



Program Update

October–December 2011

Welcome to the October–December 2011 issue of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Legacy Management (LM) Program Update. This publication is designed to provide a status of activities within LM. Please direct all comments and inquiries to lm@hq.doe.gov.

Goal 3

LM Fernald Workers Reunion

The Fernald Preserve in Harrison, Ohio, hosted a workers reunion event in the Visitors Center on Saturday, October 15, 2011. More than 300 former workers from the Production Era (1950 to 1989) and the Cleanup Era (1989 to 2006) mingled with each other and the current staff representing the site’s legacy management mission (2006 to present day) during the day-long event.

A presentation was given that recognized the efforts of all these former and current site workers. Jane Powell, Fernald Preserve Site Manager, welcomed everyone and expressed her gratitude for their commitment and success.

Gene Branham, long-serving president of the Fernald Atomic Trades and Labor Council, spoke about the Production Era and gave numerous examples of the memorable work that the Cold War Warriors did during those turbulent times. Glenn Griffiths, former U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Environmental Management Fernald Deputy Site Manager, reminded the more than 110 people attending the presentation of the challenges faced by cleanup workers and how the successful cleanup and end state of the site far surpassed almost everyone’s expectations. Graham Mitchell, retired Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, noted that everyone’s efforts



Gwen Hooten, LM General Engineer, listens to memories of a former Fernald production worker at the October 2011 workers reunion.

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Legacy Management Goals

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- Goal 2.** Preserve, protect, and share records and information
- Goal 3.** Meet commitments to the contractor work force
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- Goal 5.** Sustain management excellence

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Goal 1

LM and Other Agencies Testify on Progress in Addressing Past Uranium Mining Impacts in New Mexico and on the Navajo Nation

On October 6, 2011, David Geiser, Director of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Legacy Management (LM) testified before the Senate Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Children's Health and Environmental Responsibility. The subcommittee is chaired by Senator Tom Udall of New Mexico. The focus of the hearing was the status of existing Federal plans and potential future needs to clean up contamination from legacy- or Cold War-era uranium mining and milling operations in New Mexico and on the Navajo Nation, part of which is in New Mexico. Others who addressed the subcommittee included James Woolford of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Michael Weber of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

Mr. Geiser discussed LM's long-term surveillance and maintenance (LTS&M) activities at four uranium mill tailings sites in New Mexico remediated under Title I of the Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act (UMTRCA) of 1978. Title I of UMTRCA addresses uranium milling sites that were inactive in 1978 when the law was passed. UMTRCA sites in New Mexico include three in the Grants Mineral Belt (Ambrosia Lake, a Title I site, and Bluewater and L-Bar, Title II sites) and Shiprock, a Title I site on the Navajo Nation. In addition, LM will eventually assume LTS&M responsibility for two UMTRCA Title II sites in New Mexico, Church Rock and Homestake. The Title II sites were still active when UMTRCA was passed, but are currently being remediated by the licensees under the oversight of NRC. When remediation of the sites is complete, the license for them will be transferred to LM for LTS&M.

Among the major accomplishments that Mr. Geiser reported on was the successful remediation of the Highway 160 Site in Arizona. More than 400 truckloads of mill-related waste from the Highway 160 Site were characterized, excavated, and hauled to the Grand Junction,

Colorado, Disposal/Processing Site. More information on this collaboration between the Navajo Nation, the DOE Office of Environmental Management, and LM to clean up this site was reported in LM's July–September 2011 *Program Update*.

A major new collaboration that was discussed at the hearing is a proposal by EPA that nearly 900,000 cubic yards of mine waste from the Northeast Church Rock (NECR) Mine be disposed of at the Church Rock UMRCA Title II site. Although NRC will have final approval authority, a multi-agency group with representatives from EPA, NRC, DOE, the New Mexico Environment Department, and the Navajo Nation, as well as General Electric (the licensee of the mill site) has since been developed to begin working on design options.

Although EPA estimates that disposal of the mine waste at the UMRCA site will not begin until 2016, LM's support for LTS&M of mine waste should reduce the cost to remediate the NECR mine, the largest abandoned uranium mine and the one which EPA has ranked highest in terms of threats to human health on the Navajo Nation. Senator Udall sited the willingness of the agencies to collaborate on the mine waste issue

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The Bluewater UMRCA Title II disposal site is in the Grants Mineral Belt of New Mexico. The main cell at Bluewater is the largest UMRCA cell managed by LM, covering over 400 acres (162 hectares). Mt. Taylor, a prominent peak in western New Mexico, is in the background.



