

DOE WEEKLY REPORT

February 20, 2009

The following program office did not submit a Weekly Report for this time period:

Energy Information Administration

BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION WEEKLY REPORT

February 20, 2009

I. Schedule

February 25: The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) Administrator Steve Wright is Chairman of the United States Entity for the Columbia River Treaty. The United States Army Corps of Engineers makes the other component of the United States Entity. Each year, the Canadian and United States Entities meet with a technical review body established under the Treaty, the Permanent Engineering Board. This year, the meeting is in Vancouver, B.C., on February 25, to review the prior year's Treaty business. Deputy Administrator Steve Hickok will be acting.

March 3: The Administrator will attend the meeting of the Western Energy Industry Leaders in San Francisco. The Deputy Administrator will be acting.

II. Departmental News

Nothing to report

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

Nothing to report

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to report

V. Press Inquiries

Transmission Project Decisions: BPA is conducting media outreach on its decision to begin construction on the McNary-John Day 500-kilovolt transmission line in Washington and Oregon. BPA is also working with the Department and Northwest congressional delegation members to inform the media about the effects of increased

Treasury borrowing authority provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act for improving BPA's ability to proceed with design and environmental review for new transmission capacity.

Proposed Short-Term Agreement with Montana Aluminum Smelter: Regional media are covering the proposed short-term service agreement between BPA, Montana-based Columbia Falls Aluminum Company (CFAC), and Flathead Electric Coop Inc. BPA and CFAC have been negotiating an agreement following the December, 2008 ruling of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. The proposed amendment provides for BPA to monetize a power sale to CFAC in a manner consistent with the Court's opinion. The proposed agreement was made available for public review and comment through February 20.

VI. FOIA Requests
Nothing to report

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications
Nothing to report

**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 20, 2009

I. Schedule

Steve Isakowitz has no leave or travel planned for the week of February 16, 2009.

II. Departmental News

Nothing to report

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

VI. FOIA Requests

VII. Grants, Economic Announcement, and Publications

**OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 20, 2009

I. Schedule

Nothing to report.

II. Departmental News

Congressional Hearings:

On February 26, Howard Gruenspecht, Acting EI-1 will testify before the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Energy and Environment regarding renewable portfolio standards.

Media Interest: Yes

Program Contact: Kathy Peery, 202-586-2794

Congressional Meetings and Briefings:

On February 23, Bob Schnapp, other EIA officials, and CI staff will meet with Senator Bob Corker's (R-TN) staff, Justin Spickard and Ashley Palmer to discuss a 2008 EIA report entitled, "Federal Financial Interventions and Subsidies in Energy Markets 2007".

Media Interest: No

Program Contact: Kathy Peery, 202-586-2794

On February 26, Jonathan Shrier, PI and CI staff will meet with Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee staff to provide an overview of PI activities.

Media Interest: No

Program Contact: Kathy Peery, 202-586-2794

On February 27, Lachlan Seward, CF-30 and CI staff will meet with Representative Gary Peters (D-MI) and his Legislative Assistant, Carly Hepola to discuss the auto loan program.

Media Interest: No

Program Contact: Kathy Peery, 202-586-2794

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

Nothing to report

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to report

V. Press Inquiries

Nothing to report

VI. FOIA Requests
Nothing to report

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements and Publications
Nothing to report

**OFFICE OF ECONOMIC IMPACT AND DIVERSITY
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 20, 2009

I. Schedule

The Acting Director of the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity, Annie Whatley will be in the office the week of February 23, 2009.

II. Key Departmental News

Nothing to report

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

GOVConnectX Conference - Today, the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (ED-3), Office of Economic Impact and Diversity, is participating in a conference designed to assist Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Businesses in doing business with the Federal government. The conference, which is sponsored by GOVConnectX, will host several Federal agencies that will be counsel these businesses on marketing to the Departments and Agencies. ED-3 has staffed this event with two veterans who will be seeking service-disabled veteran-owned businesses that have expertise in energy-related areas.

Media Interest: None

Point of Contact: Nick Demer 586-1614

2009 Washington, DC Regional Science Bowl - The Office of Minority Economic Impact and Diversity in partnership with the University of the District of Columbia (UDC) will co-sponsor the 2009 Washington, DC Regional Science Bowl. The Bowl is scheduled for February 21, 2009, at UDC. The Regional Science Bowl is an academic competition that tests high school students' knowledge in all areas of science.

Media Interest: None

Point of Contact: Amanda Quinones, 586-0691

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to report

V. Press Inquiries

Nothing to report

VI. FOIA Requests

Nothing to report

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements and Publications

Nothing to report

**OFFICE OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 20, 2009

I. Schedule for Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Rita Wells

Rita Wells has no travel scheduled during this reporting period.

II. Departmental News

Demand for National Webcast Exceeds Capacity. Registration for a webcast on DOE's REScheck code compliance tool has reached capacity at 1155 people. The webcast will be held February 18, starting at 1:00 pm eastern time. The great deal of interest appears to be spurred by the number of states that are in the process of updating their building energy codes based on the improvements in the residential model code, the 2009 IECC. This webcast is part of the Department's technical assistance to states to update and implement their building energy codes.

Media Interest: Local press

Program Contact: Jean Boulin, 202-586-9870

Tribal Energy Program Staff Attend Ribbon-Cutting Solar Plant in Riverside County, CA, February 11. The Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians in California held a ribbon-cutting ceremony in Riverside County, California, on February 11, to celebrate the successful opening and operation of the 1.1 megawatt solar photovoltaic power plant. The plant features approximately 15,000 solar modules. DOE provided a grant that covered a portion of the costs of the development of the Tribes Energy Resource Conservation Plan. The National Renewable Energy Laboratory and Sandia National Laboratory also provided technical assistance for this project.

Media Interest: Local press

Program Contact: Thomas Sacco, 202-586-0759

Solar Program Staff Meet With Solar Equities Analysts, New York City, February 18-20. Program Manager John Lushetsky and other program staff attended meetings with eight leading solar research analysts on Wall Street. DOE staff presented the DOE's and National Labs' current market, policy and financial research and discussed the state of the industry. In addition to the meetings, John Lushetsky and the group attended Piper Jaffray's 4th Annual Clean Technology and Renewables Conferences on February 19.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: John Lushetsky, 202-287-1685

International Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Activities, Tokyo, Japan, February 23-27. Hydrogen Program staff will present DOE research, development, and demonstration activities and progress at the 5th Annual International Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Exposition (FC EXPO) in Tokyo, Japan. With more than 500 exhibitors and 30,000 attendees, the FC EXPO is the world's largest exposition for the hydrogen and fuel cell industry. Staff

will meet with representatives of Honda, Toyota, and Nissan to discuss opportunities for fuel cell vehicle technology validation and data collection; staff will also meet with representatives of the Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry to discuss opportunities for coordinating stationary fuel cell demonstration and deployment.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: JoAnn Milliken, 202-586-2480

Earth Day ENERGY STAR® Operation Change Out (OCO) April 22. Operation Change Out is planning an Earth Day event at Ft. Meade, Maryland on April 22. Operation Change Out is the ENERGY STAR program's campaign to encourage servicemen and women to replace inefficient incandescent light bulbs with ENERGY STAR qualified ones. The event is being planned in coordination with the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) and Picerne, the military base residential housing provider. DOD staff, representing this partnership, have confirmed that they are presenting the necessary internal memorandum to determine the availability of the Secretary of Defense to participate. In addition, Ft. Meade's Public Affairs Office has confirmed the technical capability to do a live broadcast with five other military installations on Earth Day. A residential housing unit occupied by an Iraq War veteran has been selected to demonstrate energy efficiency as well as for the symbolic change of incandescent light bulbs to ENERGY STAR qualified lights.

Media Interest: Trade press

Program Contact: Lani MacRae, 202-586-9193

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

Nothing to report that rises to Secretarial attention.

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to report that rises to Secretarial attention.

V. Press Inquiries

Nothing to report that rises to Secretarial attention.

VI. FOIA Requests

Nothing to report during this reporting period.

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements and Publications

Nothing to report during this reporting period.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT WEEKLY REPORT

February 20, 2009

I. Schedule

Acting Assistant Secretary, Inés Triay will be in the office during the week of February 23-27, 2009.

II. Key Departmental News

Bechtel BWXT Idaho, LLC Recognized for Safety Leadership: Bechtel BWXT Idaho, LLC, the contractor that operates the Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project (AMWTP) for the DOE Idaho Operation Office, was recently recognized by the National Safety Council for excellence in safety. Among the awards received were: Occupational Excellence Award, Perfect Record Award, and the Safety Leadership Award. The Safety Leadership Award is presented to companies that achieve five consecutive years operating without incurring an occupational injury or illness that results in days away from work. The AMWTP has met that milestone and has also exceeded 8 million man-hours since a day-away injury or illness.

Media Interest: Low

Point of Contact: Richard B. Provencher, 208-526-7300

Oak Ridge Annual Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Inspection: The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation conducted their annual Resource Conservation and Recovery Act inspection of the Oak Ridge Reservation on February 9-12, 2009. No findings were identified for the site and no penalties will be issued. This was an excellent job by the Bechtel Jacobs Company LLC waste management personnel.

Media Interest: None

Point of Contact: James Nunz, 865-574-0833

Media Visit to Hanford Site to See New Technology: On February 10, 2009, there was a media event with Washington Closure Hanford to view their new spent fuel detector, CRATER. This new technology can detect contamination in dirt and will help speed up the clean-up work on the Hanford Site. The use of CRATER also reduces workers' exposure to radiation and should allow them to complete their work more efficiently compared to previous methods.

Media Interest: Local

Program Contact: Cameron Hardy, 509-376-5365

Senator Cantwell's Chief of Staff Visits the Hanford Site: On Friday, February 13, 2009, the new Chief of Staff for Senator Maria Cantwell (D-Washington) made her first trip to the Hanford Site. During her tour, Ms. Lister met with officials from all three

DOE offices at Hanford and visited a number of facilities including the Waste Treatment Plant, the Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility, the 300 Area, and others.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Rich Buel, 509-376-3375

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest

Nothing to report.

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to report.

V. Press Inquiries

Nothing to report.

VI. FOIA Requests

Nothing to report.

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements and Publications

Nothing to report.

**OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 20, 2009

I. Schedule

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Der

All travel and speaking engagements reported through March 13.

II. Key Departmental News

FE Project Restores Capacity of Water Supply to North Dakota Municipality. As part of a joint venture between NETL and the University of North Dakota Energy & Environmental Research Center, contaminant levels in soils and groundwater menacing a municipal well near the Vining Oil Co. (Carrington, ND) have been reduced below regulatory limits. The equivalent of 2,022 gallons of gasoline was removed from within the capture zone of the municipal well using multi-phase extraction and soil vapor extraction techniques integrated with air/oxidant sparging.

Program Contact: Paula Flenory, 412/386-4781

Electroplated Interconnects Improve Solid Oxide Fuel Cell (SOFC) Performance.

The performance of an SOFC test cell having ferritic stainless steel interconnects coated with a manganese cobalt oxide (spinel) layer degraded by less than 1.5 percent after 600 hours testing, whereas cell performance with uncoated interconnects degraded approximately 20 percent during the same test period. The interconnects were coated using an environmentally friendly electroplating process developed by collaborators at NETL and West Virginia University. Electroplating is cheaper and easier to employ than other coating methods.

Program Contacts: Ayyakkannu Manivannan, 304/285-2078; Randall Gemmen, 304/285-4536

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (14-day advance)

None

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

None

V. Press Inquiries

None

VI. FOIA Requests

None

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements and Publications

None

**OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 20, 2009

I. Schedule

No leave or travel plans.

II. Departmental News

Nothing to Report.

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

VI. FOIA Requests

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF HUMAN CAPITAL OFFICER
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 20, 2009

I. Schedule

II. Key Departmental News

Nothing to report in this area.

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

Nothing to report in this area.

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to report in this area.

V. Press Inquiries

Nothing to report in this area.

VI. FOIA Requests

Nothing to report in this area.

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements and Publications

Nothing to report in this area.

**OFFICE OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 20, 2009

I. Schedule

II. Departmental News

Cases Received:

The Office of Hearings and Appeals (OHA) received four new cases 1) three requests by individuals that a hearing be conducted under 10 CFR Part 710 to determine their eligibility to hold a DOE security clearance; and 2) a Motion for Summary Judgment in connection with a pending hearing under DOE Contractor Employee Protection Program (10 C.F.R. Part 708).

Hearings Conducted:

No hearings were conducted.

Decisions Issued:

Personnel Security (10 CFR Part 710)

On February 19, 2009, an OHA Hearing Officer issued a Decision finding that an individual's access authorization should be granted. During a background investigation, the local DOE security office (LSO) had discovered some derogatory information that had created a security concern regarding the individual's past illegal drug use. Specifically, the LSO was concerned about the individual's one-time use of marijuana while he was in high school in 1999 and his later use of marijuana in 2004 while he was employed as a law enforcement officer. After carefully weighing all the evidence, both favorable and unfavorable, the Hearing Officer found that the individual presented compelling evidence to mitigate the security concerns associated with the individual's illegal drug use. Specifically, she found that the individual had not used illegal drugs in five years, had matured significantly since his last use, and had presented convincing evidence that he would not use illegal drugs in the future. OHA Case No. TS0-0671 (Kimberly Jenkins-Chapman, 287-1499)

On February 18, 2009, an OHA Hearing Officer issued a Decision in which she concluded that an individual's suspended DOE access authorization should not be restored. A DOE Operations Office had referred the individual's request for a security clearance to administrative review under 10 CFR Part 710, citing the individual's past use of marijuana and his failure to reveal the marijuana use on two DOE security questionnaires as security concerns. The individual requested a hearing before an OHA Hearing Officer. After conducting a hearing and evaluating the documentary and testimonial evidence, the Hearing Officer found that the individual presented sufficient evidence to fully resolve the security concern raised by his past marijuana use. In making her determination, the Hearing Officer relied on the Individual's testimony that he only

used marijuana over a period of approximately 3 months in 2003 and has not used any illegal drugs since that period, as well as the testimony of various witnesses who know the individual well and testified that they have seen no evidence of any recent drug use by the individual. However, the Hearing Officer determined that there was insufficient information in the record to adequately mitigate the security concern raised by the Individual's falsification of two DOE security questionnaires. In that regard, the Hearing Officer found that insufficient time had passed since DOE learned of the falsifications for the individual to have established a pattern of honesty and responsible behavior adequate to resolve the security concern. Consequently, the Hearing Officer determined that the individual's security clearance should not be restored at this time. OHA Case No. TSO-0688 (Diane DeMoura, 287-1887)

Appeals

On February 19, 2009, OHA issued a decision denying FOIA appeals filed by Patrick Daniel O'Neill, Jr. and Mark Steven Ludwig (Appellants) of determinations issued by the National Nuclear Security Administration Service Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico (NNSA/SC). The Appellants had requested a copy of the Bay Report, a report regarding alleged retaliations against Sandia Corporation (Sandia) Ethics Office investigators. NNSA/SC issued a determination to each Appellant, withholding the Bay Report pursuant to, ~~among other bases, the attorney work product privilege under FOIA~~ Exemption 4. The Appellants contended that Sandia waived the attorney work product privilege by taking certain alleged actions. OHA found that Sandia had not waived the attorney work product privilege as to the Bay Report, and that therefore NNSA/SC was not precluded from relying on this privilege in withholding the report under FOIA Exemption 4. OHA Case Nos. TFA-0291 & TFA-0292 (Steven Goering, 287-1541)

Media Interest: No

DOE Contact: Fred Brown, fred.brown@hq.doe.gov, 287-1545

OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

Hispanic Career Advancement Summit: The Office of Civil Rights continues to participate in the planning of the Second Annual Federal Hispanic Career Advancement Summit. The Summit is scheduled to take place in Crystal City, VA, in September 2009. Capacity is expected to be expanded from 650 attendees in 2008 to 1000 attendees in 2009.

Contact: Neil Schuldenfrei, x6-5687

No FEAR Act Report: The Office has completed a draft of the FY 2008 Report of the U.S. Department of Energy Pursuant to OPM Regulations 5 C.F.R. Section 724.302: No FEAR Act. The report will be circulated to the Office of General Counsel, the Office of Human Capital Management, and the Office of Congressional Affairs. The Report is due to Congress by March 31, 2009.

Contact: Neil Schuldenfrei, x6-5687.

Annual Age Act Report: On February 18, 2009, the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) submitted the FY 2008 Age Act Report to the Department of Health and Human Services.

Contact: Sharon Wyatt, x6-2256

Media Interest: No

DOE Contact: Bill Lewis, bill.lewis@hq.doe.gov, 6-6530

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

IV. Progress on IPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

VI. FOIA Requests

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

**OFFICE OF HEALTH, SAFETY AND SECURITY
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 20, 2009

I. Schedule: Glenn S. Podonsky, Chief Health, Safety and Security Officer

February 18-20: Traveled to Nevada with the acting Department of Labor (DOL) Assistant Secretary and staff to tour the Nevada Test Site (NTS) and the Yucca Mountain facility to obtain a better understanding of the potential exposure hazards of former workers. The HSS Deputy Chief for Operations accompanied.

February 25-26: Travel to California to meet with the President of the University of California; participate in the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) Independent Oversight Environment, Safety and Health (ES&H) Inspection validation and close-out activities; and tour the SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory. The Deputy Chief for Enforcement and Technical Matters is scheduled to accompany.

March 5: Travel to Colorado to address the National Supplemental Screening Program Advisory Committee members regarding the successes and direction of the Former Worker Medical Screening Program.

Schedule: Michael A. Kilpatrick, Deputy Chief for Operations

See also Chief's schedule.

February 24-25: Travel to New Mexico to participate in the Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) Independent Oversight Emergency Management Inspection validation and closeout activities.

March 1-5: Travel to South Carolina to participate in the Savannah River Site (SRS) Independent Oversight Safeguards and Security Inspection validation and closeout activities.

Schedule: William A. Eckroade, Acting Deputy Chief for Enforcement and Technical Matters

See also Chief's schedule.

February 18: Participated in a cyber security demonstration for House Energy and Commerce Committee Staff at the Germantown offices.

February 27: Travel to Washington to participate in the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) Independent Oversight Nuclear Safety Follow-Up Inspection validation and close-out activities.

March 1-5: Travel to South Carolina to participate in the Savannah River Site (SRS) Independent Oversight Safeguards and Security Inspection validation and closeout activities.

II. Departmental News

DOE Affirmative Procurement and Recycling Report: In cooperation with the DOE Office of Procurement, HSS submitted the DOE report on affirmative procurement and recycling to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the Office of the Federal Environmental Executive (OFEE) this week (February 17).

Management Impact: The report is required by Executive Order 13423, *Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management*, and is based upon data provided by DOE field and program elements.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Michael A. Kilpatrick, (202) 586-4399

Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Environmental Stewardship Scorecard

Results: HSS accompanied the Director, Office of Federal Energy Management Programs, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, as the Department's Acting Senior Agency Official to the Executive Order 13423, *Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management*, Senior Agency Officials meeting this week (February 18) to received DOE's Environmental Stewardship Scorecard results from OMB. Scorecard results are based upon data reported by DOE field and program elements on environmental management systems, environmentally preferred purchasing, high performance and sustainable buildings, and electronics stewardship.

Management Impact: DOE was among four agencies to achieve "green" status; the first time OMB has awarded a green score on the Environmental Stewardship Scorecard.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Michael A. Kilpatrick, (202) 586-4399

Annual Report to Congress on DOE Activities Relating to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB): HSS anticipates providing the Annual Report to the Secretary for review and signature by next week (February 27).

Management Impact: The report is being prepared per Section 316(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 requiring DOE to submit an annual written report to Congress addressing the Department's DNFSB-related activities.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Michael A. Kilpatrick, (202) 586-4399

Bechtel Jacobs Company LLC - East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP) Security Enforcement Investigation: In cooperation with the Office of Environmental Management (EM) and the Office of Public Affairs (PA), HSS is scheduled to conduct the on-site portion of the security enforcement investigation next week (February 23-26) into the facts and circumstances surrounding the removal of classified matter from ETTP that occurred in 2007.

Management Impact: The resumption of this investigation follows the closure of the associated criminal case.

Media Interest: The closure of the criminal case regarding the removal of classified matter from ETPP was the subject of recent media attention.

