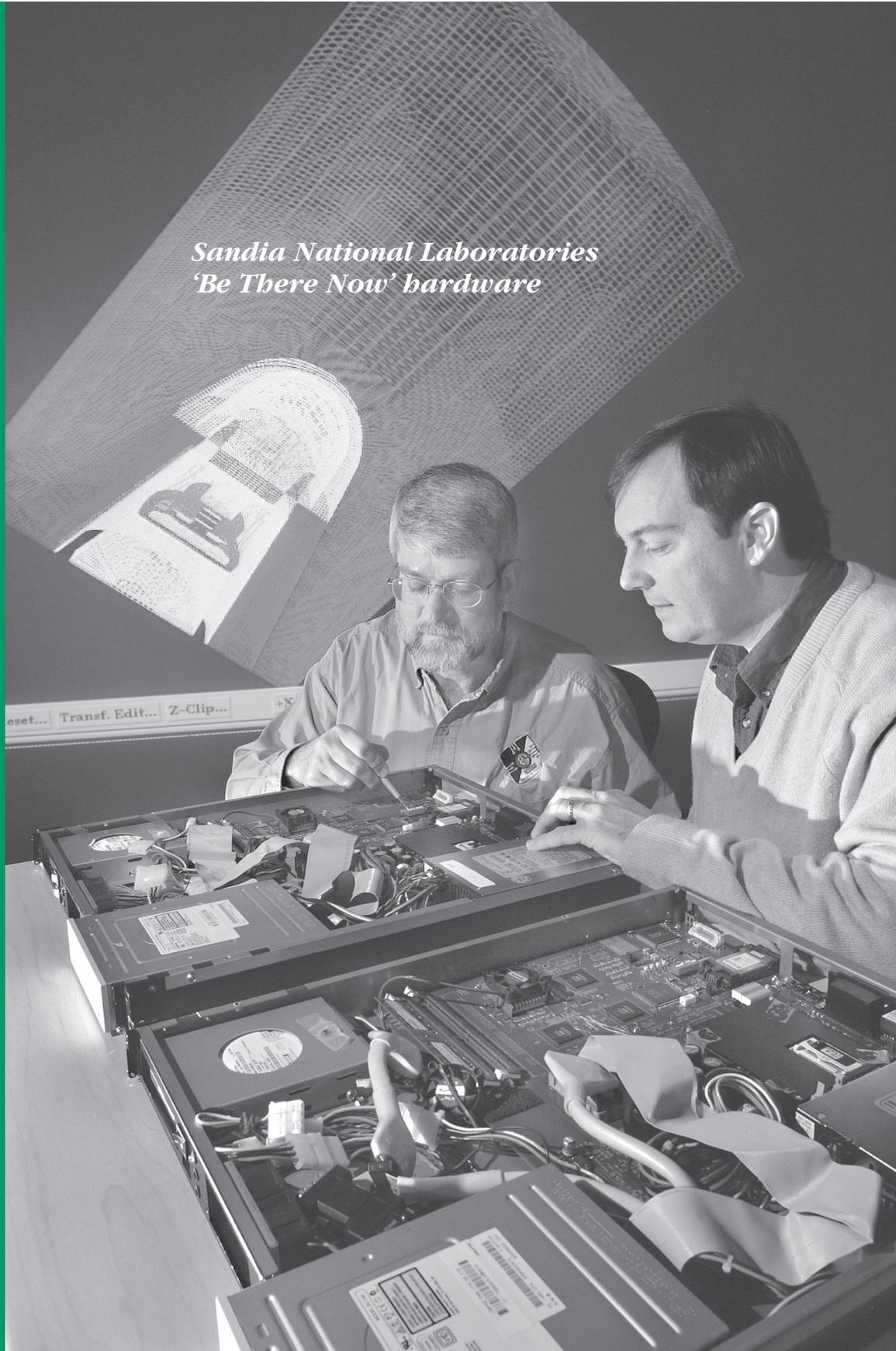


Department  
hosts  
roll-out of  
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U.S.-led  
consortium  
to build  
'FutureGen'  
power plant

Kansas City  
Plant a  
model for  
beryllium  
cleanup

*Sandia National Laboratories  
'Be There Now' hardware*



U.S. Department of Energy



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## On our cover

**R**esearchers Lyndon Pierson (left) and Perry Robertson of the Department of Energy's Sandia National Laboratories examine a video encoder and decoder, part of interactive remote-visualization hardware that they helped to develop at Sandia. The "Be There Now" hardware allows users at primary and remote locations to view and manipulate images based on very large data sets as though they were standing in the same room. The tool will allow doctors, engineers, military officers, oil exploration teams, or anyone else with a need, to interact with computer-generated images at remote locations.

**For more on the new technology, see page 5.**

# Administration launches 'Climate VISION'

On Feb. 12, 2003, in a program at Department of Energy (DOE) Headquarters, Washington, D.C., Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham hosted the roll-out of the Administration's "Climate VISION" (Voluntary Innovative Sector Initiatives: Opportunities Now) initiative. Climate VISION is a voluntary, public-private partnership to pursue cost-effective initiatives that will reduce the projected growth in America's greenhouse gas emissions. The program will be administered through DOE's Office of Policy and International Affairs.

On Feb. 14, 2002, President Bush announced a new strategy to address the long-term challenge of global climate change. The goal of the strategy is to reduce America's greenhouse gas intensity—the ratio of emissions to economic output—by 18 percent during the next decade. President Bush challenged American businesses and industries to undertake broader efforts to help meet that goal. Climate VISION represents a beginning to seek greater reductions and the participation of the energy and other industrial sectors.

Secretary Abraham was joined in the program by Secretary of Agriculture Ann Veneman, Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Christine Todd Whitman, Deputy Secretary of Transportation Michael Jackson, White House Council on Environmental Quality Chairman James Connaughton, and business and industry leaders. Recognition was given to the significant initiatives that major, energy-intensive sectors of the American economy are undertaking to meet the President's challenge.

"We look forward to working closely with American industry and other sectors in fulfilling commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from a growing and productive U.S. economy," Secretary Abraham said. "Together, the participants in Climate VISION will bring forward their best efforts, best ideas, technologies, and industrial processes to reduce, avoid, and sequester greenhouse gas emissions."

The energy, manufacturing, transportation, and forest industries and several associations were represented at the program. Strategies being pursued by the energy sector include:

- a commitment by the American Petroleum Institute and its members to increase aggregate energy efficiency of members' U.S. refinery operations by 10 percent from 2002 to 2012;
- the Electric Power Industry Climate Initiative, formed by the Edison Electric Institute and six other power sector groups, to reduce the sector's carbon intensity; and
- a pledge by American Public Power Association and Large Public Power Council members to expand electricity generation from renewable sources.

A press release on Climate VISION and fact sheet on strategies each sector is pursuing are available at <http://www.energy.gov/HQPress/releases03/febpr/pr03037.htm>. Secretary Abraham's remarks at the roll-out program are available at <http://www.energy.gov/HQDocs/speeches/2003/febss/ClimateVISION.html>. ❖



*Secretary Abraham welcomes business and industry leaders to the Climate VISION initiative roll-out.*

## Climate change tech head named

Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham has appointed Dave Conover as Director of the Climate Change Technology Program (CCTP). The program, managed by the Department of Energy (DOE), is a comprehensive Federal research and development initiative that coordinates the actions of 13 Federal agencies in focusing on the Administration's climate change goals.