Goal 4

DOE Prepares Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Uranium Leasing Program

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Legacy Management is responsible for administering the DOE Uranium Leasing Program (ULP) and its 31 uranium lease tracts located in the Uravan Mineral Belt of southwestern Colorado. The ULP began in 1948 when Congress authorized the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), a predecessor agency of DOE, to withdraw lands from the public domain for the sole purpose of exploring for, developing, and mining uranium ore bodies. Through a series of public land orders, AEC took control of approximately 500,000 acres of land in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming. The U.S. Geological Survey assisted AEC in implementing a massive exploration program to identify lands that contained the most favorable geologic formations for uranium. Subsequently, AEC retained only lands (approximately 25,000 acres) that met the most favorable criteria. Those lands were the basis for the AEC's initial mineral leasing program from 1948 through 1962. A second leasing period was initiated in the early 1970s and continued through 1994. A third leasing period was initiated in 1996 and continued through April 2008 and the fourth leasing period was initiated in April 2008.

On July 31, 2008, a Civil Action Summons was filed against DOE in the U.S. District Court (Court) for the District of Colorado on behalf of four environmental organizations— Colorado Environmental Coalition, Information Network for Responsible Mining, Center for Native Ecosystems, and Center for Biological Diversity. The complaint alleged that DOE's ULP actions violated the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), including the 2007 Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) process, and through its actions, DOE is responsible for the resurgence of activity within the domestic uranium industry. The complaint was later amended to include violations of the Endangered Species Act in connection with the DOE ULP.

Consistent with NEPA and the Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ's) implementing regulations, an Environmental Impact Statement is prepared when an agency's proposed actions may have significant impacts on the environment. A PEIS evaluates the environmental impacts of broad agency actions, such as those that may be associated with the ULP. Future NEPA documents may be prepared (tiered) from the PEIS process for individual site-specific actions, as appropriate.

On June 21, 2011, a "Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Uranium Leasing Program" was published in the *Federal Register*. A Supplement to the NOI announcing plans to prepare a PEIS for the DOE ULP was issued in the *Federal Register* on July 21, 2011. This Supplement announced public scoping meeting dates, times, and locations and extended the scoping period to September 9, 2011. Four public meetings on the proposed scope of the PEIS were held during this scoping period.

There are currently nine agencies who will participate in the PEIS as Cooperating Agencies. These include the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management; Colorado Department of Transportation; Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety; Mesa County Board of Commissioners; Montrose County Board of Commissioners; San Juan County Commission; Southern Ute Indian Tribe; and the Navajo Nation. Additional agencies are still in the process of deciding whether they will be a Cooperating Agency or only require updates as the PEIS progresses.

A meeting was held with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on November 9, 2011, and DOE initiated the informal consultation process under the Endangered Species Act. A Biological Assessment will be performed, which may result in the initiation of a formal consultation process.

Tentatively, DOE is anticipating the Draft PEIS being completed by April 30, 2012, and the Final PEIS being completed by May 24, 2013. For more information, please go to <http://ulpeis.anl.gov>. ❖



Registration desk at the ULP scoping meeting.



Goal 4

Bidders Conference and Site Tour – The Next Step in Proposed Solar Energy Project at Durango, Colorado

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Legacy Management (LM) organized and held a bidders conference and site tour on November 15, 2011. This effort was in support of the solicitation of the surface land lease for a solar energy generation project at the Durango, Colorado, Disposal Site uranium mill tailing disposal cell. Thirty-one people attended, including LM representatives and two representatives from the local electrical utility company.

Dr. Laura Kilpatrick and Deborah Barr from LM's Asset Management Team and Jalena Dayvault, LM Durango Site Manager, presented information pertaining to the disposal site's regulatory requirements, which outline both technical and lease requirements for this project. To further enhance the potential bidders experience, information regarding lease award criteria, schedule requirements, and LM's overall project expectations to ensure continued protectiveness at the site were also discussed. After formal presentations were completed, participants were invited to attend a site tour. The site tour provided an opportunity for interested parties to visit the disposal site to better understand site complexities and limitations that would assist in construction and installation design and physical factors affecting utility connection.