Program Contact: William A. Eckroade, (202) 586-9275

Marshall Islands Program: HSS is leading a team consisting of Headquarters and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) personnel, the new Chief of Clinical Services (CCS), a medical officer and nurse, and logistics support personnel on a medical mission to the outer islands of Majuro, Utrök, and Mejjatto, February 11-27. DOE will also conduct community meetings to discuss radiological findings.

Management Impact: These activities satisfy Public Law 108-188 requiring DOE to manage the medical screening and environmental monitoring program at the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Michael A. Kilpatrick, (202) 586-4399

Russian Health Studies Program: Key U.S. scientists are traveling to Ozersk, Russia, February 19-28, to work with Russian counterparts at the Mayak Production Association and the Southern Urals Biophysics Institute on epidemiological and historical dose reconstruction studies.

Management Impact: The studies are used by national and international standard-setting organizations for revising radiation protection standards.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Michael A. Kilpatrick, (202) 586-4399

Protective Services Working Group (PSWG) Activities: HSS is scheduled to chair the next quarterly PSWG meeting at DOE Headquarters, March 2. Approximately 50 protective service personnel will be in attendance.

Management Impact: The group is composed of protective details and liaison agents from most federal agencies to work on issues that affect protective details, to review new technologies and protective methods, and to exchange information and intelligence. Results from these meetings are incorporated into DOE executive protection operations.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Michael A. Kilpatrick, (202) 586-4399

36th Annual Radiation Effects Research Foundation (RERF) Scientific Council

Meeting: HSS is scheduled to participate in the annual meeting to be held in Hiroshima, Japan, March 2-4, to review current research activities and make recommendations concerning future activities.

Management Impact: RERF is co-funded by DOE and the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare to focus on the study of health effects of radiation in the survivors of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bombings.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Michael A. Kilpatrick, (202) 586-4399

Other Government Agencies (OGAs) Classification/Declassification Training:

1. HSS presented a Restricted Data (RD)/Formerly Restricted Data (FRD) briefing to students of the Department of Defense (DoD) Information Security Management course at the Defense Service School in Linthicum, MD, this week (February 18). Over 30 students from various DoD organizations were in attendance.
2. HSS conducted a half-day Historical Records Restricted Data Reviewers (HRRDR) refresher course for the Department of State (DOS) Declassification Office reviewers in Washington, DC, this week (February 19).
3. HSS is scheduled to conduct a 4-day HRRDR course and a half-day refresher course will be conducted for declassification reviewers from the Air Force Technical Application Center at Patrick Air Force Base, FL, next week (February 25-29).

Management Impact: These activities support DOE's responsibility to assist OGAs to identify RD and FRD and prevent the inadvertent release of sensitive nuclear technologies.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Michael A. Kilpatrick, (202) 586-4399

Independent Oversight Activities:

1. Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) Safeguards and Security Inspection: Onsite scoping activities were conducted this week (February 18).
2. Savannah River Site (SRS) Safeguards and Security Inspection: Onsite validation and close-out activities are scheduled to be conducted February 23 – March 3.
3. Sandia National Laboratories – New Mexico (SNL-NM) Emergency Management Inspection: Onsite validation and close-out activities are scheduled to be conducted next week (February 24–25).
4. Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) Environment, Safety and Health (ES&H) Inspection: Onsite validation and close-out activities are scheduled to be conducted next week (February 24–26).
5. Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) Nuclear Safety Follow-Up Inspection: Onsite validation and close-out activities are scheduled to be conducted next week (February 25–27).

Management Impact: These activities support the independent evaluation of the status of the Department's security, cyber security, emergency management, and environment, safety and health (ES&H) programs.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Michael A. Kilpatrick, (202) 586-4399

Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) Schedule:

- February 18: The Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management briefed the Board on topics selected by the Board.
- February 18: One Board member attended the NNSA sponsored Nuclear Safety Research and Development Forum in McLean, VA.
- February 23-26: The Board will travel to Hanford for a site visit.

- March 2: The responsible manager will brief the Board on the status of the respective Implementation Plan activities for recommendations 2005-1, Nuclear Material Packaging, and 2008-1, Safety Classification of Fire protection Systems,
- March 4: The Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) contractor management will provide a quarterly status update to the Board.
- March 4: NNSA will brief the Board on the status of Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Replacement project certification.

- March 5: Pantex Site Office management will brief the board on Pantex activities.
- March 5: NNSA Headquarters and Site Office personnel will brief the Board on the Chemistry and Metallurgy Research building exit strategy.
- March 6: The Principal Assistant Deputy Administrator for Military Applications, NNSA, will brief the Board on topics selected by the Board.

Management Impact: Information is provided to keep DOE Senior Management aware of DNFSB activities and interests.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Michael A. Kilpatrick, (202) 586-4399

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

~~IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables~~

V. Press Inquiries

VI. FOIA Requests

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 20, 2009

I. Schedule

Nothing to report

II. Departmental News

Nothing to report

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

Nothing to report

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to report

V. Press Inquiries

Nothing to report

VI. FOIA Requests

Nothing to report

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

Nothing to report

**OFFICE OF LEGACY MANAGEMENT
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 20, 2009

I. Schedule

Nothing to report

II. Departmental News

Nothing to report

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

Nothing to report

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to report

V. Press Inquiries

Nothing to report

VI. FOIA Requests

Nothing to report

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements and Publications

Nothing to report

**OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 20, 2009

I. Schedule

II. Departmental News

Award of Contracts: On February 13, 2009, the Office of Procurement and Assistance Management awarded three (3) contracts for legal services to support the Advanced Technology Vehicles Manufacturing Loan Program. The contracts were awarded to Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP in the amount of \$5.2M; Debevoise & Plimpton LLP in the amount of \$4.0M; and Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP in the amount of \$4.4M. The period of performance for all three contracts is February 13, 2009 through February 12, 2010.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Matthew Parker, (202) 287-1303 or Craig Frame, (202) 287-1463

Selection of NERA Economic Consulting for Market Advisory Services for Loan

Guarantee Program: On February 13, 2009 the Office of Procurement and Assistance Management selected NERA Economic Consulting to provide independent market advisory services to DOE's Loan Guarantee Program Office. NERA will provide an expert, independent assessment of the viability of the business plan associated with the loan guarantee application submitted by Beacon Power Corporation, as well as, an assessment and analysis of Beacon's proposed business model and market entry plan into the New York Independent System Operator (NYISO) frequency regulation market. A Matching Order was issued to NERA for services through August 31, 2009. The cost of the services is estimated at \$95,000.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Richard Bonnell, (202) 287-1508

Selection of Global Insight, Inc. for Market Advisory Services Loan Guarantee

Program: On February 17, 2009, the Office of Procurement and Assistance Management selected Global Insight, Inc. to provide independent market advisory services to DOE's Loan Guarantee Program Office. Global will provide an expert, independent assessment of the viability of the business plan associated with the loan guarantee application submitted by Endicott Biofuels II, as well as, an assessment and analysis of Endicott's proposed business model and market entry plan into the fatty acid, methyl-esters and bio-diesel market. A Matching Order was issued to Global for services through August 31, 2009. The cost of the services is estimated at \$99,000.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Richard Bonnell, (202) 287-1508

Facilities and Infrastructure Update Meeting: The Office of Engineering and Construction Management (OECM) hosted a quarterly Facilities and Infrastructure Update Meeting on Thursday, February 19, 2009. It was well-attended with facilities representatives from all Programs either at the meeting or participating via teleconference. The purpose of this quarterly meeting is to keep headquarters, program, and site personnel up-to-date on emerging facilities issues, share best practices and coordinate pressing facilities issues. Topics discussed included: Real property management issues on the horizon including carbon footprint, sustainability and accuracy of real property facility data bases. Briefings were provided on DOE's green score on the final PMA Scorecard and what we will need to do in the future to keep this Green status with potential new metrics, FIMS Training, Three Year Rolling Timeline FY 2008 update, FIMS validation assist visits, standard Ten Year Site Plan development, latest GAO deferred maintenance liability report, FY 2010 Congressional Budget and DOE's performance results in real property management.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Philip H. Dalby, (202) 586-4548

Certification of UT-Battelle (UT-B) Earned Value Management System (EVMS): The Office of Engineering and Construction Management (OECM) certified the UT-B EVM System as compliant with ANSI/EIA-748 (current version) on February 12, 2009. UT-B is located in Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Cynthia Seiter, (202) 586-9548

EVMS Readiness Assessment Visit to Albany, NY: The Office of Engineering and Construction Management (OECM) conducted a Readiness Assessment Review at URS, Washington Group International, E&E Division SPRU site located in Albany, New York on February 18, 2009.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Cynthia Seiter, (202) 586-9548

GovTrip Temporary Suspension: The Office of Administration has been working in collaboration with the Office of the Chief Financial Officer to ensure that travel operations continue during the temporary suspension of GovTrip. In addition, the interface between GovTrip and the Department's Foreign Travel Management System's (FTMS) has been suspended temporarily until the GovTrip system is fully functional.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Julie Squires, (202) 586-4048

Forrestal and Germantown Cafeteria Contract: The Request-for-Proposals from prospective bidders ended on Thursday, February 19, 2009. Members of the Source Selection Evaluation Board (SSEB) will begin evaluating proposals on Tuesday, February 24, and will conclude on March 20.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Gerri M. Bullock, (202) 586-4459

- III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)**
 - IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables**
 - V. Press Inquiries**
 - VI. FOIA Requests**
 - VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications**
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**OFFICE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 20, 2009

I. Schedule

Acting Assistant Secretary R. Shane Johnson has no official travel next week.

