in nature. Researchers hope to use the capabilities of these organisms to help meet energy and environmental challenges. More information on the Genomes to Life program is available at <http://www.genomestolife.org>. ❖



Secretary Abraham (center) receives a briefing at The Institute for Genomics Research (TIGR). At left are Claire Fraser, TIGR President and Director, and J. Craig Venter, President, Institute for Biological Energy Alternatives.

U.S.-Russia Energy Working Group meets

The U.S.-Russia Energy Working Group (EWG) met April 7-8, 2003, at Department of Energy (DOE) Headquarters in Washington, D.C. Co-chairs of the meeting were Deputy Secretary of Energy Kyle McSlarrow and Deputy Minister Oleg Gordeev, Ministry of Energy of the Russian Federation. Participants included representatives from DOE, the U.S. Department of Commerce, the Ministry of Energy of Russia, the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Russia, the U.S. Export-Import Bank, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, and the Trade and Development Group.

The EWG was launched by U.S. President George W. Bush and Russian President Vladimir Putin in May 2002 as a means to strengthen the overall relationship between the two countries. The focus of the group is to enhance global energy security, international strategic stability, and regional cooperation.

The two-day talks led to Deputy Secretary McSlarrow and Deputy Minister Gordeev signing a new Protocol on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy—a high priority for the EWG—and a protocol on overall energy

issues. The energy efficiency protocol provides the framework for cooperation and builds on the DOE and Ministry of Energy role for overall energy efficiency policy coordination.

In the second protocol, EWG subgroups agreed to several tasks. The **Oil Market Subgroup** will hold a future roundtable to exchange information on projected oil prices and their impact on economies. The **Investment Subgroup** agreed to develop a list of projects for which Russian companies and the Russian Government are seeking investors for circulation to the Commercial Energy Summit and the Commercial Energy Dialogue.

The **Information Exchange Subgroup** will continue its exchange as needed with meetings held in Washington, D.C., and Moscow, Russia, depending on funding. The **Small- and Medium-Sized Enterprise Subgroup** agreed to continue contact



U.S. Deputy Secretary of Energy Kyle McSlarrow (left) and Russian Deputy Minister of Energy Oleg Gordeev sign energy protocols following the U.S.-Russia Energy Working Group meeting in Washington, D.C., April 7-8, 2003.

between members to keep informed of programs and initiatives. The **Energy Efficiency Technologies Subgroup** agreed to focus near-term work on supporting funding initiatives and seeking additional funds for energy efficiency improvements in Russian hospitals, supporting energy management training in the U.S. for Russian hospital administrators, and exploring future funding for additional energy management training. ❖

DOE to compete Los Alamos Lab contract

The Department of Energy intends to compete the management and operations contract for its Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) when the current contract expires in 2005. The contract is held by the University of California.

In January 2003, Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham tasked Deputy Secretary of Energy Kyle McSlarrow and Linton Brooks, Acting Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), to evaluate the future relationship between the University of California and LANL and to report back to him by April 30, 2003 (*DOE This Month*, January 2003). On April 26, Deputy Secretary McSlarrow and NNSA Acting Administrator Brooks delivered their report to the Secretary with a

number of recommendations. Responding by memorandum on April 29, Secretary Abraham agreed with the report's conclusions and recommendations.

Secretary Abraham said that retaining the University through the end of the current contract is the most appropriate course. He noted that the University is working vigorously to correct problems uncovered at Los Alamos in 2002, that it brings significant scientific value to the laboratory, and that there would be significant disruption to the LANL mission and employee morale from early termination of the contract.

"At the same time, the University bears responsibility for the systemic management failures..." Secretary Abraham said. "Given that responsi-

bility and the widespread nature of the problems uncovered at Los Alamos, I intend to open the management of Los Alamos to full competition when the current contract expires. The University of California will, of course, be eligible to take part in that competition and I strongly agree that it should be urged to do so."

NNSA Acting Administrator Linton Brooks has been directed to carry out the recommendations of the report. He is to report back to Secretary Abraham and Deputy Secretary McSlarrow on a regular basis.

The report to Secretary Abraham and his response are available at <http://www.energy.gov/HQPress/releases03/aprpr/pr03091.htm>. ❖

Energy compensation program enters new phase for Hanford workers

The Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA) is administered by the Departments of Labor (DOL) and Energy, with scientific assistance from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The vast majority of the payments made to nuclear weapons workers or their survivors from the Department of Energy's (DOE) Hanford Site have been made to workers who contracted beryllium disease, while "dose reconstructions" are being completed for other workers.

On April 23, 2003, Deputy Secretary of Energy Kyle McSlarrow and Deputy Secretary of Labor D. Cameron Findlay presented one of the first checks for a dose reconstructed claim in the amount of \$150,000 to Thomas J. Keefe in a ceremony at DOE's Richland Operations Office. Keefe, 81, worked at Hanford for General Electric, Atlantic Richfield Hanford Company, and Rockwell Hanford Operation as a

chemical operator from 1947 to 1982 before contracting cancer. The dose reconstruction process validated the probability that radiation exposure Keefe experienced on the job caused his cancer.