"The Climate Change technology initiatives launched by President Bush are a top priority of this Department," Secretary Abraham said. "Dave Conover has the ideal background to head the Climate Change Technology Program and develop a comprehensive research and development plan and implement the key recommendations."

Prior to his appointment, Conover was Minority Staff Director and Chief Counsel of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. In that capacity, he managed a diverse staff to accomplish legislative and oversight goals in environmental areas. He holds a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center and a B.A. from the University of Virginia.

Conover will take overall technical direction from Under Secretary for Energy, Science and Environment Robert Card. He will be assisted by Dr. Robert C. Marlay, a career senior executive, who will serve as the CCTP Deputy Director.

The CCTP is organized under the auspices of the Cabinet-level Committee on Climate Change Science and Technology Integration, established by President Bush on Feb. 14, 2002, and chaired by Secretary Abraham. The Committee provides recommendations to the President on matters concerning climate change science and technology, addresses related Federal research and development funding issues, and coordinates with the Office of Management and Budget on implementation of its recommendations. ❖

# U.S. to lead effort to build pollution-free fossil fuel power plant

The United States will lead a \$1 billion, 10-year public-private-international effort to construct the world's first fossil fuel, pollution-free power plant. The plant, known as "FutureGen," will serve as a "living prototype" of new carbon sequestration technologies and produce both electricity and hydrogen.

"Knowledge from FutureGen will help turn coal from an environmentally challenging energy resource into an environmentally benign one," Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham said when announcing the project at Department of Energy (DOE) Headquarters on Feb. 27, 2003. "The prototype power plant will serve as the test bed for demonstrating the best technologies the world has to offer."

The Government will ask an industrial consortium to design a plant that will turn coal into a hydrogen-rich gas, rather than burning it directly. The hydrogen would be extracted for use in powering a turbine or fuel cell to generate electricity or for possible use in a refinery to help upgrade petroleum products. The plant also could serve as the model for future hydrogen-production facilities.

Common air pollutants would be cleaned from the coal gases and converted to usable byproducts such as

fertilizers and soil enhancers. Carbon dioxide would be captured and sequestered in deep underground geologic formations. Carbon sequestration is a rapidly advancing area of study that encompasses a variety of new methods for capturing carbon dioxide from energy plant exhaust or extracting it directly from the atmosphere, then permanently isolating it.

Under Secretary of State for Global Affairs Paula Dobriensky joined Secretary Abraham in announcing the FutureGen initiative. Under Secretary Dobriensky also outlined plans for creating the "Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum."

The Forum will bring together Ministerial-level representatives to discuss the growing body of scientific research and emerging technologies for sequestering or storing carbon dioxide. It also could provide an international venue for planning future, multilateral carbon sequestration projects.



*Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham and Under Secretary of State for Global Affairs Paula Dobriensky respond to reporter's questions on FutureGen.*

The United States will staff and administer the Forum, with DOE serving as the lead U.S. agency and coordinating with the Department of State to identify international partners. The inaugural meeting of the Forum is scheduled for June 23-25, 2003, in northern Virginia. The United States will use the opening meeting to invite other nations to join the FutureGen initiative.

Additional information and fact sheets on FutureGen and the Forum are available at <http://www.energy.gov/HQPress/releases03/febpr/pr03041.htm>. ❖



Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham (left) greets Italian Minister of Productive Activities Antonio Marzano (second from right) in his office suite at Department of Energy Headquarters, Washington, D.C. Secretary Abraham and Minister Marzano had a constructive and comprehensive meeting in January 2003 where they discussed the energy market situation, the role of the International Energy Agency, the prospects of the Producer-Consumer dialog, and the bilateral collaboration of Eco-Compatible Energies—clean use of carbon and "zero-emissions" technologies. The meeting was a follow-up to the G-8 Energy Ministers Meetings in Detroit, Mich., and in Osaka, Japan. ❖

# Hardware enhances long-distance collaborations

Researchers at the Department of Energy's Sandia National Laboratories have developed interactive remote-visualization hardware that allows users to view and manipulate images based on very large data sets as if they were standing in the same room. The "Be There Now" tool will enable doctors, engineers, military officers, oil exploration teams, and anyone else with a need, to interact with computer-generated images at remote locations.

The Sandia-developed hardware, for which a patent has been applied, allows data to be kept at the main location, but sends images to locations ready to receive them. The interactivity then available is similar to two people operating a game board. The lag time between action and visible result is under 0.1 second even though the remote computer may be thousands of miles away and the data sets, huge.

"The niche for this product is when the data set you're trying to visualize is so large you can't move

it, and yet you want to be collaborative, to share it without sending copies to separate locations," says Sandia team leader Lyndon Pierson. "We expect our method will interest oil companies, universities, the military—anywhere people have huge quantities of visualization data to transmit and be jointly studied. Significant commercial interest has been demonstrated by multiple companies."

The hardware compresses the video data flooding in at nearly 2.5 gigabits a second into a network pipe that carries less than 0.5 gigabits a second, minimizing data loss to ensure image fidelity. "Users need to be sure that the things they see on the screen are real, and not some artifact of image compression," says Pierson.

The research team knew that a hardware solution was necessary to keep up with the incoming video stream. "Without it, the receiver's frame rate would be unacceptably slow," says Sandia researcher

Perry Robertson. "We wanted the user to experience sitting right at the supercomputer from thousands of miles away."

The custom-built device has two boards—one for compression, the other for expansion. The boards use standard low-cost SDRAM memory, like that found in most personal computers (PC), for video buffers. Four reprogrammable logic chips do the main body of work. A single-board PC running Linux is used for supervisory operations. "We built this apparatus for very complex ASCII visualizations," says Robertson.

A successful demonstration of the video encoder/decoder hardware took place in October 2002 between Chicago and the Amsterdam Technology Center in The Netherlands. In November 2002, a second demonstration occurred between Sandia locations in Albuquerque, N. Mex., and Livermore, Calif., and the show floor of the Supercomputing 2002 convention in Baltimore, Md. ❖

## Change sought in Oak Ridge cleanup contract

Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management Jessie Roberson visited the Department of Energy's (DOE) Oak Ridge Operations Office in Tennessee on Feb. 12, 2003, and met with community leaders to discuss DOE's Fiscal Year 2004 budget request to Congress. The request includes nearly \$525 million to fund cleanup activities at the Oak Ridge site.

Assistant Secretary Roberson also announced that the Department will stake steps to immediately transform its cleanup contract with Bechtel Jacobs Company, LLC, to a closure contract. Changing the contract arrangement to a "cost plus incentivized fee" for the entire scope of the cleanup program in Oak Ridge will accelerate cleanup

work by five years, saving \$1 billion over the life of the program and cutting nine years from the original cleanup schedule.

"We are accelerating our cleanup programs across the board at DOE and we believe that transforming our cleanup contract in Oak Ridge will further our overall cleanup goals," Assistant Secretary Roberson said. She noted that the Department is seeking contract reforms across the complex.