II. Departmental News

Light Water Reactor Sustainability (LWRS) Program Coordination Meeting with Industry: Office of Light Water Reactor Deployment (NE-31) LWRS Program staff and the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) met with industry representatives at the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI) offices in Washington, D.C., on February 17, 2009, to coordinate ongoing and planned activities. An important outcome was a plan to develop a matrix to coordinate related work being performed by various industry groups including NEI, the Electric Power Research Institute, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, international organizations such as the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Nuclear Energy Agency, and the LWRS Program.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Dick Black, NE-31, 301-903-0104

Standby Support Subsidy Model Provided to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB): On February 13, 2009, the Department of Energy (DOE) delivered a revised credit subsidy cost input model for Standby Support to OMB for their review and approval. In addition, DOE delivered two reports explaining the methodology and research on the factors, which affect the subsidy cost calculation. The Office of Light Water Reactor Deployment anticipates that OMB will complete their review of the model shortly. DOE must obtain OMB approval before a Standby Support Contract can be signed. The earliest possible contract signing is expected in mid-2011.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Dick Black, NE-31, 301-903-0104

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Program Review Meeting on Basic Research for High-Temperature Gas-Cooled Reactors: NRC will hold a program review meeting on research for very-high-temperature, gas-cooled reactors (VHTR) on February 24-25, 2009, at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas. At the meeting, researchers from Texas A&M University, Oregon State University (OSU), the University of Michigan, and Sandia National Laboratories will present the status of their NRC-funded work in thermal hydraulics and reactor physics. OSU will detail their concept for scaling and design of a VHTR integral test facility at OSU. Both the Idaho National Laboratory and staff from the Office of Nuclear Energy will attend the meeting in the spirit of coordinating the Department of Energy and NRC-funded Next Generation

Nuclear Plant research and development programs and identifying ways to cooperate in conducting the research.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Tom O'Connor, NE-33, 301-903-0104

Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES) Dedication on February 20, 2009: On February 20, 2009, the Idaho National Laboratory and Idaho's three universities are hosting a dedication ceremony for the newly built CAES. Those scheduled to attend include Idaho's governor, the Idaho congressional delegation, the presidents of the three universities, and Acting Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy Shane Johnson.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Ray Furstenuau, DOE-ID, 208-526-0193

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest

IV. Progress on Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPACT) Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

VI. FOIA Requests

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements and Publications

No activities to report.

**NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 20, 2009

I. Schedule

II. Departmental News

Event: Ceremony for the Transfer of Ownership of Port of Antwerp Radiation Detection System: On February 24, in a ceremony in New York City, NNSA will formally transfer ownership of the radiation detection system installed at the Port of Antwerp to Belgian Customs. Belgian Customs has been operating the radiation detection system at the Port of Antwerp since March 2007, through NNSA's Second Line of Defense (SLD) Megaports Initiative, which works with foreign governments to install specialized equipment to deter, detect, and interdict illicit trafficking of nuclear and other radioactive materials. NNSA and Belgian Customs have been working together on the Megaports Initiative since November 2004; Belgian Customs is also co-funding the installation of similar equipment at the Port of Zeebrugge. The installation of equipment at both ports supports the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Service Container Security Initiative, which targets and pre-screens maritime cargo containers destined for U.S. ports.

Media Interest: Moderate; press release pending.

POC: Tracy Mustin, NA-25, 202-586-2676.

Event: Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9 Letter Regarding Schedule for Restarting Treatment Facilities: On February 12, the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Remedial Project Manager sent a letter to the Livermore Site Office (LSO) Federal Project Manager providing EPA's opinion on LSO's plans to restart its ground water treatment facilities under the NNSA Long Term Stewardship Program. EPA noted an improvement (i.e., shorter duration) over the previous schedule; however, based on their contractor's visit to the site, it is EPA's opinion "that additional efficiencies should be attained by DOE in order to restart the CERCLA (Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act) remedy as quickly as technically feasible." The letter goes on further to discuss treatment facilities that are not part of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 restart schedule and to provide suggestions for obtaining efficiencies considering the milestones in the FY 2009 schedule. EPA has requested DOE take action by specific dates on the restart of these treatment facilities. In addition, EPA has stated that DOE must have contingency plans that cover multiple funding scenarios in place to restart the facilities in the event of a funding shortfall in FY 2009. EPA would like to have the details and reprogramming (if necessary) timeline presented at the February 23, scheduled meeting with LSO.

Media Interest: Local

POC: Kathy Angleberger, NA-50, 301-903-8170.

Event: Kansas City Site Office (KCSO) Receives No Further Submittals Required Letter from the Environmental Protection Agency: KCSO has received a letter from EPA Region VII enforcement personnel which states that "...no further submittals are required at this time." to address violations noted as a result of a September 23-25, 2008, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Compliance Inspection of the Kansas City Plant (KCP). The KCP's corrective actions and multiple written responses and discussions with EPA appear to have adequately addressed EPA's concerns about two non-compliant satellite accumulation containers and the former use of temporary drop points during hazardous waste container transportation operations. Although EPA still formally "...reserves its right to pursue appropriate enforcement actions..." no further action is required on the part of the KCP and no further action by EPA is expected.

Media Interest: None.

POC: David Caughey, KCSO, 816-997-3449.

Event: Court Denies Bio-Safety Laboratory-3 (BSL-3) Preliminary Injunction: On February 9, the Ninth Circuit Court denied Tri-Valley CARE's motion to preliminarily enjoin operations in the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) BSL-3 Facility. The judge found that the plaintiffs do not have a likelihood of success on the merits of three of their four claims. On the fourth claim, the judge found the plaintiffs did not demonstrate that they would suffer irreparable harm if the facility were allowed to continue operating, therefore, she denied their injunction motion. It is likely that plaintiffs will appeal this ruling to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Janis Parenti, AMCARM, 925-424-4565.

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

Event: Open Skies Treaty (OST): On February 22-28, the Nevada Site Office (NSO) has been notified that OST will conduct its first flight of the year in the United States. NSO Federal, contractor, national laboratory personnel, and local customers have been notified to ensure minimum to no impact to Nevada Test Site (NTS) missions.

Media Interest: Possible, local.

POC: Denise Ashurst, NSO, 702-295-0443.

Event: Office of Inspector General (OIG) Activity: The OIG will conduct fieldwork at the NSO and NTS as part of the audit of the Department's Human Reliability Program. During the week of February 23, another OIG team will conduct a follow-on visit concerning the Protective Force Training at NSO and NTS.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Ray Phifer, NSO, 702-295-0915.

Event: Disposition Exercise: During the week of February 23, the Office of National Technical Nuclear Forensics will conduct a disposition drill at NTS G-Tunnel portal.

NNSA Federal, contractor, national laboratory, and other Federal agencies personnel will participate.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Ricky Honaker, NSO, 702-295-1074.

Event: Waste Management Activity: On February 23, the Radioactive Waste Acceptance Program will conduct a NTS Waste Acceptance Criteria Certification Audit of the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). At the same time, NSO environmental management personnel will oversee the audit process and meet with LANL management to discuss the importance of the NTS Waste Acceptance Criteria Certification Program.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Jhon Carilli, NSO, 702-295-0672.

Event: Office of Inspector General (OIG) to Conduct Audit of Laboratory Directed Research and Development (LDRD) Program at SNL: On February 23, the OIG will commence its audit on the management of the LDRD Program at Sandia National Laboratories (SNL). On February 26, the out brief is scheduled.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Aaron Perea, SSO, 505-845-5178.

~~**Event: National Ignition Facility (NIF) Critical Decision-4 Pre-Energy Systems Acquisition Advisory Board (ESAAB) Scheduled:** On February 24, a Pre-ESAAB meeting will be held for Critical Decision-4 for NIF.~~

~~**Media Interest:** None.~~

~~**POC:** Scott Samuelson, NA-123.2, 925-423-0593.~~

Event: Plutonium Enterprise Strategy Workshop: On February 24-26, Defense Programs will sponsor the Plutonium Enterprise Strategy Workshop to be held in Albuquerque, NM. This workshop will involve representatives from the labs, and plants, and from NNSA and DOE programs that sponsor or benefit from plutonium research, development, manufacturing, and disposition activities.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Julianne Levings, NA-122.4, 505-845-6201.

Event: Nuclear Weapons Council (NWC) Executive Session: On February 25, an NWC Executive Session (members only) is planned. NNSA Administrator Tom D'Agostino will attend.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Roy Matthews, NA-10, 202-586-7631.

Event: Nevada Governor's Points of Light Award: National Security Technologies, LLC, is one of three finalists for the Nevada Governor's 2009 Points of Light Award in the Corporate/Business category. This award recognizes individuals and organizations

for their dedication, commitment, and determination in promoting and supporting volunteerism throughout Nevada. On February 26, winners will be announced.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Shari Morrison, NSTec, 702-295-2843.

Event: NTS Tours: On February 27, the Capitol Complex Sergeant At Arms (SAA) and the Deputy SAA will tour the NNSA Remote Sensing Laboratory located on Nellis Air Force Base, Las Vegas, NV, and receive briefings on secure technologies.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Darwin Morgan, NSO, 702-295-3521.

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

The *Daily CAL*, UC Berkeley student newspaper, inquired regarding the possibility of NNSA becoming part of the DoD.

POC: John Belluardo, LSO, 925-422-2567.

NNSA Public Affairs: This week, Public Affairs (PA) responded to the national, regional, and local media inquiries on nuclear nonproliferation, and various other issues. Next week, PA will issue a press release announcing the two-year anniversary of Megaports operations, and the transfer of ownership of radiation detection system at Port of Antwerp to Belgium Customs.

Media Interest: High.

POC: Anna Awosika, NA-3.5, 202-586-7371.

VI. FOIA Requests

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

**OFFICE OF ELECTRICITY DELIVERY AND ENERGY RELIABILITY
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 20, 2009

I. Schedule

Patricia A. Hoffman, Acting Assistant Secretary, does not have any travel or leave plans for the week beginning February 23, 2009.