In response to the highly relevant questions presented by the conference attendees, LM created a "Frequently Asked Questions for the Solar Photovoltaic Project at the Durango, Colorado, Disposal Site" link on the project website http://www.lm.doe.gov/Durango_Solar_Photovoltaic.pdf. Also, LM will continue to update and post project information that may be useful in the development of proposals, including disposal site maps and bidders conference material.

Questions can be submitted via e-mail to contracts@lm.doe.gov. ❖



Bidders conference and site tour at the Durango, Colorado, site.



Goal 2

LM Records Digitization Project

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Legacy Management (LM) mission is to ensure legacy liabilities of former nuclear weapons production sites are properly managed following the completion of environmental cleanup activities. Part of this mission includes the preservation of Federal government records and information.

LM manages records in compliance with all legal and regulatory requirements as directed by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) and DOE. Many DOE records have long-term retention periods and LM must ensure that records meet preservation requirements for all record media types including records on paper, film, and other media. One of LM's organizational goals is to preserve, protect, and share records and information. Current technology is helping LM to meet this goal through a new digitization project. Some LM record holdings are on acetate-based film, which is an unstable medium for long-term preservation. To ensure these records are readable for many years to come, LM is converting these records to electronic format.



LM support contractor personnel use scanning equipment to digitize LM records.

The LM records digitization project commenced in October 2011 with project completion targeted for September 30, 2012. During that time more than 400,000 records on film will be digitized. The availability of these records in electronic format will not only ensure long-term preservation of the records, but will reduce costs and expedite retrieval of information to support LM records requests. ❖

Goal 2

Yucca Mountain Project – Records and Information Systems Transition

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Legacy Management (LM) took responsibility for Yucca Mountain Project (YMP) records, information systems, and the Licensing Support Network (LSN) with the closure of the DOE Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management on October 1, 2010. LM's commitment to preserve, protect, and share legacy records and information continues to be showcased by the tremendous progress made on this unique, complex site transition.

Currently, the LM Business Center (LMBC) houses over 13,200 cubic feet of physical records—the result of the consolidation of record holdings from various DOE Federal offices, Federal Record Centers, and commercial storage facilities that supported the YMP. Additionally, the records management team completed the processing of the remaining records—over 300 cubic feet of active YMP records—into the electronic Record Information System for long-term storage and ease of search and retrieval. LM has successfully processed over 180 record and information requests associated with the YMP for various stakeholders; many were delivered to customers within 24 to 48 hours.



Numerous requests for Yucca Mountain Project records and information are processed and returned to stakeholders in less than 48 hours.

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Goal 5

Legacy Management Support Services Request for Proposals Released

On November 23, 2011, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Headquarters Procurement Services released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Legacy Management Support Services. The RFP is soliciting offers for (1) Long-Term Surveillance and Maintenance; (2) Information Technology and Records Management; (3) Asset Management; (4) Business; and (5) Program-Wide Support Services to the Office of Legacy Management.

The competitive acquisition is a 100 percent set-aside for small businesses under North American Industry Classification System Code 562910, Environmental Remediation Services, with a size-limit standard of 500 employees. A single cost-plus-award-fee contract with task assignments is contemplated. The period of performance consists of a 24-month base period (inclusive of a 90-day transition period) and one 36-month option period.

Sections A through J of the RFP represent the draft contract and shall be the basis for the contractual relationship between DOE and the selected Offeror, in accordance with the Uniform Contract Format at Federal Acquisition Regulation 15.204-1. The incumbent contractor for this award is S.M. Stoller Corporation under contract number DE-AM01-07LM00060.

An electronic reading room has been established to include supplemental information required for proposal submission. The reading room can be found at <http://www.lm.doe.gov>.

Proposals must offer to provide complete performance for all requirements for the entire 24-month base period (inclusive of a 90-day transition period), and one 36-month option period. Proposals for less than the total requirement may be rejected. Proposals should provide a minimum offer acceptance period of 180 days after the required date for receipt of proposals. One single contract award is expected to be made as a result of this RFP; multiple awards are not contemplated under this solicitation.