"We are proud to play our part in this program by locating the employment and exposure records needed to perform dose reconstructions and establish workers' claims," Deputy Secretary McSlarrow said. "Our goal is to ensure that eligible workers receive the compensation that they deserve."

EEOICPA provides for compensation of up to \$150,000 and payment of medical expenses for nuclear weapons workers who developed illnesses as a result of their exposure to radiation, beryllium, or silica. Conditions covered under this program are radiogenic cancers, beryllium diseases, and chronic silicosis. This part of the program is administered by DOL. DOE administers the part of EEOICPA that provides

assistance with state workers' compensation claims.

Dose reconstruction is a carefully designed process carried out by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health in HHS. Available workplace and environmental monitoring information is supplemented by claimant interviews and other relevant evidence to determine the type and level of radiation to which workers were exposed over their careers. DOL uses the completed dose reconstruction to determine whether a worker's cancer likely was caused by the workplace exposure.

Additional information on the EEOICPA is available on DOE's Office of Worker Advocacy website, <http://www.eh.doe.gov/advocacy/>, and on the DOL website, <http://www.dol.gov/esa/reg/compliance/owcp/eoicp/main.htm>. ❖

ORNL, SRS employees set safety records in man-hours worked

Safety is an important part of daily work at the Department of Energy (DOE). Two sites have reported that employees recently reached a combined total of more than 12 million safe man-hours worked.

For the first time in 10 years, Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) employees have worked more than two million hours without a workday lost to injury on the job. The last two-million-hour milestone was reached in 1993, when laboratory employees worked 2.6 million hours without sustaining an injury resulting in time away from work.

Kelly Beierschmitt, ORNL Director of Environment, Safety, Health and Quality, noted the achievement is a

strong indication of the laboratory's continued emphasis on safety.

"Imagine ORNL as a small city with a population of four or five thousand folks working without any serious injuries and the hospital quiet for four months," Beierschmitt said. "Our lost-time case rate is already 75 percent lower for the fiscal year that began October 1 than from the same time a year before. This speaks volumes for the commitment to safety that our employees have made during recent months."

On March 5, 2003, Westinghouse Savannah River Company (WSRC) operations employees marked 10 million man-hours worked without an injury resulting in a lost workday.

This is the third time in less than three years that WSRC employees have surpassed that milestone. A lost workday case is defined as any work-related injury or illness which results in days away from work.

"Staying injury-free is a daily effort," said WSRC President Bob Pedde. "The key element that makes the Savannah River Site a leader in the industry is our continuous, excellent safety performance. By challenging unsafe work practices and conditions, and regularly providing positive reinforcement to others for the safe work they do, each of us has had the opportunity to return home safely to our families and friends for many days now." ❖

INEEL staff assist with Shuttle accident investigation



Marty Sattison and Ted Wood of the Department of Energy's Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL) were called upon to assist in the Space Shuttle Columbia accident investigation at Johnson Space Center, Houston, Texas. The two helped to develop an overarching master logic diagram (MLD) of the possible causes so that it could serve as the roadmap and tracking system for directing and documenting progress of the investigation.

Sattison met with the investigation's core team of managers and engineers, sketched a design for the logic diagram, and helped build the detailed diagram using SAPHIRE, a risk assessment software suite developed by INEEL. Wood provided technical support, making changes to allow SAPHIRE to print on large-scale plotters and provide additional information on the diagram specific to the investigation. The printout of the working MLD was 20 feet long.

At left, Sattison stands in front of a memorial of flowers and American flags at the Johnson Space Center gate. ❖

Assistant Secretary Garman visits Argonne facilities



Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy David Garman visited the Department of Energy's Argonne National Laboratory on March 21, 2003, and toured the laboratory's facilities in the Energy and Environmental Science and Technology (EEST) area. The main focus of the tour was Argonne's work in support of the President's Hydrogen Fuel Initiative, the FreedomCar facilities, biomass opportunities, the laboratory's extensive recycling facilities, and collaborations with private industry.

Assistant Secretary Garman toured the Advanced Powertrain Research Facility, fuel cell test facilities, the Electromotive Diesel Engine Facility, the Industrial Process Recycle Facilities, the Reformer Laboratory, and the battery test facilities. He received Argonne's "Virtual Vehicle Driving License" after successfully completing the four-wheel-drive dynamometer automotive course, driving a simulated fuel cell vehicle.

In the photograph, Assistant Secretary Garman (front, center) receives a briefing at the Center for Transportation Research. With him are Argonne Director Hermann Grunder (left) and Harvey Drucker, Associate Laboratory Director for EEST. ❖

Brookhaven Lab hosts 'Vendor Day'



About 30 local vendors recently showed their wares and got a chance to interact with employees and potential buyers of the Department of Energy (DOE) and its Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) during "Vendor Day" held at the laboratory site. The show highlighted companies that make or distribute construction supplies, computer peripherals, and hand tools. Subsequent shows will focus on areas such as electronics and chemicals.