II. Key Departmental News

National Infrastructure Protection Plan Dams Joint Sector and Working Group Meetings. On February 11-13, Dr. Kenneth Friedman represented DOE at meetings addressing several common issues with the Dams sector. Dams generate some 20 percent of U.S. electricity generation. Friedman presented an overview of a number of security efforts currently underway in OE. Several electricity utilities including TVA and Bonneville Power attended the meeting which included an in-depth visit to Hoover Dam. The Department of Homeland Security leads Dams sector activities and closer cooperation between the two agencies concerning dams and energy is planned for the future.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Kenneth Friedman, 586-0379

OE Participation at National Association of Regulatory of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, (NARUC) Meeting. On February 15, the winter meeting of the NARUC, held in Washington, DC, included a panel on Energy Storage. Utility commissions are an important link in bringing energy storage to commercial deployment. Market rules, tariff policies, and regulatory infrastructure needs to be adjusted to accommodate storage as a vital part of a more reliable grid. Dr. Imre Gyuk was lead speaker on the panel, presenting an overview of storage technology and applications. Other speakers discussed the regulatory obstacles and provided the utility perspective. The audience consisted of utility commissioners and their staff, representatives of major Independent System Operators, and personnel of electric utilities, as well as the renewable and communication industries. At the same meeting, Alice Lippert made two presentations at NARUC's Committee on Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP). Ms. Lippert provided the committee with an update on current OE CIP activity and also participated on a 2008 Hurricane Season Panel where she presented an overview of the 2008 hurricanes

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Imre Gyuk, 586-1482 and Alice Lippert, 585-9600

Tax Rebate for Energy Storage becomes Law. On February 17, the President signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Section 1302, which regards Credit for Investment in Advanced Energy Facilities, extends investment tax credits of 30% to electric grids supporting the transmission of intermittent sources of renewable

energy including storage of such energy. This represents the first Federal tax incentive for energy storage. Earlier, Dr. Imre Gyuk had been asked by Senate staff for technical input on the status and economics of energy storage and the industry's view on tax incentives.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Imre Gyuk, 586-1482

National Infrastructure Protection Plan, Energy Government Coordinating Council

Meeting. On February 17, William Bryan, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration and Dr. Kenneth Friedman led this quarterly meeting held at the Department of Energy. Participants included representatives from U.S. Coast Guard, FERC, Tennessee Valley Authority, Environmental Protection Agency, and various departments (i.e., DOD, Defense Industrial Base, Transportation Security Administration, Chemicals, and Dams) in the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Department of Agriculture, as well as, staff members from the Department of Energy. Mr. Bryan reviewed the Department of Energy's potential role and budget in the current stimulus package and the Department of Energy's RSR (Reliability, Survivability, Resiliency) project. Department of Homeland Security representatives presented information on voluntary standards, PSA energy site visits, and Transportation Security Administration's security guidelines, incident and recovery plan, and their GAO audit. Friedman led a discussion on metrics and the new Department of Homeland Security Sector Specific Plan and Annual Report guidance. Environmental Protection Agency's representative gave a presentation on their Water Metrics, and the representative from U.S. Coast Guard answered questions on Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC). Council members also reviewed the agenda for the upcoming Joint GCC/ONGSCC meeting on February 24, 2009.

Media Interest: None

Program Contacts: William Bryan 586-7517, Kenneth Friedman, 586-0379

OE Site Visit to NETL to Discuss New Award. On February 17, in Morgantown, WV, Phil Overholt and Professor Dennis Ray, University of Wisconsin-Madison, briefed NETL project office members on the recently-signed award between NETL and Arizona State University for operation of the Power Systems Engineering Research Center (PSERC). Professor Ray, the Executive Director of PSERC, described the organization, goals and research activities over the 12 years PSERC has been a Center under the National Science Foundation, and Phil Overholt provided a brief overview of how PSERC functions as a charter member of the Consortium for Electric Reliability Technology Solutions (CERTS). PSERC is comprised of 13 universities that work cooperatively in engineering, economics, computational, and environmental disciplines to conduct electric power research for OE. The visit included discussions of other OE contracts, with an opportunity to meet the acquisition people for these contracts, and a brief tour of the Computational Science Division's visualization lab.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Phil Overholt, 586-8110

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (14-day advance)
Nothing to Report

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables
Nothing to Report

V. Press Inquiries
Nothing to Report

VI. FOIA Requests
Nothing to Report

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements and Publications
Nothing to Report

**OFFICE OF POLICY AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 20, 2009

- I. Schedule**
 - II. Departmental News**
Nothing to report
 - III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)**
 - IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables**
 - V. Press Inquiries**
 - VI. FOIA Requests**
 - VII. Grants, Economic Announcement, and Publications**
-

**OFFICE OF CIVILIAN RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 20, 2009

I. Schedule

Nothing to report

II. Key Departmental News

Update of the Yucca Mountain License Application: OCRWM will submit an update to the *Yucca Mountain License Application (LA) for Construction Authorization* on February 20, 2009. NRC regulations require that an LA update be submitted to the NRC upon appointment of Atomic Safety and Licensing Boards, which were established by NRC last month. The submittal of the update is likely to generate media attention and other public inquiries.

Media Interest: Yes

Program Contact: Christopher Kouts, 202-586-6850

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

Nothing to report

IV. PROGRESS ON EPACT DELIVERABLES

Nothing to report

V. Press Inquiries

Elaine Hiruo, *Platts*, asked whether Bechtel SAIC Company, LLC (BSC), OCRWM's management and operating (M&O) contractor, is planning to eliminate up to 500 positions. An OCRWM representative explained BSC's contract expires on March 31, 2009, and based on funding, USA Repository Services (USA-RS), the newly awarded M&O contractor, will determine what staff, if any, will be hired.

Media Interest: Yes

Program Contact: Allen Benson, 702-794-1322

VI. FOIA REQUESTS

Nothing to report

VII. GRANTS, ECONOMIC ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND PUBLICATIONS

Nothing to report

**OFFICE OF SCIENCE
WEEKLY REPORT
February 20, 2009**

I. Schedule

Dr. Patricia M. Dehmer, Acting Director, Office Science, has no travel or leave plans for the upcoming week.

II. Departmental News

Acting Director of the Office of Science Dehmer Participates in AAAS Annual Meeting Symposium on “The Future of U.S. Accelerator Science”: Acting Director of the DOE Office of Science Dr. Patricia Dehmer participated in the February 13, scientific symposium on “The Future of U.S. Accelerator Science” during the 2009 Annual Meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) in Chicago. Dr. Dehmer discussed “Support for Accelerators and for Accelerator R&D in DOE’s Office of Science” and its Office of Basic Energy Sciences, Office of Nuclear Physics, and Office of High Energy Physics in particular. She noted that the Office of High Energy Physics is developing a national accelerator R&D stewardship effort for ~~which input will be sought in a late 2009 workshop that will examine the uses of~~ accelerators throughout society; the desired performance characteristics of these and future accelerators; and the R&D efforts in the private and government sectors. The session was moderated by Dr. Cherry A. Murray of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and also included talks by Dr. Maury Tigner of Cornell University on “Accelerator Science and Training of Accelerator Scientists in U.S. Universities,” Dr. Arthur Bienenstock of Stanford University on “Accelerators and Their Uses and Spin Offs for Multiple Fields,” and Dr. James Rosenzweig of the University of California, Los Angeles on “Advanced Alternative and Future accelerator Technologies.” Dr. Tony Chan participated on behalf of the National Science Foundation. (Dr. Dehmer’s presentation is available at <http://www.science.doe.gov/SC-2/Presentations/Dehmer%202009%2002-13%20AAAS%20Meeting%20Accelerator%20RD.ppt>.)

Media Interest: No.

Program Contact: Dr. Laura Biven, SC-2, 202-586-8621

Scientists Break Atomic Barrier for Information Storage: How densely can you encode information on a computer chip? The question has important implications for the future of information technology. Until now, the assumption has been that a single atom, encoding a single bit, defined the physical limit. But scientists at the Stanford Institute for Materials and Energy Sciences (SIMES) at SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory have broken this barrier. Using a scanning tunneling microscope, they managed to devise a way to store 35 bits per electron to spell the letters “S” and “U.” In the process they have set a new world record for the world’s smallest writing, creating letters with features as tiny as 0.3 nanometers. (Back in 1985, a Stanford student set the record by printing the first page of a Charles Dickens novel in print so tiny it could only be read by an

electron microscope. In 1990 IBM scientists broke that record by using 35 xenon atoms to spell their company name.) Working in a vibration-proof basement lab, Physicist Hari Manoharan and student Chris Moon dragged single carbon monoxide molecules into a desired pattern on a copper chip the size of a fingernail. On the two-dimensional surface of the copper, electrons interact with the molecules and with each other to form standing “interference patterns” that vary with the placement of the molecules. By altering the arrangement of the molecules, the researchers can create different waveforms, effectively encoding information on a subatomic scale for later retrieval. Manoharan and Moon call the new technology Electronic Quantum Holography. Their paper was published in *Nature Nanotechnology*. SIMES is supported by the Office of Basic Energy Sciences/Materials Sciences and Engineering Division.

Media Interest: No.

Program Contact: Dr. Harriet Kung, SC-22, (301) 903-3081

Office of Science-Supported Scientists Named ACS National Award Winners:

Nineteen scientists supported by the Office of Basic Energy Sciences have been named 2009 National Award Winners by the American Chemical Society (ACS). The awards honor those whose work has most furthered the goals of the Society. Among the winners were four National Laboratory scientists, including Mark S. Gordon of Ames Laboratory, and Graham R. Fleming, Richard J. Saykally, and Andrew Streitwieser of Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

Media Interest: No.

Program Contact: Dr. Harriet Kung, SC-22, (301) 903-3081

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

VI. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

**SOUTHEASTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 20, 2009

I. Schedule

Kenneth E. Legg, Administrator –

The Administrator will attend meetings at the Power Marketing Liaison Office (PMLO) on February 24-25, and also the American Public Power Association (APPA) PMA Task Force Briefing on February 25 in Washington, DC. The Administrator has no leave planned for the week of March 1.

Acting Administrator (Jan. – March): Leon Jourolmon, 706-213-3835

II. Departmental News

Power Marketing Association (PMA) Task Force Meeting During American Public Power Association (APPA) Legislative Rally: On Wednesday, February 25, the ~~Administrator and the Assistant Administrator for Finance and Marketing will attend the~~ PMA Task Force meeting at this year's APPA Legislative Rally in Washington, DC. The meeting provides a forum for APPA members, with interest in the PMAs, to discuss the budget requests and agenda for the year.

Media Interest: No

Program Contact: Kenneth Legg, 706-213-3805

Savannah River Operating Agreement: Staff from Southeastern's Power Resources Division will be attending a meeting at the J. Strom Thurmond project on Thursday, February 26. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the operation of the projects on the Savannah River.