If contract negotiations are successful, Bechtel Jacobs will have 12 months to demonstrate significant performance toward accomplishing the work outlined in the closure



*Assistant Secretary Roberson (right) meets with Oak Ridge community leaders. At left is Oak Ridge Operations Manager Gerald Boyd.*

contract schedule. Pending contractor performance in the first year, the agreement could allow the opportunity for extension through 2008. ❖

# Hanford tests waste tank crawler

A remote-controlled machine is being tested by the Department of Energy's Office of River Protection (ORP) in Richland, Wash., for use in accelerating the cleanup and closure of many of the Hanford Site's large radioactive waste tanks. The "tank crawler" is an adaptation of commercially available technology used extensively in the petroleum and mining industries.

ORP and contractor CH2M HILL Hanford Group are using simulated sludge waste to test the crawler in a large, 800,000 gallon simulated waste tank. The first series of tests are being conducted with simulants that are similar in particle size and viscosity to radioactive and hazardous sludge waste stored in several of Hanford's large underground tanks. "We will put the crawler through the paces and evaluate its potential for real tank cleanup work," says Jim Thompson, ORP's Single-Shell Tank Project Manager.



*The tank crawler is being tested at Hanford in simulated sludge.*

The 1,300-pound tank crawler looks like a small bulldozer with treads and a folding blade. The crawler must be small enough to fit through a relatively narrow opening on top of the tank, agile enough to maneuver over an uneven waste surface and around obstacles in the tank, and durable enough to withstand the highly radioactive environment and a rigorous decontamination process. Remotely operated,

the mobile retrieval system will be lowered into a tank, where the crawler will push the sludge toward a specially designed vacuum pump that will transfer out the contents of the tank. A pump and spray mechanism on the crawler will help the in-tank vehicle move through the waste.

Hanford's 177 underground tanks contain about 53 million gallons of waste from decades of nuclear materials production for national defense. Methods are being deployed to remove millions of gallons of solid and sludge waste from 149 of those tanks, an older single-shell variety. That waste consists of sludge, that looks like fine mud and dries very hard, and salt cake, which is like wet beach sand but can dry to almost a rock-like consistency. The crawler is designed to be capable of retrieving sludge waste from as many as 60 of Hanford's single-shell waste tanks. ❖

# Nevada Test Site 'redoubles' cleanup effort

The Department of Energy's (DOE) Nevada Test Site (NTS) disposed of more than 2.3 million cubic feet of low-level nuclear waste from around the DOE complex in Fiscal Year (FY) 2002—almost quadrupling the amount of low-level waste disposed of in FY 2000. This large volume, which equates to a football field four stories high, was generated by cleanup activities at DOE nuclear weapons development and testing sites nationwide. The NTS is one of the waste generators as well as one of two regional disposal sites.

The ability to ship waste to the NTS is critical for other DOE sites to meet accelerated cleanup schedules. Key components of the Accelerated Cleanup Program are a Record of Decision that allows the NTS to approve receipt of waste from new DOE sites and an innovative approach to waste volume projection and disposal fees. This translates into accelerated cleanup activities at the Department's Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site in Colorado and the East

Tennessee Technology Park facility in Oak Ridge. With the increase in disposal volumes, the cost of disposal has been significantly reduced. Disposal volumes at the NTS are estimated to reach four million cubic feet in FY 2003.

An important element of the disposal process is the safe transportation of materials to Nevada. Commercial carriers that transport the waste use specific routes based upon agreements between DOE and Nevada. More than 6,300 shipments of low-level waste have been transported to the NTS without an accident.

Prior to sending the waste to the NTS, DOE sites must certify that the waste meets the requirements contained in the NTS Waste Acceptance Criteria. Upon arrival at the NTS, waste is disposed of in a manner that protects the public, workers, and the



*Workers position a low-level waste drum into a disposal cell at the Area 5 Radioactive Waste Management Site at the Nevada Test Site.*

environment. This focus on safety translates into no lost-time accidents since 1995.

Without the dedication of the NTS to maintain safe operations and provide crucial disposal capabilities, cleaning up the DOE complex would be dramatically impacted. For more on the NTS waste disposal efforts, contact Jhon Carilli, 702-295-0672. ❖

# CAT trains at Marine counterterrorism facility

The Composite Adversary Team (CAT) under the jurisdiction of the Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Independent Oversight and Performance Assurance (OA) recently spent five grueling days and nights participating in offensive tactical exercises for its annual training. The team trained at the Military Operations on Urban Terrain (MOUT) facility at the Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, Calif.—the same facility where combat-ready Marines train prior to deployment for counterterrorism missions in

Iraq and Afghanistan. Team members used the “combat town” to enhance their sniper, demolition, room entry, and other combat skills.

As the Department's sole performance-based oversight organization, OA provides oversight of safeguards and security, cyber security, emergency management, and environment, safety and health programs DOE-wide, including the National Nuclear Security Administration. The Office of Safeguards and Security Evaluations



*CAT members fine-tune their skills in the smoky environment of the Marine training facility.*

(OA-10) conducts the safeguards and security portion of that oversight mission, heavily emphasizing performance tests. OA-10 uses the Composite Adversary Team as aggressors during performance testing of protective forces and physical security systems at DOE sites. To ensure the CAT represents a realistic threat during performance tests, OA-10 supplements the already impressive skills of team members with advanced training in offensive planning, combat tactics,

and security system breach techniques.

The MOUT facility provided the CAT members with an environment similar to DOE sites. The team was able to engage in close quarter blank fire, using smoke and other munitions. To complement the facility, OA-10 assembled an elite cadre of trainers composed mostly of former Marines, Navy SEALs, and Army Green Berets. These former Special Operations personnel trained the CAT in the fast-moving, hard-hitting assault techniques they are required

to use in their role as aggressors against DOE protective forces. The skills and experience provided by the training will enhance OA's ongoing efforts to expand the use of force-on-force performance tests.

In response to real world events, OA has nearly doubled the size of the CAT with the purpose of more effectively evaluating the Department's ability to protect its national security assets. Currently, there are 23 members from 14 DOE sites on the team. ❖

## NEW ON THE Internet

### EREN out, EERE in

EREN, the web site launched in 1994 for the Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE), has a new name and address. Now known simply as the EERE web site, greater emphasis is placed on the office's 11 technology programs. The new EERE home page, <http://www.eere.energy.gov>, features a clean look, easy navigation, enhanced accessibility features, and a “liquid” design that will size itself automatically to your computer's screen size. The design eventually will be carried down throughout the EERE web site. As before, the site will

continue to provide access to all EERE office and program web sites and serve as a gateway to information on energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies. More than 3,000,000 people visited the site in 2002.

### Fernald stewardship plans

The Fernald Closure Project at the Department of Energy's (DOE) Fernald Environmental Management Project has a new web site describing plans for post-closure surveillance and maintenance of the On-Site Disposal Facility and restored areas of the 1,050-acre site in Ohio.