Vendor Day was organized by a new collaboration among DOE's Brookhaven Area Office, Brookhaven Lab, the Hauppauge Industrial Association, and the Small Business Development Center at Stony Brook University, which has an outreach center at Brookhaven. The show was designed to help small and disadvantaged businesses interact with BNL. New York Congressman Timothy Bishop attended the event to show his support for local businesses and the laboratory.

In the photograph, Brookhaven Area Office Manager Michael Holland (left) and Contract Specialist Timothy Drawbridge speak with vendor Ann Wysocki, Atlantic Ultraviolet Corporation. ❖

Hanford Site completes polycube stabilization

On March 11, 2003, the Department of Energy's Richland Operations Office finished stabilizing polycubes at the Hanford Site's Plutonium Finishing Plant (PFP). Polycubes are small cubes of polystyrene possessing pure plutonium oxide.

Stabilizing and handling the polycubes were complicated by disintegrating plastics. Burning the plastics in the stabilization process added soot and toxic fumes to the off-gases, especially when the cubes were heated too quickly. A "char cycle" was developed that safely heated the cubes inside furnaces in steel glove boxes. Charring slowly oxidized the polystyrene and other plastics, leaving a dense plutonium oxide powder. The powder was then repackaged through a "bagless transfer system" into a stainless steel container and welded into a triple-layered "3013" can. At right, a worker handles a polycube in a glove box.

Richland Operations has stabilized two forms of plutonium that posed the greatest hazards—polycubes and plutonium-bearing solutions. The entire inventory of plutonium-bearing materials at PFP is expected to be stabilized by February 2004. ❖



New boilers save energy, benefit environment

Two of four new boilers are installed and supplying steam and chilled water to the Department of Energy's Kansas City Plant, a National Nuclear Security Administration facility. The two remaining boilers are scheduled to be online by the end of this year. The new boilers, which can operate on either natural gas or fuel oil, will provide a five percent increase in energy efficiency and 75 percent decrease in nitrous oxide emissions.

"The new system...will also reduce maintenance resources dramatically," said Craig Ham, project manager. "Not only that, but it will provide reliable service to the Plant for the next 25 years once the final two boilers are operational."

Prior to operation, both new boilers passed rigorous testing for efficiency, emissions, and work environment safety conducted by the City of Kansas City, Mo., and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. At right, Kansas City Plant staff and contractors inspect the new ancillary controls. ❖



Savannah River sends 100th waste shipment to WIPP

A milestone in the removal of nuclear waste from the Department of Energy's (DOE) Savannah River Site in South Carolina was achieved with the 100th shipment of transuranic (TRU) waste to the Department's Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) in Carlsbad, N.M. The shipment was made about six years ahead of its original schedule.

When shipments began in May 2001, Savannah River was making about one shipment per month. Accelerated shipments began in late 2002, and, currently, the Site is making about 16 shipments each month. By the end of 2003, the Site expects to surpass the original number of shipments that were scheduled through 2014. The accelerated schedule will mean all the currently stored TRU waste at Savannah River is planned to be transported for permanent storage at WIPP by 2014 instead of 2034.

At right, DOE-Savannah River Assistant Manager for Environment, Science and Technology Alice Doswell and BNFL Savannah River President Sam Kelly exchange congratulations on the milestone. ❖



Research DIGEST

Researchers at the Department of Energy's **Pacific Northwest National Laboratory** have developed the smallest power system yet. The catalytic fuel processing reactor system provides a low-watt power source for hand-held wireless equipment, sensors, and other small but essential devices. The power system is about the size of a cigarette lighter and converts liquid fuel to electricity via a microscale fuel processor coupled with a microscale fuel cell developed by Case Western Reserve University in Ohio. An integral part of the system is PNNL's revolutionary fuel reformer, which enables the system to convert fuel and water into hydrogen-rich gas. The fuel cell then generates electricity by converting hydrogen and oxygen from the air into electrical power and clean water. (Greg Koller, 509-372-4864)

Hoping to track cancer as it spreads cell-by-cell through the body, researchers at the Department of Energy's **Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory** have developed a way to shape high-resolution microscopy images into three-dimensional renditions of tissue such as mammary ducts. The result is a microscopic look at the molecular and genetic underpinnings of cancer on a glandular scale. The system, which couples a computer-assisted microscope to powerful visualization programs, stacks two-dimensional microscopy images into a lifelike structure packed with genes, hormone receptors, and proteins. It could ultimately portray how cancer spreads from a few to millions of cells radiating throughout a gland or map the cellular degeneration of diseases like Alzheimer's. (Dan Krotz, 510-486-4019)

Scientists at the Hebrew University, Israel, in collaboration with researchers at the Department of Energy's **Brookhaven National Laboratory** (BNL), have devised a way to use gold nanoparticles as tiny electrical wires to plug enzymes into electrodes. The gold "nanoplugs" help align the molecules for optimal binding and provide a conductive pathway for the flow of electrons. BNL biologist Jim Hainfeld, who developed the gold nanoparticles and the means of attaching them to other molecules, says the aim is to measure the current as an indicator of the number of biological molecules involved in the reaction. The research, described in the March 21, 2003, issue of *Science*, may yield more sensitive, inexpensive, noninvasive detectors for measuring biological molecules. (Karen McNulty Walsh, 631-344-8350) ❖

BPA begins building new transmission line

The Department of Energy's Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) has begun construction on the first transmission line to be built under its infrastructure expansion program to relieve congested transmission paths in the Pacific Northwest. Deputy Secretary of Energy Kyle McSlarrow joined BPA Administrator Steve Wright, U.S. Representative George Nethercutt (R-Wash), and other officials at Riverside State Park in Spokane, Wash., for the April 24, 2003, groundbreaking ceremony.