Media Interest: No

Program Contact: Herbert Nadler, 706-213-3853

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

VI. FOIA Requests

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

**SOUTHWESTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 19, 2009

- I. Schedule**
Jon Worthington, Administrator
-

II. Key Departmental News

Arkansas/Missouri Municipal Customer Power Pool (ARKMO) Meeting will be held February 20, 2009, in Springfield, MO. Discussion will center on Southwestern's upcoming Tariff and Rate Schedule changes, anticipated hydro energy availability, scheduling of customer resources, the previous month's pool operation, and Regional Transmission Organization options and their anticipated impact on Federal hydroelectric power production and deliveries.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Jim McDonald, 918-595-6690

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

VI. FOIA Requests

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

**WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 20, 2009

I. Schedule

Schedule for Administrator Timothy J. Meeks

February 23-27 APPA's Legislative Rally, Washington, DC
March 2-3 Bonneville Power Administration Meeting, Portland, OR
March 9-11 Mid-West Board Meeting, Arlington, VA
March 17-18 Operations & Maintenance Meeting, Montrose, CO
(Acting: Tony Montoya)

II. Departmental News

Public Scoping Set to Begin for TANC Transmission Project. The Transmission Agency of Northern California (TANC) is coordinating with Western to develop the TANC Transmission Project. The proposal involves building and upgrading about 600 miles of transmission lines in northern California. The Project would improve reliability and offer transmission to deliver power from renewable sources in northern California, northwestern Nevada, and the Pacific Northwest. Western and TANC plan to prepare a joint environmental impact statement/environmental impact report. The public scoping period will begin with the publication of the notice of intent in the *Federal Register* and continue through April 30. Public scoping meetings are scheduled for 12 locations in northern California March 26-April 16.

Media Interest: Trade, regional and local media

Program Contact: Jack Dodd, 202-586-5581

Colorado Water Congress Warns of More Variability in Stream Flows. Western staff attended the 51st Annual Convention of the Colorado Water Congress. Discussion of the impact of climate change on local water resources and associated hydroelectric generation indicated that agencies' long range plans will need to provide for greater levels of uncertainty. When the findings of the global circulation models are applied to individual river basins, the long term hydrologic impacts are less certain because the climatic interactions at the local level are less well understood. Climatologists cannot yet say how long term conditions will change in the river basins of the Loveland Area Projects. They advise agencies to have contingency plans for a wider range of stream flows than are included in the period of record.

Media Interest: Trade and local media

Program Contact: Jack Dodd, 202-586-5581

Meeting with Boulder Canyon Project Customers Set. Western, in partnership with Reclamation, will hold an informal meeting with Boulder Canyon Project customers in Phoenix on March 11. The purpose of the meeting will be to provide information and answer questions concerning the proposed adjustment to the Boulder Canyon Project

base charge and rates. The proposed rates for Boulder Canyon Project electric service will result in an overall composite rate increase of seven percent. The increase in the proposed base charge and rates is due to increases in the annual operation and maintenance costs, visitor center costs, and the uprating program payments. Another factor contributing to the increase in the rates is the decrease in energy and capacity sales associated with continued poor hydrology in the region resulting in lower than normal Lake Mead water elevations.

Media Interest: Trade media

Program Contact: Jack Dodd, 202-586-5581

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

This week, Western staff continued to respond to trade and national media inquiries about the impact of the economic stimulus package on Western. Western staff also responded to a local media inquiries on the relationship between water flows and power generation at Glen Canyon Dam and on the status of Western's negotiations to purchase 100 megawatts of capacity and energy, along with the associated renewable energy credits, from a wind farm in North Dakota to help offset a lack of hydropower from dams on the Missouri River.

VI. FOIA Requests

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

DOE WEEKLY REPORT TO THE SECRETARY

February 27, 2009

The following program office did not submit a Weekly Report for this time period:

Office of the Chief Human Capital Officer

BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION WEEKLY REPORT

February 27, 2009

I. Schedule

March 3: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) Administrator Steve Wright will attend the meeting of the Western Energy Industry Leaders in San Francisco. Deputy Administrator Steve Hickok will be acting.

March 10: The Administrator will be in Washington, D.C. to deliver testimony about BPA's Treasury borrowing authority at a hearing of the House Resources Committee Subcommittee on Water and Power. The Deputy Administrator will be acting.

II. Departmental News

BiOp Litigation: On March 6, the United States District Court for Oregon is scheduled to hear motions for summary judgment in the litigation over the Biological Opinion (BiOp) for the Federal Columbia River Power System. The BiOp was issued by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries Service in May 2008. Parties to the litigation filed their initial motions in September and October. The United States Government filed its final brief in December.

Media Interest: High

Contact: Sonya Baskerville 202-586-5640

Conditional Firm Transmission Service: By next week BPA expects to make its first offers for Conditional Firm transmission service. Conditional Firm service is designed to offer long-term transmission over constrained paths when transmission inventory does not allow regular long-term service to be offered. If system reliability requires a

curtailment, the conditional firm customers will be curtailed after non-firm transmission customers. Through this mechanism, BPA ultimately expects to make up to 1,200 megawatts of additional transmission service available without additional construction.

Media Interest: Low

Contact: Sonya Baskerville 202-586-5640

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

Nothing to report

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to report

V. Press Inquiries

Announcement of Lyle Falls Fish Passage Project: BPA expects to issue a press release announcing its decision to proceed with construction of the Lyle Falls Fish Passage Project in Washington. The project is the first major capital project to proceed under the Columbia Basin Fish Accords signed with Columbia Basin tribes in 2008.

The project will reconstruct the existing fish passageway at Lyle Falls on the Klickitat River to improve the ability of adult salmon and steelhead to move into spawning areas in the river. The project will be managed by the Yakama Indian Nation.

VI. FOIA Requests

Request for Bid Information: On February 19, Les Joel, of Transformer Technologies in Salem, Oregon, requested documents related to BPA solicitation of bids for disposal of surplus transformers.

Request for Direct Service Industry Contracts: On February 23, Dan Seligman, of Seattle, Washington, requested information about contracts between BPA and two direct service industrial customers.

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

Nothing to report.

**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 27, 2009

I. Schedule

Steve Isakowitz has no leave or travel planned for the week of March 2, 2009.

II. Departmental News

Access to GOVTRIP Restored: Access to GovTrip was restored for use by Department of Energy (DOE) employees on Monday, February 23, at 10:00 am. GovTrip is an eGovernment Travel Service managed by the General Services Administration (GSA) and operated under contract with Northrop Grumman Management Systems (NGMS). When a cyber security incident was reported on February 11, 2009, GovTrip operations at DOE were suspended. On February 17, GSA formally terminated Northrop's Authority to Operate GovTrip until the incident could be thoroughly researched and corrective actions taken. On February 21, NGMS satisfied all of the GSA requirements and the Authority to Operate GovTrip was restored. GSA and Northrop Grumman have provided assurance this cyber security incident did not include access to nor compromise of any Personally Identifiable Information (PII) or sensitive financial information.

Media Interest: Media Interest

Program Contacts: Miriam Kurtyka, (301) 903-2970 / Warren Huffer, (301) 903-3761

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

VI. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

VI. FOIA Requests

VII. Grants, Economic Announcement, and Publications

**OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 27, 2009

I. Schedule

Nothing to report.

II. Departmental News

Congressional Hearings:

On March 3, Patricia Hoffman, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability will testify before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee regarding progress on smart grid initiatives which are authorized in the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 and funded in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and opportunities and impediments to timely installation of smart grid technologies.

Media Interest: Yes

Program Contact: Robert Tuttle, 202-586-4298

~~On March 4, Ingrid Kolb, MA will testify before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development on the oversight of project management by the Department of Energy.~~

~~**Media Interest:** Yes~~

~~**Program Contact:** Betty Nolan, 202-586-7328~~

On March 5, Secretary Steven Chu will testify before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee regarding the future direction of energy research and development.

Media Interest: Yes

Program Contact: Betty Nolan, 202-586-7328

On March 5, Howard Gruenspecht, Acting EI-1 will testify before the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources regarding energy outlooks and the role of federal onshore and offshore resources in meeting future energy demand.

Media Interest: Yes

Program Contact: Kathy Peery, 202-586-2794

Congressional Meetings and Briefings:

On March 2, Paul Holtberg; Michael Schaal; Erik Rasmussen, EIA; and CI staff will meet with House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources Subcommittee staff, Tim Charters and Kathy Benedetto to discuss the EIA *Annual Energy Outlook 2009*.

Media Interest: No

Program Contact: Kathy Peery, 202-586-2794

On March 3, Gil Sperling, Joan Glickman, EERE; CI staff; and other federal agencies will meet with Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee staff, Deborah Estes to discuss green jobs and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Media Interest: No

Program Contact: Martha Oliver, 202-586-2229

On March 4, EE and CI staff will brief Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee staff regarding appliance standards and energy star programs.

Media Interest: No

Program Contact: Martha Oliver, 202-586-2229

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

Nothing to report.

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to report.

V. Press Inquiries

Nothing to report.

VI. FOIA Requests

Nothing to report.

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements and Publications

Nothing to report.

**OFFICE OF ECONOMIC IMPACT AND DIVERSITY
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 27, 2009

I. Schedule

The Acting Director of the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity, Annie Whatley will be in the office the week of March 2, 2009.

II. Key Departmental News

Washington, DC Regional Science Bowl: On Saturday, February 25, 2009 the Department of Energy's Office of Economic Impact and Diversity hosted the Washington, DC Regional Science Bowl. Eight teams made of approximately 40 diverse students from public, charter, and private schools participated in the day long competition. Volunteer judges, score keepers, time keepers, moderators, and runners from the Department of Energy made this event a success. Wilson High School was undefeated through eight rounds of tough competition and will represent the District of Columbia in the National Science Bowl April 30 – May 5, 2009. The intense competition encouraged students to work together and tested their knowledge of science, mathematics, engineering and technology.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Annie Whatley 586-0281

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

U.S. Women's Chamber of Commerce (USWCC) Small Business Federal Contracting Summit on - The Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) will participate in the U.S. Women's Chamber of Commerce (USWCC) Small Business Federal Contracting Summit on Wednesday, March 4, 2009. Two OSDBU staff will participate in this event by advising the women-owned small businesses in attendance on how to do business with DOE. This event will be held in Arlington, VA.

Media Interest: None

Point of Contact: Anita Bedrosian, 586-2907

United Negro College Fund (UNCF) 65th Founder's Anniversary Program – A Senior staff member of the Office of Minority Economic Impact will attend the UNCF Founder's Anniversary program on March 4 – 6, 2009 in New York City. The program will honor individuals, organizations and federal agencies that have supported UNCF programs. UNCF's highest honor, the Dr. Frederick D. Patterson Award will be presented to Earl Graves, founder and publisher of Black Enterprise Magazine.