DOE and Fluor Fernald have been working with stakeholders to prepare for the site's transition to long-term stewardship after site remediation is complete in late 2006. The web site, <http://www.fernald.gov/Future/Future.htm>, includes Fernald's Comprehensive Stewardship Plan; DOE's stewardship policies and guidance documents; and information about records management requirements, funding, final land use/public use plans, and cleanup progress. For more information, contact Gary Stegner, 513-648-3153 or [gary.stegner@fernald.gov](mailto:gary.stegner@fernald.gov). ❖

## Fernald Site opens new waste disposal cells



In 1995, the Department of Energy, Fluor Fernald, and stakeholders approved a disposal strategy for the 2.5 million cubic yards of contaminated soil and debris at the Department's Fernald Environmental Management Project. The strategy involves constructing a seven-cell, 70-acre On-Site Disposal Facility to contain the majority of Fernald's low-level waste. Fernald crews, seen at left, place soil and demolition debris into the facility at a rate of 200 truckloads a day.

Fernald workers recently opened two new 800-foot-wide by 400-foot-long cells of the disposal facility, which includes leachate collection and wastewater treatment systems and a five-foot-thick earthen and synthetic liner. Since construction began in 1997, Fernald has filled and sealed Cell 1 with an 8.75-foot thick clay and synthetic cover, filled Cell 2 to capacity, filled more than half of Cell 3, and initiated waste placement in Cells 4 and 5. After site remediation is complete in late 2006, the disposal facility and its buffer area will encompass 130 acres. ❖

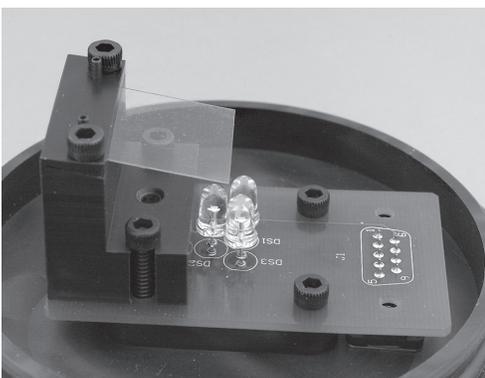
## 'Near-Frictionless Carbon' tested at automotive plant



Materials scientist Ali Erdemir of the Department of Energy's Argonne National Laboratory examines conveyor chain pins recently tested at a large automotive assembly plant in Oshawa, Ontario, Canada. A pin coated with "Near-Frictionless Carbon" (NFC) (left), shows minimal wear and "scruff" buildup after nine months of regular use. The uncoated pin (right) shows significant wear and buildup after only three months.

The super-slick, ultra-hard coating, developed at Argonne Lab by Erdemir and recently approved by the U.S. Patent Office, may extend the life of conveyor chains and reduce the need for potentially harmful organic lubricants. S&G Technologies conducted industrial tests with NFC-coated pins and designed a nylon bushing that cushions the interface between links of chain and the pins that connect them. At present, the coating and nylon bushings are not available commercially. More information on the award-winning technology is available at <http://www.techtransfer.anl.gov/techtour/index.html> and at <http://www.anl.gov/OPA/whatsnew/020510nfcstory.htm>. ❖

## KC Plant upgrades Geological Survey machine



The U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS) Optical Science Laboratory has used the same multicollimator camera calibration instrument for certifying cameras used to develop topographic maps since 1953. Several government agencies and numerous private companies use the laboratory to calibrate their aerial cameras, so an upgrade was sorely needed.

The Department of Energy's Kansas City Plant, a National Nuclear Security Administration facility, stepped in with its expertise and delivered a finished project in about 11 months. "They delivered a turn-key product, basically from scratch, that advanced our machine about 50 years," said Scott Stephens, USGS optical engineer and laboratory manager.

The Kansas City Plant team installed a Collimator Lightsource Controller System into the existing machine that allows a high level of operator control over the equipment. Long-life, ultrabright, white-light-emitting diodes (LED) in a compact cluster provide high-intensity projection light for each of 53 collimator tubes. The LED component, seen closeup at left, replaces 1950's style light bulbs previously used for projection. ❖

## AmCm transfer marks end of F Canyon rad operations

In late January 2003, more than two months ahead of schedule, the Department of Energy's Savannah River Site completed a continuous transfer of 30,000 gallons of radioactive americium/curium (AmCm) solution from F Canyon to H Tank Farm. Transfer of the material, which represented the most significant radiological hazard remaining in F Canyon, was a major step for the canyon's suspension efforts.

This was the first time such a large amount of material was transferred from the canyon at one time. For about 18 hours, the material traveled through more than two miles of pipes, involving three facilities and eight control rooms, to tank 51 where it could be successfully immobilized. The material will be part of the next large sludge batch to be vitrified in the Defense Waste Processing Facility.

A tremendous amount of teamwork went into the task. In the photograph, Operator Roy Murray (front) and (l-r) Operator Ron Brown, First Line Manager Richard Green, and Operator Donna Redd work in one of the eight control rooms. ❖



## 'Virtual' groundbreaking held for microproducts institute

It wasn't your traditional gold-plated shovels and moving of dirt for Walt Apley, Interim Director of the Department of Energy's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) (left), and Tim White, President, Oregon State University (OSU). Instead, a "virtual" groundbreaking ceremony in Portland, Oreg., Jan. 18, 2003, marked the beginning of the new Microproducts Breakthrough Institute established by the two organizations (*DOE This Month*, January 2003).

The institute is expected to help create a new and emerging industry in the Pacific Northwest, an industry that develops smaller, lighter, and more efficient microtechnology-based energy, chemical and biological systems for commercial and non-commercial use. Both PNNL and OSU possess extensive microtechnology capabilities, conducting nearly \$7 million research in microchemical and microenergy systems, with \$2 million in collaborative research.

Landis Kannberg, PNNL, and Kevin Drost, OSU and a former PNNL staff member, are co-directors of the institute. The institute will be centered at OSU. ❖



## National Hispanic association honors Department women

On Feb. 6, 2003, the National Association of Hispanic Federal Executives (NAHFE), a non-partisan nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement of Hispanic-Americans in Federal Service, recognized five Department of Energy women for their leadership and dedication in the career Federal service. The women received a citation from the association and were featured in a NAHFE publication honoring Hispanic women of distinction.

The honorees are (l-r) Aracely Nunez-Mattocks, Team Leader, Human and Administrative Resources, Office of Science; Elena Subia Melchert, Petroleum Engineer and Program Manager, Office of Natural Gas and Petroleum Technology, Office of Fossil Energy; Jan M. Chavez-Wilczynski, Acting Director, Office of Management Systems and Services, Office of Procurement and Assistance Management, Office of Management, Budget and Evaluation; Maria E. Holleran Rivera, Acting Section Chief, Diversity Division, Office of Civil Rights, Office of Economic Impact and Diversity; and Yvette T. Collazo, Environmental Management Team Leader, Chicago Operations Office. ❖



# KC Plant is model for beryllium cleanup

The Chronic Beryllium Disease Prevention Plan (CBDPP) at the Department of Energy's Kansas City Plant serves as a model for other National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) sites, as well as private industry. Milestones since launching the aggressive beryllium cleanup program three years ago include:

- characterization or sampling of more than 1,400 pieces of capital equipment to ensure minimal risk of beryllium exposure;
- cleaning and release of 15 of the Plant's beryllium-contaminated areas for safe work operations and safe isolation of one small area still scheduled for cleaning and demolition;
- a roll-out of an extensive awareness and education effort to all 3,000 Plant workers and thousands more former employees and subcontractors;
- enrollment of more than 1,100 employees and about 130 subcontractors in a voluntary medical surveillance program for testing and follow-up and of more than 5,000 former workers in a similar program through DOE/NNSA.