The 84-mile-long Grand Coulee-Bell 500-kilovolt Transmission Line Project will replace an older lower-voltage line and connect Spokane and Grand Coulee, Wash. About 85 percent of the cost for labor and materials will be spent locally.

"This effort is in total alignment



At the groundbreaking are (l-r) Deputy Secretary of Energy Kyle McSlarrow; U.S. Representative George Nethercutt; Steve Wright, Administrator, Bonneville Power Administration; Mark Maher, Senior Vice President, BPA Transmission Business Line; and Mark Korsness, BPA Coulee-Bell Project Manager.

with the President's National Energy Plan to balance America's energy needs and pave the way for America's energy future," Deputy

Secretary McSlarrow said. "It is an impressive addition to the transmission system, and it will allow us to deliver energy reliably and safely to homes and businesses in the Pacific Northwest."

"This is our first major transmission line construction since 1987," said BPA Administrator Wright. "We're very pleased that our construction projects support Pacific Northwest economic development."

The new transmission line should be operational by November 2004. The \$175 million project is financed by BPA and paid for through BPA sales of transmission services. Most of the line will be built on an existing right-of-way

between BPA's Bell Substation in Spokane and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's 500-kilovolt switchyard adjacent to Grand Coulee Dam. ❖

DOE salutes African Americans, women

On March 26, 2003, the Department of Energy (DOE) commemorated African American History Month and National Women's History Month in the first in a series of four Special Emphasis Programs scheduled this year at DOE Headquarters, Washington, D.C. The programs are sponsored by the Department's Office of Economic Impact and Diversity.

In remarks at the program, Under Secretary for Energy, Science and Environment Robert Card made special mention of members of the management team at DOE Headquarters that exemplify Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham's commitment to diversity. Those members include Vicky Bailey, Assistant Secretary for Policy and International Affairs; Margaret Chu, Director, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management; Beverly Cook, Assistant Secretary for Environment, Safety and Health; Karen Evans, Chief Information Officer; Bill Magwood, Director, Office of Nuclear Energy, Science and Technology; Lee Otis, General Counsel; Jessie Roberson, Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management; and Theresa Speake, Director, Office of Economic Impact and Diversity.

"Secretary Abraham has committed substantial personal time helping to foster diversity at the Department," Under Secretary for Energy, Science and Environment Robert Card said. "Important programs like

this remind us of how far we have come and how far we must go."

Under Secretary Card introduced the keynote speaker, Dr. Charlene Drew Jarvis, President, Southeastern University, Washington, D.C. A native Washingtonian, Jarvis also is President-elect of the D.C. Chamber of Commerce and serves on the Board of the Greater Washington Board of Trade. She also serves on the boards of and has advised other business, educational, and health organizations.

Throughout her remarks, Jarvis talked about women's history, women's rights, and African Americans in science, energy and engineering. Jarvis encouraged the audience to push youth toward science and to mentor young students to keep curiosity strong. She also said that for females there are no limits to what they can investigate. Jarvis spoke passionately about her father, noted blood bank pioneer



Under Secretary Robert Card presents the Secretary of Energy's Certificate of Appreciation to Dr. Charlene Drew Jarvis following her remarks at DOE Headquarters' program in honor of African American and National Women's History Months.

Dr. Charles Drew. She credits her success to her father's influence and insistence to strive for excellence.

Jarvis detailed two ways of liberation—politically, by changing laws and fighting for equalities, and psychologically, by removing obstacles so that you can create your own freedom and not have to ask for it. She reminded the audience that a lesson for women and all minorities is not to blame society or men, but remember that "...destiny is in our hands" and that they not demand or create freedom, but rather "...just do it!" ❖

COMING Events

August

17-20 Energy 2003 Workshop and Exposition, Lake Buena Vista, Fla. Sponsored by the Department of Energy's Federal Energy Management Program. Cosponsored by the Department of Defense and the General Services Administration. This sixth

annual national energy management workshop and exposition is aimed at Federal, state, local government and private sector energy managers; procurement officials; engineers; utility representatives; and others involved in energy management. Attendees

will learn about the latest strategies and cost-effective, energy-saving, renewable energy and water efficiency products and equipment. Registration and additional workshop details are available at <http://www.energy2003.ee.doe.gov>. ❖

New 'Idaho National Laboratory' contracts to be open for competition

Separate contracts will be competed and awarded to implement the Department of Energy's (DOE) plan to revitalize the nuclear energy mission at its Idaho laboratory complex and to accelerate the environmental cleanup of the site. With the new contracts, the name of the complex will change to "Idaho National Laboratory."