Proposals will be evaluated based on five criteria: technical approach, management approach, staffing, past performance, and cost and fee. In determining the best value to the Government, technical capability and past performance, when combined, is significantly more important than the evaluated cost and fee. The Government intends to evaluate proposals and award a contract without discussions. Therefore, each offer should contain the Offeror's best terms from a cost or price and technical standpoint. However, the Government reserves the right to conduct discussions if later determined by the Contracting Officer to be necessary. The Government shall not award a contract to an Offeror that does not meet the material requirements of the RFP.

Proposals shall be prepared strictly in accordance with the instructions set forth in the RFP, Part IV, Section L. Proposals shall be evaluated in accordance with the criteria set forth in Part IV, Section M. Proposals must be received by January 25, 2012. ❖

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LM and Other Agencies Testify on Progress in Addressing Past Uranium Mining Impacts in New Mexico and on the Navajo Nation

as an example of the type of collaboration envisioned when the first Navajo Nation *Five-Year Plan* was developed in 2007, and when DOE agreed in 2010 to participate with NMED in what is commonly referred to as the *Grants Mineral Belt Five-Year Plan* to address regional legacy uranium mining, milling, and groundwater contamination concerns in west-central New Mexico.

Other topics that Mr. Geiser addressed with the subcommittee were DOE's work on various techniques

for remediating groundwater at UMTRCA sites in New Mexico and Arizona, the status of DOE's Uranium Leasing Program, and the Title X Uranium and Thorium Reimbursement Program. Three Title X sites, where the licensee is eligible for reimbursement of a portion of the cleanup costs of uranium and thorium mill sites, are in New Mexico. More information on the Title X program will be featured in a future LM *Program Update*. ❖



Goal 5

DOE Gives Greenhouse to Diné College

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) spacious Tuba City greenhouse now calls its home Diné College, located in Tsaile, Arizona. DOE donated the greenhouse to the college in a Navajo ribbon-cutting ceremony on March 26, 2011. The Department hopes to spawn support of environmental science education, research, and community outreach programs.

"I want to extend our gratitude to the DOE for this tremendous contribution to our college and for the future growth of our students and community," said Diné College Interim President Marie Etsitty.

The greenhouse was built to grow native shrubs for revegetation and phytoremediation research.

The research evaluated methods for establishing native shrubs on highly compacted rocky soils that had been disturbed during the milling and subsequent remediation activities. Dr. Ed Glenn of the University of Arizona said of the research, "Conventional seeding methods were compared to a more expensive approach that required irrigation of native shrub transplants started in the greenhouse. Survival and growth of the native shrub transplants was far superior to conventional methods, potentially reducing long-term revegetation costs." This study became the foundation for DOE's phytoremediation research at the Monument Valley uranium mill tailings site.

In addition to revegetation, the greenhouse served other purposes. Throughout the 1990s, students used the greenhouse for student science projects but over the years it deteriorated in the hot Arizona sun.

Rich Bush of DOE, Dr. Jody Waugh, of S.M. Stoller Corporation, and Marnie Carroll, who is Executive Director of the Diné Environmental Institute (DEI) at the college, considered various options for the future of the greenhouse. Ultimately, the best option was for DOE to donate the greenhouse so the college could repair it. Now, the greenhouse will aid undergraduate students in science projects and continue to grow native plants for revegetation on Navajo lands.

Dr. Waugh is very pleased with the decision. He said, "This greenhouse represents more than the gift of a physical structure—it's a symbol. It's symbolic of a growing math and science education presence both in



Deborah Sullivan, DOE Office of Legacy Management, presents a certificate to Marnie Carroll, Executive Director of DEI at Diné College, commemorating transfer of ownership of the Tuba City greenhouse from DOE to the College.