All of these achievements have been accomplished with virtually no impact on production operations or stockpile management restructuring initiative schedules.

Steps always have been taken to protect Kansas City Plant workers from beryllium exposure, but new standards released by DOE in January 2000 called for more aggressive action. The Plant revised its CBDPP and operations to comply with the new DOE Rule, 10 CFR Part 850, which established new requirements for permissible beryllium airborne and surface contamination exposure levels. While some NNSA sites are still struggling to get their programs off the ground, the Plant met the new standards six months ahead of the January 2002 deadline.

Not surprisingly, other NNSA sites view the Plant's beryllium management as the standard by which to pattern their own programs. Honeywell staff are often called upon to share the Plant's practices in workshops and teleconferences throughout the weapons complex. "FM&T is recognized as a leader within the NNSA weapons complex in implementing and managing



*A Kansas City Plant worker cleans potentially contaminated shelving that contained beryllium-related tools and fixtures.*

beryllium requirements," says Honeywell beryllium program coordinator Bill Frede. "We have also shared our beryllium control program with Honeywell sites in South Carolina, Florida and Kansas—sites that aren't even obligated to the DOE standards." ❖

# Rocky Flats safely completes cleanup of Solar Evaporation Ponds

Workers at the Department of Energy's (DOE) Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site have completed the final steps in the cleanup of the site's contaminated Solar Evaporation Ponds. The cleanup included the removal of nearly 800 tons of low-level and low-level mixed concrete and soil from the ponds.

At one time, the Solar Evaporation Ponds were considered a significant risk to public health. "Public safety is a key component of this remediation project and its completion represents a major milestone toward close of Rocky Flats," said

Scott Surovchek, DOE program manager for the ponds cleanup.

"This project demonstrates continuing progress in our efforts to safely accelerate the cleanup and closure of Rocky Flats," said Denny Ferrera, Kaiser-Hill project manager for Remediation, Industrial D&D, and Site Services. "Our planning, preparation, and extensive focus on hazard analysis is paying off."

The Solar Evaporation Ponds, which covered nearly 10 acres, were used from 1953 to 1986 to store and evaporate process waste water containing nitrates, treated acidic waste, and low-level radioactive elements.

Over time, the ponds leaked contaminants into the groundwater in the area. The five ponds were emptied and nearly 400,000 gallons of sludge removed and packaged in 1995. A groundwater remediation system was installed in 1999.

Remediation included removal of the supporting buildings and slab, pump pads, process waste lines, sumps, and valve pits. More than 60 truckloads of waste were hauled off site. The solar ponds were then filled with more than 65,000 yards of clean soil backfill and graded over. Clean topsoil and reseeded will complete the remediation. ❖

# Education NOTES

Scientists at the Department of Energy's **Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory** (LBNL), in collaboration with the Contemporary Physics Education Project (CPEP), have developed a colorful, graphically rich chart that illustrates and summarizes what is now known about the history and fate of the universe. More than 11,000 copies of the chart were distributed in February 2003 through *The Physics Teacher* magazine to high school science teachers nationwide for field-testing with their students. "With field-testing, we'll have a better idea of what works and what doesn't work on the chart," says LBNL physicist and chart co-developer Michael Barnett. The History and Fate of the Universe chart and supplemental material can be viewed at <http://UniverseAdventure.org>. Teachers wishing to participate in the field-testing of the chart should visit the CPEP website at <http://cpepweb.org/fieldtest>.



The Council on Occupational Education (COE) has renewed accreditation to the Department of Energy's **Nonproliferation and National Security Institute** (NNSI). Accreditation status is awarded for the institute's demonstration that it has met the council's quality standards, as well as the needs of students, the community, and employers. Based on the COE evaluation team report, NNSI received accreditation for the following program elements within Safeguards and Security: information security, nuclear materials control and accountability, personnel security, program planning and management, and protection program operations. This is the second major credentialing effort undertaken by NNSI. To date, 61 courses have been awarded credit recognition by the American Council on Education. ❖

Phil Adderley, an injector technologist in the Accelerator Division at the Department of Energy's Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility (Jefferson Lab), conducts a hands-on activity called "The Shape of Things" with sixth-graders participating in Jefferson Lab's popular Becoming Enthusiastic About Math and Science (BEAMS) program. BEAMS participants are primarily middle school students from Newport News, Va., and other local school districts. The program recently received one of 50 Best Practice awards from a National Institute of Standards and Technology/Department of Energy/Department of



Commerce/university collaboration. "BEAMS is centered around the students' interactions with Jefferson Lab volunteers; they have made BEAMS the program it is," says Jan Tyler, Jefferson Lab's Science Education Program Manager. ❖

## Banneker, Montgomery Blair win Regional Science Bowls

Students from Benjamin Banneker Academic High School in the District of Columbia and Montgomery Blair High School, Silver Spring, Md., respectively, captured the District of Columbia and Maryland Regional Science Bowl competitions sponsored by Department of Energy (DOE) Headquarters on March 1.

"Twenty-five regional teams had the fun, exciting challenge of exploring the sciences together," Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham said. "I look forward to meeting the regional champion teams when they return in May for the National Science Bowl® finals."

Benjamin Banneker and Montgomery Blair will face 64 other student teams from across the country at DOE's 13th Annual National Science Bowl, May 1-5, 2003, at the National 4-H Center, Chevy Chase, Md. The winner for the Virginia Regional Science Bowl was Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, Alexandria. That competition, sponsored by the Department's Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility, took place in Newport News, Va., on Feb. 8, 2003.

DOE created the National Science Bowl in 1991 to encourage American high school students to excel in mathematics and science and to pursue careers in these fields. More than 12,000 high school students are participating in Regional Science Bowl competitions nationwide this year. More information on the National Science Bowl, including the regional competitions, is available at <http://www.scied.science.doe.gov>. ❖

# Research DIGEST

A half-ounce “sniffer” intended to ride on small aerial drones to detect possible gas attacks on cities and military bases has been created by researchers at the Department of Energy’s **Sandia National Laboratories** in partnership with Lockheed Martin Corporation. Called SnifferSTAR, the patented device, which detects nerve gases and blister agents, operates on only half a watt of electric power. While other gas monitors exist, “this is small, lightweight, low power, and offers rapid analysis,” says Sandia researcher Doug Adkins. “Rapid analysis currently is not possible with any other package near this size.” Immediate analysis is critical in warning an endangered population of an attack or in surveying sites after alleged incidents. (Neal Singer, 505-845-7078)