As currently envisioned, the Idaho National Laboratory will be composed of the Department's Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL) and Argonne National Laboratory-West. The laboratory will specialize in developing advanced nuclear energy technologies and other ways of responding to the Nation's future energy and national security requirements. The Department's Office of Nuclear Energy, Science and Technology will oversee the laboratory.

"Our goal, within this decade, is to have this lab emerge as one of the

premier applied research and nuclear engineering institutions in the world, without losing focus on the cleanup work that needs to be completed," Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham said. "By separately contracting for cleanup under a new contractual framework, the lab can develop and mature without distraction from other, equally vital, priorities."

On July 15, 2002, Secretary Abraham announced plans to return the Idaho complex to its historic mission of nuclear technology development (*DOE This Month*, September 2002). Since then the Department has been engaged in comprehensive planning for the site's future.

The detailed scope of the laboratory contract is in development. The successful bidder is expected to manage the laboratory's research and development programs, operate its nuclear facilities and general

infrastructure, and provide services and required support to other users of the site.

The environmental cleanup scope, under the direction of the Department's Office of Environmental Management, is expected to include the remediation of legacy wastes and disposition of surplus facilities at the site. Work is expected to be managed on a project basis, focused on prioritizing risk reduction.

The Department currently is completing site and acquisition-planning activities, after which it will conduct one or more pre-solicitation conferences to outline its contracting approach and schedule and solicit the views of interested parties. Competitions are expected to be completed coincident with the expiration of the current INEEL contract in September 2004. All qualified parties, including the incumbent contractors, are encouraged to consider submitting proposals on the new contracts. ❖

Electric test facility dedicated at ORNL

A facility to test a conductor that may lead to more efficient and reliable transmission of electricity was recently dedicated and now is in operation at the Department of Energy's (DOE) Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL). The National Transmission Technology Research Center is a joint effort of ORNL, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), and the 3M Company. The three are developing a promising replacement conductor for conventional power lines that will be tested at the facility (*DOE This Month*, December 2002).

The Center will enable researchers to address the problem of power outages caused by sagging lines that result from the heat of high current loads. Use of replacement conductors also would help avoid the high cost and environmentally harmful effects of building new towers.

"3M's new composite-core conductor can increase the current-carrying

capacity of a transmission line at minimal cost and environmental impact," said John Stovall, technical leader in ORNL's Engineering Science and Technology Division. "Its advantage is using existing structures to increase transmission capacity without the cost of a new transmission line."

The 3M conductor and line accessories by Alcoa Fujikora and Preformed Line Products are being tested for thermocycling, or high current situations, at ORNL. In Fargo, N.D., the conductor and its accessories are being tested for resistance in high winds and ice on a transmission line owned by DOE's Western Area Power Administration. Corrosion tests are being performed by Hawaii Electric Co. ORNL is monitoring the performance of the conductor at the Fargo site, as well as at other future utility sites. The National Electric Energy Testing, Research and Applications Center in Atlanta, Ga., is testing all of the components. ❖



James Glotfelty (right), Senior Policy Advisor to Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham, tours the National Transmission Technology Research Center with Oak Ridge National Laboratory Director Bill Madia (center) and Tennessee Valley Authority Chairman Glenn McCullough.

Workshop outlines Department's new environmental protection order

Department of Energy (DOE) Order 450.1, "Environmental Protection Program," was issued Jan. 15, 2003. The nine-page, performance-based Order allows Department sites to tailor their Environmental Management Systems (EMS) to the nature of their operations and surrounding environment. The order supersedes DOE Order 5400.1, "General Environmental Protection Program"—a 50-plus page command and control Order issued in 1988.

The foundation for DOE Order 450.1 is Executive Order 13148, "Greening the Government Through Leadership in Environmental Management." The objectives of the new Order are to:

- implement sound stewardship practices that are protective of the air, water, land, and other natural and cultural resources impacted by DOE operations;
- cost-effectively promote meeting or exceeding compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and DOE requirements; and
- integrate EMS into Integrated Safety Management Systems (ISMS) at DOE sites.

On Feb. 25-26, 2003, the Office of Environmental Policy and

Guidance (EH-41) in the Office of Environment, Safety and Health sponsored a workshop at DOE Headquarters, Washington, D.C., to inform Department sites of the objectives, requirements, and applicability of DOE Order 450.1.

The workshop provided a forum for interactive discussion among attendees on ways to implement an EMS approach into an ISMS. More than 150 participants attended the workshop, either in person or via telecast/audio feed at 20 sites across the DOE complex.

In opening remarks, Beverly Cook, Assistant Secretary for Environment, Safety and Health and DOE's Agency Environmental Executive, emphasized her support for the new Order. Federal Environmental Executive John Howard stressed President Bush's expectation that all agencies adhere to the Executive Order 13148 requirement to establish an EMS. Howard indicated that each



John Howard, Federal Environmental Executive, talks to workshop participants about Executive Order 13148.

agency's performance will be measured through a Government-wide scorecard maintained by his office.

Speakers and panelists from DOE Headquarters and field sites discussed specific environmental topics for Department elements to consider when developing and implementing an EMS as part of their ISMS.