Media Interest: None

Point of Contact: Annie Whatley, 586-0281

“Business Opportunity Session (BOS)” - The Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) will host a “Business Opportunity Session (BOS)” at DOE, on March 5, 2009, for small businesses with expertise in areas involving environmental management, fossil energy, and energy efficiency technologies. The planned topics include “How-to-Do Business with DOE.” Each office will address the Recovery Act. More than 30 small businesses will be invited to network with one another and with Federal Program officials.

Media Interest: None

Point of Contact: Kent Hibben, (202) 586-8086

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to report

V. Press Inquiries

Nothing to report

VI. FOIA Requests

Nothing to report

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements and Publications

Nothing to report

**OFFICE OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 27, 2009

I. Schedule for Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Rita Wells

Rita Wells has no travel scheduled during this reporting period.

II. Departmental News

DOE Scores Green on the Office of Management and Budget's Environmental Scorecard. DOE received a "Green" rating on the 2008 Environmental Stewardship Scorecard by meeting all green standards of success for environmental management systems (EMS), green purchasing, sustainable design/green buildings, electronic stewardship, and compliance management. DOE's success can be attributed to numerous accomplishments, such as providing training on new EMS requirements and integration, attaining LEED certification for 20 buildings and purchasing 97 percent Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) registered products. OMB requires every Federal agency to provide a status on performance in meeting environmental stewardship requirements. The data is reported in the scorecard, a simple grading system that gives a rating of "Green" for success, "Yellow" for mixed results, and "Red" for unsatisfactory.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Matt Gray, 202-586-0067

ORNL Engine Research Team Wins Awards for Excellence in Technology Transfer. The research team at Oakridge National Laboratory (ORNL) that developed the Spatially Resolved Capillary Inlet Mass Spectrometer (SpaciMS) has been recognized with a national Award for Excellence by the Federal Laboratory Consortium (FLC). Engineered originally in a Cooperative Research & Development Agreement (CRADA) between ORNL and Cummins, then commercialized by Hiden Analytical, the SpaciMS system features fast response, non-invasive sampling and has revealed chemical phenomena in operating catalyst devices, mixing in exhaust gas recirculation systems, and achieved first-of-kind in-situ measurements in operating fuel cell stacks. ORNL, Cummins, Hiden Analytical, and Queens University Belfast also received an R&D 100 Award for 2008 for development and commercialization of this instrument.

Media Interest: Trade press

Program Contact: Gurpreet Singh, 202-586-2333

Northwest Industrial Energy Efficiency Summit Portland, OR, February 17. Over 100 representatives from industry, utilities, Federal and State government, academia, and industrial and energy related organizations in the Northwest attended the *Northwest Industrial Energy Efficiency Summit* (Summit). Summit participants cultivated a strategy to sustain the economic health of the regional industrial manufacturing sector by leveraging resources to reduce energy intensity and related carbon emissions. The

centerpiece of the event was the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Industrial Technologies Program, Northwest Food Processors Association (NWFPA), Bonneville Power Administration, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory on behalf of DOE's Office of Science, and Idaho National Laboratory on behalf of DOE's Office of Nuclear Energy. This non-binding agreement states that the entities will work together to reduce the energy intensity of NWFPA's members by 25 percent over the next 10 years.

Media Interest: National, local, and Trade press

Program Contact: Jim Quinn, 202-586-5725

Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory Requests Proposals for On-Site Solar Project.

DOE's Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory (PPPL) has issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) through the Defense Energy Support Center (DESC) for a solar power purchase agreement (PPA). The RFP identifies the potential for roof-top and carport photovoltaic systems at PPPL with a combined capacity of up to 1300 kW. The RFP seeks fixed-price bids for a 10-year PPA. There will also be a 10-year license between the solar developer and DOE to provide access to the rooftops and/or carports. Contract award is expected by September 2009.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Anne Crawley, 202-586-1505

Industrial Technologies Program Presents: Green Collar Jobs in the U.S.

Washington DC, February 19. Dr. Roger Bezdek, President of Management Information Services, and Brad Collins, Executive Director of the American Solar Energy Society presented findings from their new report, "Green Collar Jobs in the U.S. and Colorado" at the DOE Forrestal Auditorium for an audience of DOE employees. The speakers focused on forecasts for the size and composition of clean energy industry growth until 2030, including technology, sales, tax revenue, jobs, occupations, and skills; baselining and forecasting to 2030 of solar, wind, biomass, fuel cells & hydrogen, geothermal, and hydropower jobs, salaries, and education needs; and a case study of clean energy in Colorado, showing results of Colorado's emergence as a key player in the new energy economy.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Haley O'Donnell, 202- 586-1646

OWIP Staff Provides Overview to Local Governments on Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program, Washington DC, February 19.

Mark Bailey and Johanna Zetterberg gave an EECBG overview to over 80 cities and local government program and agency leads. Notable among the participants was staff from Albuquerque, Dallas, Portland, Chicago, Philadelphia, and the Counties of Fairfax and Arlington, VA. Participants also included many of the large cities and counties with the longest histories of energy/environmental programs.

Media Interest: Local press

Program Contact: Mark Bailey, 202-586-9424

Next Generation Luminaires™ Announces LED Design Competition Winners, Santa Clara, CA, February 19. Winners of the first annual Next Generation Luminaires™ awards were announced at the Strategies in Light Conference. Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy, the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America, and the International Association of Lighting Designers, the competition recognizes excellence in the design of energy-efficient LED commercial luminaires. In its first year, the competition attracted 68 entries from 29 lighting companies. More information on all the winning entries is available at www.ngldc.org.

Media Interest: Trade press

Program Contact: Jim Brodrick, 202-586-1856

National Building Museum Lecture to Highlight County Government Energy and Climate Strategies, Washington DC, March 5. John Morrill, Energy Manager of Arlington County, VA, will discuss county efforts to reduce carbon emissions in buildings and vehicles. He will also highlight how the Department of Environmental Services overcame technical, financial, and institutional challenges to enhance the community's approach to energy conservation. The presentation is part of the ongoing lecture series cosponsored by DOE and the National Building Museum. For more information, visit the National Building Museum's website at:

<http://www.nbm.org/programs-lectures/series/building-for-the-21st-century-1.html>.

Media Interest: Local press

Program Contact: James Rannels, 202-586-8070

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

Nothing to report that rises to Secretarial attention.

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to report that rises to Secretarial attention.

V. Press Inquiries

Nothing to report that rises to Secretarial attention.

VI. FOIA Requests

Nothing to report during this reporting period.

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements and Publications

Nothing to report during this reporting period.

**ENERGY INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 27, 2009

I. Schedule

Nothing to report

II. Departmental News

Nothing to report

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

House Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources

Hearing: EIA has been invited to testify before the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources (Chairman Costa) on March 5, entitled: "Energy Outlooks, and the Role of Federal Onshore and Offshore Resources in Meeting Future Energy Demand." Howard Gruenspecht, Acting EIA Administrator, will testify on EIA energy outlook for the U.S. to 2030, focusing on the role of the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) in current and projected energy production.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Erik Rasmussen, EI-4, 586-2762

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to report

V. Press Inquiries

Nothing to report

VI. FOIA Requests

Nothing to report

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

EIA Releases February 2009 Monthly Energy Review (MER): The February 2009 MER, EIA's primary report of recent energy statistics, is now on the Web at: <http://www.eia.doe.gov/mer>. U.S. net imports of natural gas during the first 11 months of 2008 were 22 percent below the level during the first 11 months of 2007.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Ryan Repice, EI-64, 586-5828

Monthly Flash Estimates of Electric Power Data Released: In December 2008, according to the recently released "Monthly Flash Estimates of Electric Power Data," retail sales of electricity increased 0.7 percent compared to December 2007. For the 12-month period ending December 2008, retail sales of electricity decreased 0.3 percent when compared to the previous 12-month period ending December 2007. The average

U.S. retail price of electricity continued to show an upward trend in December 2008 from the previous year, increasing 8.2 percent from December 2007. Total electric power generation in the United States decreased by 1.3 percent from December 2007. For the 12-month period ending December 2008, total electric power generation decreased 1.0 percent when compared to the previous 12-month period ending December 2007. Coal and natural gas generation both decreased in 2008 from their 2007 levels. The report can be found at <http://www.eia.doe.gov/cneaf/electricity/epm/flash/flash.html>.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Chris Cassar, EI-53, 586-5448

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT WEEKLY REPORT

February 27, 2009

I. Schedule

Acting Assistant Secretary, Inés Triay will be on travel March 2-3, 2009. Charles O'Dell, Sr. Technical Advisor for Environmental Management will be acting during that time. Acting Assistant Secretary, Inés Triay will be in the office March 4-6, 2009.

II. Key Departmental News

First Oak Ridge Remote-Handled Transuranic Waste Shipment Arrives Safely at Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in New Mexico: The Office of Environmental Management achieved a major environmental cleanup milestone this week with the first shipment of Remote-Handled Transuranic (TRU) Waste leaving DOE's Oak Ridge Reservation and arriving safely at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) near Carlsbad, New Mexico. Just five months ago, the first shipment of Contact-Handled TRU Waste from the Oak Ridge Reservation safely arrived at WIPP, again allowing another regulatory milestone to be achieved. WIPP is a DOE facility designed to safely isolate defense-related TRU waste from people and the environment. Waste temporarily stored at sites around the country is shipped to WIPP and permanently disposed in rooms mined out of an ancient salt formation 2,150 feet below the surface. WIPP, which began waste disposal operations in 1999, is located 26 miles outside of Carlsbad.

Media Interest: Yes

Program Contact: Roger Nelson, 575-234-7213

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Implementation Workshop Held in Washington, DC – Forrestal Building: The Office of Environmental Management held a workshop on February 26, 2009, with the headquarters and field office senior managers and Chief Executive Officers for the site contractors to outline the expectations for execution of the ARRA funding. Acting Assistant Secretary, Inés Triay spoke about the importance of performance, achieving success within schedule and cost, and being transparent and accountable for the results. Other topics discussed included: reporting requirements, record keeping, contracting process, safety and activity readiness and interaction with stakeholders. On February 27, 2009, the headquarters and field office senior managers met to discuss more detailed project plans and expectations. For more information contact: Cynthia Anderson, Program Manager, American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Team at 202-586-2083.