A ribbon-cutting ceremony Saturday, March 26, 2011, marked a gift of a greenhouse from DOE to Diné College. Pictured left to right are: Marnie Carroll, Executive Director of DEI at Diné College; Max D. Goldtooth, Sr, Tuba City Chapter President, Louise Scott, Member, Diné College Board of Regents (Western Agency); Fannie L. Atcity, President, Board of Regents (Northern Agency); Marie R. Etsitty, Interim President of Diné College; Dr. Ed Glenn, University of Arizona; Dr. Jody Waugh, S.M. Stoller Corporation; Deborah Sullivan, DOE; and Laurence Gishey, Vice-President, Board of Regents (Fort Defiance Agency). (Photos by Ed McCombs)

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Goal 4

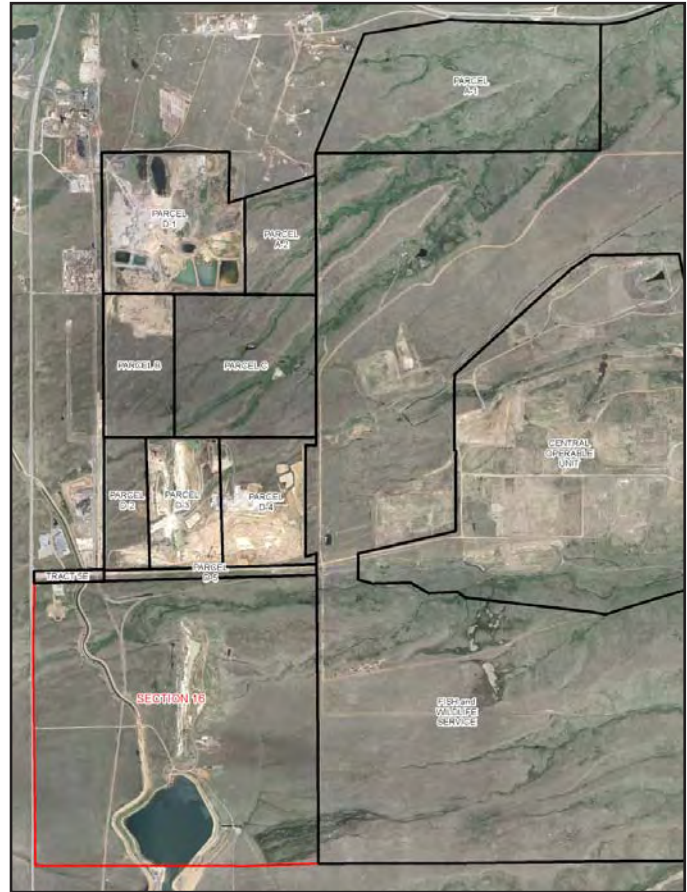
Completion of the CERCLA Natural Resource Damage Process at the Rocky Flats Site

Discharges of hazardous constituents to the soil and water at the Rocky Flats, Colorado, Site during nearly 50 years of nuclear weapons component production resulted in residual contamination left in the soil and water. The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Responsibility Act (CERCLA) was enacted to enforce cleanup and reporting requirements on contaminated property, and places liability for damages to natural resources due to discharges of hazardous constituents with the discharger of the damaging waste. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is responsible for those damages at the Rocky Flats site. Normally, a typically long and contentious assessment of the scope and cost of the natural resource damages (NRD) is conducted before funding is sought and provided for projects to offset those damages.

In keeping with the effort to close the site ahead of schedule, DOE secured an agreement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the State of Colorado, and Colorado's U.S. Congressional delegation to extinguish any claim to NRD by the State. In exchange for extinguishing potential NRD claims, \$10 million would be provided to protect critical upland prairie habitat on the western portion of the site that contained privately owned mineral rights (shown in the figure at right).

The funding was secured for DOE by Congress under the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006 in what became known locally as the Minerals Act. DOE, USFWS, and three agencies of the State of Colorado then formed the Rocky Flats Natural Resource Trustee Council to manage the use of the money.

DOE was quick to utilize the funding by purchasing three separate parcels of minerals underlying the surface lands already owned by the U.S. government. These parcels are labeled A-1, A-2, and C on the figure. The remaining funds were subsequently transferred to an interest-earning account controlled by the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment. The Trustee Council approved several other projects, including contributing to a local municipality a percentage of the purchase price of a property to the east of the site for inclusion within



their protected open-space program. Another project purchased the minerals underlying a portion of the property to the northwest of the site, while gaining a donation of the remaining minerals underlying Parcel D-1.