Workshop presentation materials are available on the EH-41 website at <http://tis.eh.doe.gov/oepa/>. For additional information, contact John (Larry) Stirling at 202-586-2417 or at John.Stirling@eh.doe.gov. ❖

NEW Publications

Office of Inspector General (IG) reports: **Inspection Report, Allegations Concerning the Report of a Radiological Incident at the Los Alamos National Laboratory** (DOE/IG-0591); **Summary Inspection Report, Actions Taken in Response to Missing Hazardous Waste Containing Cyanide** (DOE/IG-0592); **Inspection Report, Concerns Related to the Office of International Material Protection and Emergency Cooperation** (DOE/IG-0593); **Inspection Report,**

Emergency Medical Coordination Memorandum of Agreement at Brookhaven National Laboratory (DOE/IG-0594). The reports are available from the U.S. Department of Energy, IG Reports Request Line, 202-586-2744, or at <http://www.ig.doe.gov/>.

The Department of Energy's Office of Nuclear Energy, Science and Technology has published two new reports: **Nuclear Energy Research Initiative 2002 Annual Report** and **International Nuclear Energy**

Research Initiative 2002 Annual Report (DOE/NE-0123). The reports summarize the research progress for projects awarded in Fiscal Year (FY) 1999-2001 and include abstracts for the FY 2002 and FY 2003 research awards. Both publications are available from the Office of Nuclear Energy, Science and Technology; U.S. Department of Energy; 1000 Independence Ave., SW; Washington, DC 20585, or at <http://www.ne.doe.gov>. ❖

People IN ENERGY

Jeffrey M. Allison has been appointed Manager of the Department of Energy's Savannah River Operations Office, a position he has held in an acting capacity since July 2002. Previously, Allison directed operations of the high-level waste system at Savannah River, including the Defense Waste Processing Facility, H and F Tank Farms, the Effluent Treatment Facility, and Saltstone. Allison will manage about 400 Federal technical and administrative employees and an average annual budget of \$1.5 billion and oversee the Savannah River Site's prime contractor, which includes about 13,000 personnel.



Elizabeth D. Sellers is the new manager of the Department of Energy's (DOE) Idaho Operations Office. Most recently, Sellers was Manager of the Kansas City Site Office of the Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration. Previously, she was director of the spent nuclear fuel project at the DOE Richland Operations Office. Sellers will oversee the activities of 5,900 Federal and contractor staff and manage the return of the Idaho Site to its core mission of nuclear technology development and environmental cleanup programs at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory.

George Michaels, an internationally recognized pioneer in bioinformatics, has been named director of bioinformatics at the Department of Energy's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL). Michaels will oversee applicable systems biology and biotechnology research in PNNL's Biological Sciences and Computational Science and Mathematics Divisions. Most recently,



Michaels held leadership positions at Monsanto, St. Louis, Mo. He previously served as Vice President and Chief Scientist of Genome Dynamics, a Maryland biotechnology startup company.

Chemist **Diane Cabelli** of the Chemistry Department at the Department of Energy's Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) in New York, was recently honored for her science accomplishments and contributions to Brookhaven Town at the Town-sponsored Women's Recognition Night in observance of National Women's History Month. The focus of Cabelli's research has been on superoxide dismutases (SOD), enzymes that detoxify certain radicals produced by respiration, and the role of SOD in Lou Gehrig's disease.



Nicole Nelson-Jean in the Office of International Nuclear Materials Protection and Cooperation in the Department of Energy's (DOE) National Nuclear Security Administration is the new DOE Attaché in the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, Japan. She succeeds **Giulia Bisconti** who recently returned to the Department following a three-and-one-half-year tour of duty. Over 130 Japanese representatives of various government agencies and organizations, including several minister-rank officials gathered at the Embassy to say farewell to Bisconti and to welcome Nelson-Jean.

The Department of Energy's Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) has presented its Science and Technology Award to the following five employees in recognition of sustained contributions in those areas: **Yu-Shin Ding**, senior chemist, Chemistry Department; **John Dunn**, senior microbiologist, Biology Department; **Yannis Semertzidis**, physicist, Physics Department; **Bo Yu**, physicist, Instrumentation Division; and **Yimei Zhu**, senior scientist, Materials Science Department.

Stephen V. Milton, project director at the Department of Energy's Argonne National Laboratory for the laboratory's component of the Linac Coherent Light Source (LCLS), has been elected a Fellow of the American Physical Society. Milton was selected for his contributions to the development of third- and fourth-generation synchrotron light sources, such as the LCLS being built at the Department's Stanford Linear Accelerator Center in Menlo Park, Calif.

Adam Rosenberg, a research assistant at the Department of Energy's Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory (PPPL), has been awarded the American Physical Society Congressional Science Fellowship. Rosenberg, who plans on receiving a Ph.D. from Princeton University's Department of Astrophysical Sciences, Program in Plasma Physics, this summer, will begin the one-year fellowship in September 2003 in Washington, D.C.



Ali Erdemir of the Energy Technology Division at the Department of Energy's Argonne National Laboratory has been named a Fellow of the Society of Tribologists and Lubrication Engineers. Erdemir was recognized for his outstanding personal achievement in the field of tribology—the study of friction, wear, and lubrication—and for his service to the Society.