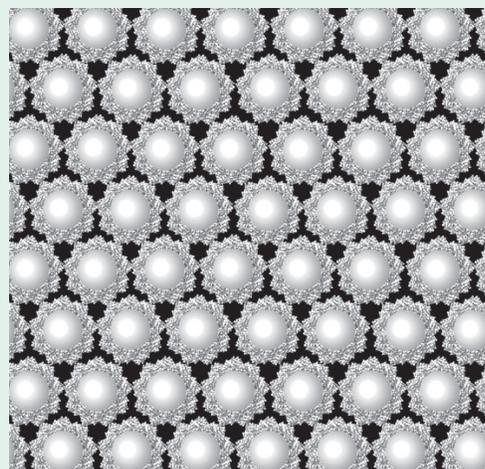


Researchers at the Department of Energy’s **Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory** have created the first three-dimensional global map of the protein structure universe—the vast assemblage of biological molecules that are the building blocks of living cells and control the chemical processes which make those cells work. The map provides great insight into the evolution and demographics of protein structures and may help scientists identify the functions of newly discovered proteins. Protein folds are recurring structural motifs or “domains” that underlie all protein architecture. Since architecture and function go hand-in-hand for proteins, solving what a protein’s structure looks like is a big step towards knowing what that protein does. (Lynn Yarris, 510-486-5375)



Scientists at the Department of Energy’s **Pacific Northwest National Laboratory** (PNNL) have extracted part of the human immune system and reconstituted it in brewer’s yeast in a fashion that

**B**uilding on tiny organisms, researchers at the Department of Energy’s Argonne National Laboratory are helping to create a new generation of tiny machines for electronic and photonic devices. Working with colleagues from the NASA’s Ames Research Center and the SETI Institute, the researchers built bioengineered nanoscale arrays, using genetically engineered proteins as templates to create honeycomb-like patterns of gold and a semiconducting material. Each cell in the array is just 20 nanometers (billionths of a meter) across—5,000 times smaller than the width of a human hair. Current lithographic techniques that produce similar arrays are limited to about 100 nanometers. Such arrays of nanoparticles could have future applications in computer memories, sensors, or logic devices. More information is available at <http://www.anl.gov/OPA/news03/news030214.htm>. ❖



enables identification of new antibodies in days rather than the months it takes with current approaches. PNNL researchers Michael Feldhaus and Rob Siegel built a library of one billion human antibodies and expressed them on the surface of yeast cells using a platform designed by a MIT collaborator. The combined technologies offer a more powerful, less expensive method for identifying antibodies. The technology could replace the need to produce antibodies within animals and opens up new options for rapidly designing medical treatments. (Staci Maloof, 509-372-6313)



The Department of Energy’s **Los Alamos National Laboratory** (LANL) recently released the first global map of hydrogen distribution identified by instruments aboard NASA’s Mars Odyssey spacecraft and offered initial minimum estimates of the total amount of water stored near the Martian surface. For nearly a year, an LANL neutron spectrometer, one component of a suite of instruments, has been carefully mapping the hydrogen content of the planet’s surface by measuring changes in

neutrons given off by soil. The neutron spectrometer is a more sensitive version of the LANL instrument that found water ice on the moon five years ago. The color map is available at <http://www.lanl.gov/worldview/news/pdf/MarsWater.pdf>. (Jim Danneskiold, 505-667-1640)



Doctors treating cancers resistant to conventional therapies soon will have a new treatment available to them because of a development by the Department of Energy’s **Oak Ridge National Laboratory** (ORNL) and Isotron of Alpharetta, Ga. With the neutron brachytherapy treatment, physicians can deliver a highly concentrated dose of californium-252 neutrons to the site of a tumor. Key to developing the treatment was miniaturization of the californium-252 source, allowing physicians to insert the radioisotope through a catheter directly to the tumor site. The therapy has proved particularly useful against cancers that are resistant to photon and gamma treatments, which do not kill cancer cells as effectively as do the californium-252 neutrons. (Ron Walli, 865-576-0226) ❖

# COMING Events

## May

**5-8** 2nd Annual Conference on Carbon Sequestration, Alexandria, Va. Sponsored by the Department of Energy and its National Energy Technology Laboratory. The conference will focus on the “innovation” and science and technological advances called for by President Bush to make carbon sequestration a practicable and commercially deployable technology. To register or for more information, visit <http://www.carbonsq.com/>.

**12-15** 4th Annual National Small Business Conference, Albuquerque, N. Mex. Sponsored by the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization in the Department of Energy’s (DOE) Office of Economic Impact and Diversity. The goal of the conference is to reach out to small businesses and to assist them in contracting with DOE. The deadline for early registration is **April 18, 2003**; the registration deadline is **May 5, 2003**. To register and for more information, visit <http://www.smallbusiness-outreach.doe.gov>. ❖

# NEW Publications

From the Energy Information Administration (EIA): ***Emissions of Greenhouse Gases in the United States 2001*** (DOE/EIA-0573-2001) states that total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions, led by a decrease in carbon dioxide, fell by 1.2 percent in 2001. The publication is available at <http://www.eia.doe.gov/oiaf/1605/ggrpt/pdf/057301.pdf>. According to the report ***Voluntary Reporting of Greenhouse Gases 2001*** (DOE/EIA-0608-2001), 228 U.S. companies and other entities reported that they had undertaken 1,705 projects to reduce or sequester greenhouse gases in 2001. The report is available at [http://www.eia.doe.gov/oiaf/1605/vrrpt/pdf/0608\(01\).pdf](http://www.eia.doe.gov/oiaf/1605/vrrpt/pdf/0608(01).pdf). Additional information on these and other EIA reports is available from the National Energy Information Center, EI-30, Room 1E-238 Forrestal Building, USDOE, Washington, DC 20585; phone: 202-586-8800, e-mail: [infoctr@eia.doe.gov](mailto:infoctr@eia.doe.gov).

***Imagine***, a new quarterly publication from the Department of Energy’s Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL), is aimed at nurturing grade school students’ interest in science and engineering. The first issue, featuring a wireless video camera system designed and built by INEEL engineers, was published in February 2003 in conjunction with the laboratory’s celebration of National Engineers Week. The publication is available at <http://imagine.inel.gov>. For more information, contact Kathy Gatens, Editor, 208-526-1058 or [kzc@inel.gov](mailto:kzc@inel.gov).

Office of Inspector General (IG) reports: ***Personnel Security Clearances and Badge Access Controls at Selected Field Locations*** (DOE/IG-0582); ***Management of Beryllium Metal Supply*** (DOE/IG-0583); ***Special Inquiry, Operations at Los Alamos National Laboratory*** (DOE/IG-0584); ***Inspection of Implementation of Corrective Actions Resulting from Force-on-Force Performance Tests*** (DOE/IG-0585). 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/>. ❖

## Hanford safety events scheduled in May

The ninth annual Hanford Health and Safety Exposition will be held May 6-8, 2003, at the Trade Recreation Agricultural Center in Pasco, Wash. The Exposition features information, equipment, supplies, and success stories that promote the health and safety of workers both at home and at work. Expo 2003 is sponsored by the Department of Energy’s (DOE) Richland Operations Office, Office of River Protection, and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory; Fluor Hanford, Inc.; Bechtel Hanford Inc.; CH2M HILL Hanford Group; Numatec Hanford Company; Duratek Federal Services of Hanford; Fluor Federal Services; and Hanford Environmental Health Foundation.

The Hanford Exposition is unique because it started in 1995 as a free,

all-volunteer event and continues as such today. DOE staff and Hanford Site contractors volunteer significant manpower and resources to ensure the Expo’s success and also to mentor other DOE sites on setting up safety expositions. The Expo provides community outreach for companies, vendors, government agencies, and public safety organizations to demonstrate safety and health practices, interact with people, and receive feedback. Last year, more than 31,000 people attended the event, making it the largest Safety Expo held to date within the Washington State Tri-Cities area (*DOE This Month*, August 2002).