Recently, the Trustee Council approved the use of the remaining money to buy out and extinguish mining leases and permits on all the western mining parcels except C, which was not encumbered by a mineral lease. In addition, this funding was used to leverage contributions of more than \$10 million from local city and county governments to purchase the mineral rights underlying Parcels B and D-2 on the site. The deal also included purchasing the lands and minerals of the adjacent Section 16 State Land Board property and extinguishing the associated mining lease.

As was envisioned in the Minerals Act, the Rocky Flats Natural Resource Trustee Council has now protected all critical upland prairie habitat on the Rocky Flats site for future incorporation into the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge and supplemented these almost 5,000 acres with the additional 640 acres of Section 16. ❖



Goal 2

EEOICPA Benefits Extended to 17 UMTRCA Sites

The Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA) was enacted by Congress in 2001 to provide compensation and medical benefits to qualifying employees (including contractors, subcontractors, and certain vendors) who worked at U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) facilities.

The U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) is the administering agency responsible for implementing legislated EEOICPA program policies and procedures and for identifying the covered DOE facilities and the timeframes. DOL has recently announced that the remediation performed by DOE at 17 of the inactive uranium-ore-processing sites under the Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act [Public Law 95-604], in accordance with standards promulgated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, will now be covered under EEOICPA.

The additional former uranium mills now covered are:

- Monument Valley, Arizona, Processing Site
- Tuba City, Arizona, Disposal Site
- Grand Junction, Colorado, Disposal/Processing Site (formerly Climax Uranium Mill)
- Gunnison, Colorado, Disposal/Processing Site
- Maybell, Colorado, Disposal Site
- Naturita, Colorado, Disposal/Processing Site
- Rifle, Colorado, Disposal/Processing Site (Old and New)
- Slick Rock, Colorado, Disposal/Processing Site (East and West)
- Lowman, Idaho, Disposal Site
- Ambrosia Lake, New Mexico, Disposal Site
- Lakeview, Oregon, Disposal/Processing Site
- Falls City, Texas, Disposal Site
- Mexican Hat, Utah, Disposal Site
- Riverton, Wyoming, Processing Site
- Spook, Wyoming, Disposal Site (Converse County)

In addition, three facilities already covered under EEOICPA—Durango, Colorado, Disposal/Processing Site; Vitro Manufacturing, Canonsburg, Pennsylvania; and Monticello, Utah, Disposal and Processing Sites—have increased covered time periods associated with the environmental remediation done at those facilities. DOL has also included the remediation at the Monticello, Utah, Disposal and Processing Sites. DOE remedial-action contractors performed environmental remediation at these locations consisting of consolidating and encapsulating all onsite contaminated materials into engineered disposal cells in the 1980s and the 1990s.

For additional information about these sites and the benefits available under EEOICPA, visit the U.S. Department of Labor website at <http://www.dol.gov/owcp/energy/>.

For more information on covered DOE facilities, visit The Office of Health, Safety and Security's website at <http://www.hss.energy.gov/HealthSafety/FWSP/Advocacy/faclist/findfacility.cfm>. ❖

SAVE THE DATE!

- **2012 National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program**
April 11 through 13, 2012
Washington, DC
- **Waste Management Symposium**
February 26 through March 1, 2012
Phoenix, Arizona
- **DOE Information Management Conference**
April 16 through 20, 2012
Dallas, Texas



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DOE Gives Greenhouse to Diné College

this community and within the Navajo Nation as a whole.” The link between DEI and DOE has provided the ability for faculty, students, and scientists to provide solutions for contamination at uranium mill tailings sites on Navajo land. All parties involved are able to benefit from this donation.

“Transfer of the greenhouse is not about the DOE, the University of Arizona, or the Diné College administration. It is about the students. This greenhouse is symbolic of the current and future generations of DEI students—our future scientists and community leaders—who will write the next chapter in the Navajo story about environmental stewardship,” said Dr. Waugh. This effort will help maintain the standards of environmental excellence that help preserve the Navajo lands and beyond. ❖



Above: Participants in a traditional Navajo ceremony following the transfer and dedication of the Tuba City greenhouse from DOE to Diné College.