Peggy Plyler of the Department of Energy's (DOE) Savannah River Site is the recipient of a DOE Procurement Executive Award for her excellent support and coordination of the DOE Complex-wide Integrated Contractor Purchasing Team (ICPT). Plyler was recognized for a vision she had in 1995 to leverage the buying power of multiple sites and save the government money. Under her leadership, the ICPT has placed 40-plus agreements and saved in excess of \$40 million. ♦

Milestones

YEARS OF SERVICE

May 2003

Headquarters

Chief Information Officer - Sharon L. Shank (30 years). **Economic Impact & Diversity** - Carolyn G. Epps (30).

EIA - Thomas W. Petersik (35), Steve L. Freedman (30), Paula E. Weir (30).

Envir. Management - Joseph F. Daly, Jr. (35), Cathy A. Fauble (30), Pattie M. Agee (25), Jay E. Rhoderick (25).

Envir., Safety & Health - Charles B. Ramsey (25), David J. Weitzman (25).

FERC - Raymond M. Zimmet (40), Carolyn G. Jones (30), Linda L. Lee (30), Steven A. Rothman (30), David H. Ulevich (30), John M. Delaware (25), Dennis M. O'Keefe (25), Dianne E. Rodman (25), Karen R. Robinson (25), Magalie R. Salas (25). **General Counsel** - Neal J. Strauss (30). **Inspector General** - Alfred K. Walter (35), Jerome A. Yurow (35), Richard W. Curran (30). **Intelligence** - Garnetta L. Pickett (30).

Management, Budget & Evaluation - Louis A. D'Angelo III (30), Frederick R. Stubbs (30), Stephanie F. Weakley (30).

NNSA - Manuel Castro (35), Ted A. Slotwinski (30), Lowell V. Ely (25), Michael B. Jordan (25), Alan C. Kepple (25). **Public Affairs** - Jacqueline P. Johnson (35). **Radioactive Waste** - John G. Gandi (30), Allen B. Benson (25). **Science** - Jane R. Hiegel (25), Carmela Torquato (25). **Worker & Community Transition** - Clara M. Foster (35).

Field

Albuquerque - Susan L. Connor (30).

Bonneville Power - Truman W. Conn (40), Michael A. Raschio (35), Thomas W. Blizzard (30), John H. Brunke (30), Cheryl L. Daniels (30), Joseph H. Hunziker (30), Theresa L. Pirie (30), Paul A. Schaad (30), James M. Bazzani (25), David J. Coburn (25), Elizabeth C. Ellis (25), Patricia A. Hyzer (25), Mary R. Kerg (25), Debra J. Kyle (25), Anita J. Rivenburgh (25), Edward P. Tompkins (25), Jimmie G. Zehner (25).

Chicago - Michael O. Saar (25). **Idaho** - John R. Martin (30), Michael M. Stephens (30). **Los Alamos/NNSA** - Thomas R. Rush (25). **NETL** - Raymond J. Bernarding (35). **NNSA Service Center** - Peggy M. Baca (35), Daniel Dea (35), John L. Gonzales (35), Dennis E. Neely (30), Marta P. Rodriguez (30), Joseph F. Robbins (25). **Oak Ridge** - Paulette Williamson (35), Dolores L. Henry (25), Rufus H. Smith (25). **Oakland/NNSA** - John V. Lee (30).

Pantex Site/NNSA - Clinton R. Fitts (25). **Pittsburgh Naval Reactors/NNSA** - Martha N. Rubino (25).

Richland - Sen K. Moy (30). **Rocky Flats** - Michael J. Holifield (25), Steven R. Schiesswohl (25). **Savannah River** - John W. Geiger (35), James E. Bolen (25), Deborah B. Caver (25), Terrel J. Spears (25). **Schenectady Naval Reactors/NNSA** - Dale R. Carpenter (30). **Western Area Power** - Lynard M. Hamada (35), Jeanne H. Depriest (30), William F. Logan (30), Stuart R. Dahlin (25), Michael J. Hruby (25), James L. Uthe (25).

RETIREMENTS

March 2003

Headquarters

Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy - Robert S. Kirk (38 years). **FERC** - Jackson L. Fray (28), Gerard M. Lutticken (31), Kenneth P. Niehaus (26), Marc F. Poole (28), Robert C. Steinberg (28), Stanley P. Wolf (24). **NNSA** - Howard K. Cobble, Jr. (24), Robert L. Ebberhart (26), Lee D. Yerington (34). **Security** - Dorothy S. Furr (17).

Field

NETL - John S. Halow (25). **Nevada Site/NNSA** - Stephen H. Leedom (21). **NNSA Service Center** - Michael J. Frietze (26), Sherry M. Hall (23), Kenneth P. Lucien (20), Jose G. Molina (25). **Oakland/NNSA** - Simona Slutsky (15). **Ohio** - John D. Denton (24). **Savannah River Site/NNSA** - Harry Nadal (22), David M. Whetsell (32). **Y-12 Site/NNSA** - Judy C. Wright (22).