The Voluntary Protection Programs Participants’ Association (VPPPA) Region X Conference is being held May 5-7, 2003, at the

West Coast Hotel, Pasco. DOE and the Hanford contractors were instrumental in arranging the scheduling and sponsoring of the conference at the same time as Expo 2003. Eight contractors at the Hanford Site are VPPPA members.

Expo 2003 is open to the public. To participate in the Expo or for more information, visit <http://www.hanford.gov/safety/expo/> or contact Cliff Ledford, 509-373-5214, or Janette Pettey, 509-376-2884. To register or obtain more information on the VPPPA Region X meeting, visit <http://www.vpppa.org/> and click on “Chapters,” or contact VPPPA at 703-761-1146. ❖

# People IN/ENERGY

On Feb. 4, 2003, President Bush announced his intention to nominate **Linton F. Brooks**, Deputy Administrator for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation, National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), to be Under Secretary for Nuclear Security and Administrator, NNSA. Brooks has held both positions in an acting capacity since July 8, 2002. The nomination is subject to Senate confirmation.

**Dr. Praveen Chaudhari** has been selected as the new Director of the Department of Energy's Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL). He will join BNL April 1, 2003, after a distinguished 36-year career with IBM. Chaudhari joined IBM's Research Division in Yorktown, N.Y., in 1966 and was appointed Director of Physical Science in 1981 and Vice President of Science in 1982. He earned a B.S. from the Indian Institute of Technology in 1961, and both an M.S. and Sc.D. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1963 and 1966, respectively. Chaudhari has been honored with a number of awards, including the National Medal of Technology in 1995.



**Shannon Davis Henderson** has been appointed Acting Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs (CI) following the departure of Assistant Secretary **Dan Brouillette**, who returned to the private sector. Henderson has been with the Department of Energy since November 2001, serving as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs. Also in CI, **Herb Jones** is the new Deputy Assistant Secretary for Intergovernmental and External Affairs. Jones has held several key positions at the Federal and state level. He served as Chief of Staff to former Congressman John Thune of South Dakota from 1997 to 2002.

**Dr. Leonard K. Peters** will begin his duties April 1, 2003, as the new Director of the Department of Energy's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. Since 1993, Peters has served as Vice Provost for Research at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, where he managed the university's \$230 million research program. Prior to joining Virginia Tech, Peters spent nearly two decades at the University of Kentucky



where his last assignment was Acting Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies. He earned his B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh.

**Dr. Allison Lung** has been appointed Assistant Director of the Department of Energy's Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility (Jefferson Lab) in Newport News, Va. Lung is responsible for formulating and leading Jefferson Lab's Continual Improvement Program and responding to requests from laboratory stakeholders. The position was developed during a recent laboratory organization, and Lung is the first person to hold the position. Previously, she was a Hall C staff scientist and project manager for the G0 experiment.



Two key appointments have been announced in the Office of the Secretary. **John Shaw** was named Deputy Chief of Staff and White House Liaison for the Department of Energy. Shaw has served as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Environment, Safety, and Health since April 2002. **Paul Morrell** has been named Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategic Planning. Most recently, Morrell served as Chief of Staff to former House Majority Leader Dick Armey and as Staff Director for the Select Committee on Homeland Security.

Internationally known geneticist and medical researcher **Dr. Edward M. Rubin** has been named Director of the Department of Energy's Joint Genome Institute (JGI) and Director of the Genomics Division at the Department's Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL). Rubin has served as Interim Director of JGI since spring 2002. He joined LBNL in 1988 and became head of the laboratory's Genome Sciences Department in 1998.

**John A. Russack** has been appointed to a three-year term as Director of the Department of Energy's Office of Intelligence. Prior to his appointment, Russack served as Deputy Chief of External Operations and Cover Division for Counter Intelligence, Deputy Assistant Director of Central Intelligence for Collection, the Military Deputy Director of the DCI's Nonproliferation Center, Executive Assistant to the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence, and Deputy to the Associate Director of Central Intelligence for Military Support.

**David McCumber** is the new Communications and External Relations Division Leader at the Department of Energy's Los Alamos National Laboratory. Previously, McCumber served as Chief of Staff and General Counsel to former New Mexico Governor Gary Johnson. Other new appointments within the division include **James Fallin** as Director of Public Affairs and **Patrick D. Woehrle** as Director of Governmental Relations. Most recently, Fallin was Deputy Director and Media Relations Manager for the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality Waste Programs Division. Woehrle most recently served as Legislative Director for Congressman Gene Green of Texas.

The following researchers at Department of Energy laboratories recently were elected Fellows of the American Physical Society: **Stan Kaye**, NSTX Physics Analysis Division, Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory; and **Stephen Benson**, Accelerator Division, and **Rocco Schiavilla**, Physics Division, Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility.

**Stan David**, a UT-Battelle corporate fellow and leader of the Materials Joining and Non-destructive Testing Group in the Metals and Ceramics Division at the Department of Energy's Oak Ridge National Laboratory, is the recipient of the Yoshiaki Arata Award. The annual award, presented by the International Institute of Welding, recognizes outstanding achievements in fundamental research in welding science and technology and its allied areas.



Recently elected Fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science were Department of Energy laboratory scientists **Stephen Schwartz**, Environmental Sciences Department, Brookhaven National Laboratory, and **Craig Smith**, Energy and Environment Directorate, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

**Arthur Flynn** is the new Director of the Department of Energy's Nonproliferation and National Security Institute (NNSI) in Albuquerque, N. Mex. This is Flynn's second tour at the facility. He served as Assistant General Manager and an instructor from 1987 to 1993, when NNSI was the Safeguards and Security Central Training Academy. The single training academy has increased to six under the NNSI umbrella. ♦

# Milestones

## YEARS OF SERVICE

### March 2003

#### Headquarters

**Economic Impact & Diversity** - Donald Wirick (25 years). **EIA** - Mark T. Gielecki (30), Roy E. Friend (25). **Energy Assurance** - Grace O. Dillard (30). **Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy** - Theodore C. Collins (45), John B. Atcheson (25). **Envir. Management** - Mary D. Kimbrough (30). **Envir., Safety & Health** - Patricia A. Pontes (45), Check C. Eng (30), C. Rick Jones (30), Stephen M. Sohinki (25).

**FERC** - Rhoda L. Fawcett (30), Charles F. Reusch (30), Anthony E. Barracchini (25), Leona B. Bolton (25), J. Mark Robinson (25), Jessica A. Seigel (25), Robert R. Sheldon (25), Patricia A. Williams (25).

**Fossil Energy** - Tom J. Alexander (30). **General Counsel** - Julia A. Gaskins (35), Lawrence S. Leiken (30), Anne E. Broker (25), Jacqueline E. McKissick (25). **Intelligence** - Patricia A. Pettaway (30).