Below: Benita Litson, Director of the Diné College Land Grant Office, instructing students in the Tuba City greenhouse on starting and maintaining native plant seedlings for rangeland restoration. (Photos by Ed McCombs)

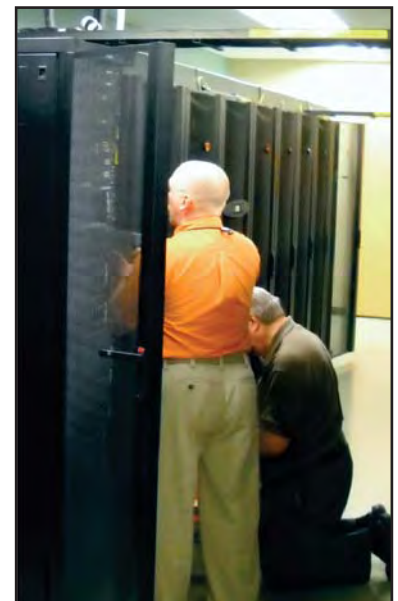
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Yucca Mountain Project – Records and Information Systems Transition

LM’s Information Technology Team successfully consolidated and moved more than 20 YMP information systems from their original configuration in Las Vegas, Nevada, to the LMBC in order to preserve the science for future research efforts. LM also maintains the LSN document collection in support of the original license application for Yucca Mountain. Due to funding considerations, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) no longer hosts this collection on their public website portal. However, in accordance with an administrative court order, LM provided an electronic copy of DOE’s LSN public document collection to the NRC in August. The LSN contains 13.8 million pages of information.

In August, the LM Archives and Information Management (AIM) Team participated in the fall 2011 meeting of the U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board in Salt Lake City, Utah. The AIM team presentation provided the board with an update on LM’s records and information stewardship progress, which was well received. “Your willingness to support board efforts to oversee the preservation of the Yucca Mountain Project records and information has been outstanding.” ❖

Information systems from Nevada were moved to West Virginia by Information Technology Team members.





Goal 1

Environmental Justice Activities

Newly Named Environmental Justice Conference: 2012 National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program

The 2012 National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program will take place April 11 through 13, 2011, at Howard University School of Law and the Washington Marriott at Metro Center, in Washington, DC. The Obama Administration recommitted to ensuring that environmental justice communities are protected by holding a first-ever, cabinet-level White House Forum on Environmental Justice in December 2010. The forum was followed by a Memorandum of Understanding on Environmental Justice which was signed by 17 Federal

agencies, including U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), in August 2011. Given the renewed attention, the success of this year's conference is more important than ever. To commemorate this renewed focus, the conference conveners have renamed the conference, hired a new conference coordinator, and added interactive sessions and a training program track to allow Federal employees and others to earn professional-level education credit. DOE employees will not be charged a registration fee and are strongly encouraged to attend. ❖



National Environmental Justice Advisory Council Meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico

The National Environmental Justice Advisory Council (NEJAC) meeting was held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on October 25 and 26. NEJAC is an independent body which consists of members from community-based groups, businesses and industry, academic and educational institutions, state and local governments, and tribal governments. In 1993, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency established NEJAC in order to obtain independent advice and recommendations from all stakeholders involved in the environmental justice (EJ) dialogue.

NEJAC provides a valuable forum to conduct open discussion on EJ issues with the public, better known as the public comment period. This year, 47 people, representing many thousands more, made comments in the open public comment discussion forum or in writing. Many of the individuals were from Native American populations, which represent a large percentage of the EJ communities in the southwestern region of the United States. The comments are an important tool for Federal agencies to incorporate the issues most important to EJ communities into their respective EJ strategies. ❖

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Environmental Justice Activities

Fifth Annual National Conference on Health Disparities: Reducing Health Disparities through Sustaining Healthy Communities

The Fifth Annual National Conference on Health Disparities was held November 30 through December 3, 2011, in Charleston, South Carolina. Its mission was to focus on policies and programs that address prevention, social determinants, and personal responsibility to reduce health disparities. This conference continues to address the question of how to augment our nation’s current “sick care” medical model with a comprehensive “well care” approach that sustains and strengthens communities by fostering genuine progress in reducing health disparities.



Participants in the Fifth Annual National Conference on Health Disparities collaborated on ideas to reduce health disparities through a “well care” approach.