April 2003

Headquarters

Counterintelligence - Barry W. Krause (32). **EIA** - Roger A. Diedrich (30). **Fossil Energy** - Richard D. Furiga (26). **Hearings & Appeals** - Senora M. Young (28). **Management, Budget & Evaluation** - John R. Mitchell (32). **Radioactive Waste** - Dennis R. Williams (31). **Science** - Margaret A. Burris (31), Gregory L. Dilworth (22). **Security** - Glenn H. Bowser (20).

NNSA - Jamie M. Beitz-Heard (25), Toni A. Brown (37), Carmen G. Burdette (40), John E. Cisco (26), Gary S. Davis (29), Jerry D. Leaverton (22), Carol W. Lee (36), Carol T. Locklin (29), Ruth M. Loube (24), Kristine Morris (29), Mary L. Nunez (36), Jack L. Petree (30), Earl K. Poe (27), Cheryl A. Pyles (40), Carol M. Rueter (36), Olin R. Schoonover (31), John C. Todd (31).

Field

Idaho - Warren E. Bergholz, Jr. (33). **Livermore Site/NNSA** - Michael K. Hooper (39). **Los Alamos Site/NNSA** - Alfred M. Geoffrion (36), James M. Howard (25), Nancy R. Romero (37). **NETL** - Leonard E. Graham (24), John J. Wehner (28). **Nevada Site/NNSA** - Constance M. Barricks (33), John C. McClure (21).

NNSA Service Center - Karl L. Anderson (28), Margaret R. Cerno (31), Robert O. Cortez (31), Shirley G. Cox (37), Marlena Murray (28), Allen J. Roberts (25), Larry J. Romero (33), Albert U. Sanchez (35), Constance L. Thome (35), June F. Wallach (35), Bill D. West (31), June White (33), Alice F. Wiggins (26). **Oak Ridge** - Mary K. Knighton (24).

Oakland/NNSA - Wayne Bryan (36), Gary N. Callihan (25). **Pantex Site/NNSA** - David B. Ryan (27). **Richland River Site/NNSA** - Kenneth H. Besecker (31). **Western Area Power** - Donald E. Anseth (24). **Y-12 Site/NNSA** - Billy J. Wright (33). ❖

Equipment delivered to first responder agencies

A shipment of refurbished radiological detection equipment has been delivered by the Department of Energy (DOE) to three California agencies—the Los Angeles Fire Department Hazardous Waste Unit, the Los Angeles Port Authority, and the San Francisco Health Department. The equipment, with a replacement value of about \$60,000, is being provided to the first responder agencies under the Homeland Defense Equipment Reuse (HDER) Program, a pilot project of DOE and the Department of Homeland Security.

The HDER Program provides surplus DOE radiological detection and other homeland security related equipment to state and local emergency first responder agencies to enhance their domestic preparedness capabilities. The equipment is refurbished by DOE's Office of Assets Utilization, National Center of Excellence for Materials Recycling in Oak Ridge, Tenn. The Department of Homeland Security's Office of Domestic Preparedness identifies appropriate users and provides training. The Health Physics Society is providing local support for the equipment.

To date, the HDER program has redeployed over 1,500 radiological detection instruments valued over \$700,000. Other cities that have received equipment are Washington, D.C.; Philadelphia, Pa.; New York, N.Y.; Boston, Mass.; and Detroit, Mich.

AROUND DOE

Y-12 facility receives worker safety awards

The National Safety Council has presented three worker safety awards to the Department of Energy's Y-12 National Security Complex, a National Nuclear Security Administration facility. The awards include the Green Cross for Safety Excellence Achievement in recognition of outstanding effort in occupational safety performance and the Certificate of Merit for Outstanding Safety Practices for the Y-12 2002 Safety Exposition, which promoted employee health and safety at home and work.

The third honor is the 2003 Significant Improvement in Safety Performance Award. The Council noted that Y-12 has significantly reduced its total accident rate to less than 20 percent of the industry's average and its number of injuries and illnesses resulting in days away from work from 43 in calendar year (CY) 2001 to 23 in CY 2002.

DOE seeks comments on proposed polygraph rule

The Department of Energy (DOE) has published a notice of proposed rulemaking to retain the use of polygraph screening as an effective component of its counterintelligence program to prevent the release or disclosure of classified data, materials, or information. "We will continue to use counterintelligence scope polygraph examinations as one of several tools to screen personnel requiring access to high-risk information," Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham said.

The rulemaking proposes to retain DOE's existing regulations because they are consistent with the statutory purpose of minimizing the risk of disclosure of classified data. The regulations also are compatible with the National Academy of Sciences' alternative conclusion that polygraph screening, if applied as a trigger for follow-on tools versus as a basis for personnel action, can improve detection of deception.

Public comments are invited. Written comments may be sent by **June 13, 2003**, to U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Counterintelligence (CN-1), Docket No. CN-03-RM-01, 1000 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20585. Comments may be e-mailed to poly@hq.doe.gov. The notice of proposed rulemaking and supporting documentation are available at <http://www.so.doe.gov>. ❖

United States
Department of Energy (PA-40)
Washington, DC 20585

Official Business