#### Management, Budget & Evaluation

- Laura J. Copeland (40), James W. Rand (35), Charles T. Ingram (30), Gwendolyn E. Brown (25), Halcott T. Newman, Jr. (25). **NNSA** - Geraldine A. Hunt (40), Bonnie M. Carnes (35), Garline C. Perry, Jr. (30), Salvatore M. Cremona (25). **Science** - Ralph H. De Lorenzo (35), Thurman L. Whitson (30). **Security** - John H. Campbell (40). **Worker & Community Transition** - Samuel J. Ferraro, Jr. (30).

#### Field

**Albany Research Center** - Sophie J. Bullard (30). **Bonneville Power** - Rex E. Bankhead (35), Donovan S. Kauffman (35), Kenneth A. Barnhart (30), Ronald J. Denis (30), Owen D. Ellis (30), John W. Haide (30), Paul Q. Krueger (30), Sally J. Long (30), Kenneth J. Morgan (30), Milton J. Olsen (30), Micheal S. Poe (30),

Larry D. Stanks (30), Robert E. Worrall (30), Mary J. McDaniel (25), B. Diana McLain (25), Edward V. Olavarria (25), Gary R. Wilkins (25).

**Chicago** - John W. Kivlehan (30). **Golden** - Mary-Lynn C. Hartford (25). **Idaho** - Roger L. Twitchell (30), Terry W. Smith (25). **NETL** - Gene D. Turner (35). **NNSA Service Center** - Caroline E. Bleil (40), William E. Lambert (35), Frank A. Baca (30), Herman A. Corona (25). **Oak Ridge** - Nettie B. Hudson (30), Deborah B. Widener (30), Sandra G. Haworth (25).

**Pittsburgh Naval Reactors/NNSA** - Elaine M. Servich (25). **Richland** - James L. Daily II (35), Keith A. Klein (30), Bettye J. Milton (30), Christian J. Bosted (25), Myrna A. Partida (25).

**Rocky Flats** - James K. Hartman (35), Mary G. Yonts (25). **Savannah River** - David A. Boyll (25). **Southwestern Power** - John T. Edwards, III (35), Thomas J. Green (30), Laurence J. Yadon II (25).

**Western Area Power** - John C. Crowfoot (35), Helen Klein (35), Leif W. Larsen (30), James W. May (30), Ruby S. Dunbar (25), Egmond A. Franck (25), Michael T. Gough (25), Linda R. Heick (25), Gene C. Herman (25), James Luna, Jr. (25), Robert L. Markel (25), Antonio Paredes, Jr. (25).

## RETIREMENTS

### January 2003

#### Headquarters

**EIA** - Mary Ellen Golby (28 years). **Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy** - Sarah A. Sprague (23). **FERC** - Perry L. Brown (25). **Science** - Richard Yockman (25).

#### Field

**Bonneville Power** - Judith A. Canja (20). **Golden** - Ruth E. Adams (28).

**Idaho** - Ronald A. King (20), William G. Lloyd (33). **NETL** - Ellen H. Baliker (36), Karan K. Graham (37), Douglas M. Jewell (21), Jesse O. Mapstone, Jr. (40), Charles E. Schmidt (31), John L. Trader, Jr. (30), Wu-Wey Wen (22). **Nevada Site/NNSA** - Stewart A. Thomas (25).

**NNSA Service Center** - Vianna Briscoe (32), David M. Fredrickson (30), Samuel E. Harris, Jr. (34), John A. Marchetti (41), Leonard A. Raab, Jr. (33). **Pantex Site/NNSA** - Jack H. Dennis (30). **Rocky Flats** - William J. Lenten (16). **Savannah River** - Thomas F. Heenan (34), Virgil W. Sauls (35). **Southeastern Power** - Blanche R. Adams (35). **Southwestern Power** - Jerry W. Elmore (42), Thomas D. Flanigan (33), Daniel R. Voss (33), Ronald E. Wagstaff (30).

**Strategic Petroleum Reserve** - Charles T. Dobson (38), Ray M. Paternostro (31). **Western Area Power** - Judith D. Austen-Meyers (24), Carolyn M. Bristow (20), Raymond F. Forbes (28), Jimmy L. Hunt (41), Brian K. Kasperek (33), Steven C. Kniss (30), Ruth A. Koenig (36), Dorothy C. Meyer (30), Jane V. Meyer (29), Byron S. Nielson (34), Clinton W. Stratton (26), Louis Triguero, Jr. (22), Lauren C. Vonderlin (31), Dell R. Wolfe (31), Gerald T. Zaug (33).

### February 2003

#### Headquarters

**FERC** - Alan L. Barnett (32). **Nuclear Energy** - Frank A. Ross (37).

#### Field

**Albany Research Center** - Cheryl L. Dahlin (24). **Nevada Site/NNSA** - Thomas F. Williams (21). **Oakland/NNSA** - Gwendolyn G. Gardner (27). ❖

## Department to establish legacy management office

The Department of Energy (DOE) plans to establish an Office of Legacy Management to focus on the long-term care of legacy liabilities of former nuclear weapons production sites following environmental cleanup. The office will be responsible for sites that have been closed and are no longer supporting the Department's ongoing missions.

Legacy liabilities stem from the activities of DOE and its predecessor agencies, particularly during World War II and the Cold War, which left radioactive and chemical waste, environmental contamination, and hazardous materials at over 100 sites across the United States. The office's primary functions will include management of the land and associated resources as a Federal trustee, surveillance and maintenance associated with environmental remedies, records and information management, and the management of post-closure liabilities.

Sites transferring under the new office's jurisdiction will include Office of Environmental Management (EM) closure sites, Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act sites, and Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program sites where remediation is complete. Sites will be transferred to the new office for long-term management when they are successfully remediated and closed.

March 2003

# AROUND DOE

## Financial statements earn clean audit opinion

KPMG LLP, under contract with the Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Inspector General, recently completed the annual audit of the Department's Fiscal Year 2002 consolidated financial statements and issued a clean audit opinion. The clean opinion is complemented by Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham's positive assurance statement on the adequacy of DOE's management controls.

"This represents the fourth year in a row that the Department has achieved a clean audit opinion on its financial statements," Deputy Secretary of Energy Kyle McSlarrow said. "The Secretary and his senior leadership team are fully committed to all aspects of the President's Management Agenda, especially sound financial management, as that is prerequisite to meeting our responsibilities as stewards of taxpayer dollars."

## Endangered species thrive at Savannah River

Visitors to the Department of Energy's Savannah River Site (SRS) are often surprised by its wealth of natural resources, and even more surprised by the number of endangered and sensitive plant and animal species. As required by the Endangered Species Act and as part of the Site's environmental stewardship mission, the USDA Forest Service-Savannah River (USFS-SR) has improved the habitat for these species and helped a wide variety of other animals and plants.

"Since 1985, USFS-SR has managed major portions of the Site to support the endangered Red-cockaded woodpecker," says biologist Laurel Moore. "Not only has managing habitat benefited the woodpecker, but also a host of other animals and plants, such as the gopher tortoise."

Efforts to improve the habitat include increasing longleaf pine at the Site, leaving a suitable number of these large trees, developing artificial cavity inserts, translocating Red-cockaded woodpeckers from other areas, and using prescribed fire to maintain a natural, open park-like habitat, which the woodpecker needs. Limited, controlled public access to SRS also provides protection. In 1985 there were four woodpeckers at Savannah River; today, there are 170. ❖

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

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Official Business