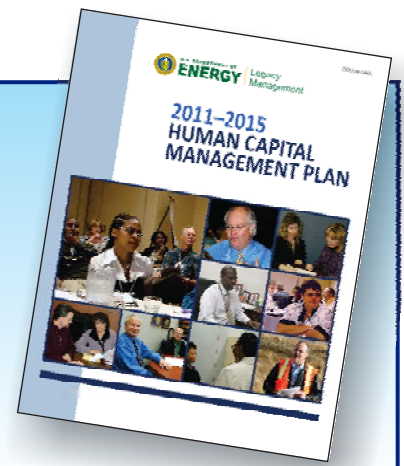
From 2007 through 2010, national conferences in Charleston, South Carolina; St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands; Atlanta, Georgia; and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; brought together diverse partners, presenters, and attendees to share their knowledge of health disparities. These programs uncovered a larger story—that social determinants, such as poverty, low education levels, public safety, environmental quality, and inadequate housing, are major contributing factors to health disparities. These findings suggest the potential benefits of dedicating more of our nation’s healthcare resources to programs that emphasize education, prevention, and personal responsibility.

Participants in the conference discussed ways to incorporate these understandings into policies and programs that target health disparities. These may include education and prevention programs, community outreach efforts, improved access to care, environmental quality and public safety initiatives, and policies that recognize and address the impact of social determinants and personal responsibility on human health. ❖

Goal 5

Human Capital Management Plan

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE or Department) Office of Legacy Management has published an integrated 2011–2015 *Human Capital Management Plan* (document number DOE/LM-1465). This Plan shows direct links between our objectives, strategies, activities, and the human capital issues that are most important to President Obama’s Administration, the Department, and our own management and staff. Questions and/or comments should be e-mailed to lm@hq.doe.gov.





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LM Fernald Workers Reunion

during the numerous Fernald missions would not be forgotten and their hard work will always be remembered, in part, by the documented history and lessons learned contained in the Visitors Center exhibit area and archive of countless documents. U.S. Representative Steve Chabot (R-OH-1) thanked all former and current DOE workers, prime subcontractors, regulators, neighbors, and activist groups on behalf of the U.S. Congress and the American people.

In addition to the presentation, van tours were offered throughout the day. Eight trips ferried nearly 100 people to areas of the site normally off-limits to the public. The tours gave Office of Legacy Management (LM) staff the opportunity to again thank former workers for their efforts and to tell them about LM and the site's current mission. ❖



Former Fernald workers congregate inside the Fernald Preserve Visitors Center.

Anticipated LM Sites Through FY 2015





Legacy Management Goals



Goal 1. Protect human health and the environment

Objectives

1. Comply with environmental laws and regulations.
2. Reduce health risks and long-term surveillance and maintenance (LTS&M) costs.
3. Partner with other Federal programs to make environmental remedies better and last longer.
4. Oversee DOE implementation of Executive Order 12898, *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations*.



Goal 2. Preserve, protect, and share records and information

Objectives

1. Meet public expectations for outreach activities.
2. Protect records and make them accessible.
3. Protect and ensure access to information.



Goal 3. Meet commitments to the contractor work force

Objectives

1. Safeguard contractor pension plans.
2. Fund contractor health and life insurance.
3. Oversee compliance with DOE's work force restructuring policy.



Goal 4. Optimize the use of land and assets

Objectives

1. Optimize public use of Federal lands and properties.
2. Transfer excess government property.
3. Improve domestic uranium mining and milling operations.



Goal 5. Sustain management excellence

Objectives

1. Renew LM's designation as a high performing organization (HPO).
2. Implement LM's *Human Capital Management Plan*.
3. Operate in a sustainable manner and reduce LM's carbon footprint.

As environmental stewards, LM is continually seeking opportunities to protect tomorrow's future. One simple step we can take toward improving environmental consciousness is to distribute the *Program Update* newsletter via e-mail instead of sending a printed copy.

Please send your e-mail address and your first and last name to lm@hq.doe.gov so that we can update our database.

Thank you for your assistance.





Please help us reduce mailing costs. In order to reduce mailing costs, please provide your current contact information, including your e-mail address, so that we may update our files and provide documents and other LM information electronically. To remove your name from the *Program Update* mailing list, send your request to the address or fax number specified below. Thank you.

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