Media Interest: High

Program Contact: Cynthia Anderson, 202-586-9982

The Department of Energy (DOE) 2009 Nuclear Supplier Outreach Conference and Site Tour: The conference is scheduled March 17-19, 2009, at the Marriott Hotel and Suites, Augusta, Georgia. The purpose of the conference is to ensure that all

Environmental Management and NNSA sites have an adequate number of qualified nuclear and non-nuclear suppliers for future projects and programs; to provide information for suppliers regarding the needs of DOE projects and services in the years ahead; and to provide training to registered attendees. Acting Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management, Inés Triay, will be the keynote speaker. The conference is hosted by EM, DOE-SRS, and NNSA.

Media Interest: Planned

Program Contact: de'Lisa Bratcher, 803-952-8607

Nuclear Safety Research and Development (NSR&D) Forum: DOE organizations responsible for "nuclear-related" work sometimes face challenging situations for which there are no "off-the-shelf" solutions. To address those situations, program offices often conduct research that is narrowly focused and problem-specific. EM and NNSA management recently recognized that commonalities might exist in some of the research. A February 18-19, 2009, forum was conducted in McLean, Virginia, that presented safety-related R&D that is currently being conducted by various program offices and National Laboratories across the DOE complex. This was considered a "first step" at bringing stakeholders together (including the DNFSB) to discuss nuclear-related research from various program office perspectives. The goal is to increase the knowledge base within DOE, provide a mechanism to share experiences and results that might apply complex-wide, and to garner input from the DNFSB on the direction of NSR&D within DOE. Some common problem research areas were identified (e.g. air cleaning in nuclear ventilation systems) that will warrant further discussion.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Steve Krahn, 301-903-7289

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest

Nothing to report.

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to report.

V. Press Inquiries

Transfer of East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP) Electrical Distribution System to City of Oak Ridge: Oak Ridge Public Affairs issued a photo with caption to the media for the February 18, 2009, signing of an agreement to transfer electrical infrastructure outside of the main plant area at ETTP to the City of Oak Ridge. The Oak Ridge Office Manager Gerald Boyd and Oak Ridge Mayor Tom Beehan were signatories on behalf of their respective organizations. Media coverage is anticipated in the *Oak Ridger* within the next several days.

Media Interest: Yes

Program Contact: Walter Perry, 865-576-0885

VI. FOIA Requests

Nothing to report.

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements and Publications
Nothing to report.

**OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 27, 2009

I. Schedule

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Der

All travel and speaking engagements reported through March 20.

II. Key Departmental News

Delivery of Crude Oil Begins to the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. The SPR will receive deliveries totaling 7,140,000 barrels during March. The volume includes repayment of 1,020,000 barrels of crude oil loaned after Hurricanes Gustav and Ike in September 2008; 1,640,000 barrels of Royalty-In-Kind deferrals from July-December 2008; and 4,480,000 barrels purchased in January 2009.

Program Contact: Dave Johnson, 202-586-4410

Hydraulic Fracturing Quickens CO₂ Injection for Central Appalachian Sequestration Project. ~~Prior to injecting 1,000 tons of CO₂ into unmineable coal seams~~ in Russell County, VA, the seams were fractured hydraulically to increase the number and size of CO₂ pathways into the coal. The hydrofrac procedure doubled to 40 tons of CO₂ per day the average injection rate that had been projected, allowing the planned 45-day injection phase to be completed 19 days early on February 9. Monitoring and data analysis over the next 6 months will verify retention of CO₂ in the injection zone, quantify the CO₂ storage capacity of the coal seams, and establish the quantity and quality of recovered natural gas. Conducted by the Southeast Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership—one of seven NETL-managed regional partnerships studying the viability of carbon sequestration as a greenhouse gas mitigation strategy—the project is designed to demonstrate the cost-effectiveness of utilizing the immediate commercial benefits of methane recovery to offset infrastructure development costs for the safe and permanent storage of larger volumes of CO₂.

Program Contact: Bruce Lani, 412/386-5819

CO₂ Injection Extended for Michigan Field Test. The Midwest Regional Carbon Sequestration Partnership will inject an additional 50,000 metric tons of CO₂ into a permeable interval of the Bass Islands Dolomite where 10,000 metric tons have already been successfully sequestered near Gaylord, MI. Working in cooperation with NETL, the project team anticipates detecting breakthrough at a monitoring well located approximately 480 feet from the injection well, and recording geochemical changes as well as the vertical distribution of CO₂ along the wellbore. Extending the injection phase over a period of six to seven months at an average rate of 250 metric tons per day will also allow seasonal effects and the long-term temperature and pressure response within the Bass Island formation to be analyzed.

Program Contact: Traci Rodosta, 304/285-1345

Hydrogen Refueling Platform Envisioned for West Virginia Airport. The NETL-coordinated West Virginia Hydrogen Working Group plans to install a hydrogen fuel production, storage, and dispensing facility at the Yeager Airport in Charleston, WV. The facility will serve as a research, development, test, and evaluation platform while fueling vehicles and other equipment (e.g., forklift trucks) with hydrogen. The Group is considering a similar facility for the West Virginia University campus in Morgantown. Representatives of the WV State Fire Marshall's Office and Appalachian Power received briefings on the project.

Program Contact: Darryl T. Shockley, 304/285-4697

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (14-day advance)

None

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

None

V. Press Inquiries

None

VI. FOIA Requests

None

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements and Publications

None

**OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 27, 2009

I. Schedule

No leave or travel plans.

II. Departmental News

“DOWNWINDERS” LITIGATION RESUMES IN TRIAL COURT

In re Hanford Nuclear Reservation Litigation (E.D. Wa). The district court has issued an order requiring the parties to file a joint report concerning methods to resolve the claims remaining in the case by February 25, 2009. The United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit previously affirmed in part, and reversed and remanded in part, the judgments issued with reference to the bellwether plaintiffs. This case involves the claims of the Hanford “downwinders” against former site contractors based on emissions of radioactive materials during plant operations in the 1940s and 1950s. The court of appeals affirmed the defense verdict concerning a relatively low-dose iodine exposure bellwether who had thyroid cancer; affirmed the jury verdicts with reference to two relatively high-dose bellwethers with thyroid cancer; and reversed on minor evidentiary grounds the defense verdicts as to three bellwether plaintiffs with autoimmune diseases, and remanded the matters. The claims of six other bellwethers were dismissed prior to trial. (A. Fingeret, GC-31, 586-5678)

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

VI. FOIA Requests

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

**OFFICE OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 27, 2009

I. Schedule

II. Departmental News

Whistleblower Q&As:

The Office of Hearings and Appeals (OHA) has posted on its web site its newly-developed Questions and Answers (Q&As) relating to hearings conducted under the DOE's Contractor Employee Protection Program, 10 CFR Part 708.

Media Interest: No

DOE Contact: Virginia Lipton, virginia.lipton@hq.doe.gov, 287-1436

Cases Received:

OHA received five new cases 1) four requests by individuals that a hearing be conducted under 10 CFR Part 710 to determine their eligibility to hold a DOE security clearance; and 2) one appeal filed under the Freedom of Information Act, 10 CFR 1004.1.

Hearings Conducted:

An OHA Hearing Officer conducted a Personnel Security hearing (10 CFR Part 710) in Albuquerque, NM.

Decisions Issued:

Personnel Security (10 CFR Part 710)

On February 24, 2009, an OHA Hearing Officer issued a decision in which she concluded that an individual should not be granted access authorization. A DOE Operations Office denied the individual a security clearance citing: 1) the individual's use of marijuana in 2002 while a member of the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) and aware that JROTC had a zero tolerance drug policy; 2) his possession and apparent use of marijuana in February 2008 while associating with a known marijuana user, after signing a DOE Security Acknowledgment and assuring an Office of Personnel Management investigator that he would not be involved with illegal drugs again. After conducting a hearing and evaluating the documentary and testimonial evidence, the Hearing Officer found that the individual did not present sufficient evidence to resolve the security concerns at issue. In making her determination, the Hearing Officer found that the individual's hearing testimony conflicted with his previous statements regarding his incidents of marijuana use, and that he failed to present sufficient testimony to corroborate the extent of his marijuana use. OHA Case No. TSO-0652 (Janet Fishman, 287-1579)

On February 20, 2009, an OHA Hearing Officer issued a decision in which she concluded that an individual should not be granted an access authorization. The background investigation revealed derogatory information regarding the individual's use of alcohol.

A DOE psychiatrist subsequently diagnosed the individual as suffering from alcohol abuse, without adequate evidence of rehabilitation or reformation. The psychiatrist based this conclusion on three alcohol-related legal incidents involving the individual including, most recently, the individual's arrest for Aggravated DWI in December 2007. The individual told the DOE psychiatrist, and testified at the hearing, that she last consumed alcohol on the night of her arrest in December 2007. However, a witness called by the individual testified that she had a drink with the individual in a bar in October 2008. In view of this incident, and based upon the testimony of the DOE psychiatrist and the individual's own alcohol counselor, the Hearing Officer concluded that the individual should not be granted a security clearance until she has completed one year of sobriety and alcohol counseling. OHA Case No. TSO-0678 (Valerie Vance Adeyeye, 287-1486)

On February 20, 2009, an OHA Hearing Officer issued a decision in which he determined that the individual's access authorization should not be granted. A local security office raised two security concerns, one stemming from an individual's resignation from his retail position for aiding in the theft of merchandise, and another for falsifying his Questionnaire for National Security Positions (QNSP). His falsifications included omitting that (i) within the last seven years he had resigned from a job under unfavorable circumstances; (ii) within the last seven years he had used marijuana; and (iii) he has two delinquent cell phone accounts. The individual attempted to resolve the first concern by arguing that he was not involved in the theft. The Hearing Officer found this argument unpersuasive because the individual had earlier made statements under oath, indicating that he was involved. The Hearing Officer similarly found unpersuasive the individual's explanations for providing false or inaccurate information on his QNSP, that he was advised by his father not to disclose his past marijuana use and that he failed to understand the financial information being requested. OHA Case No. TSO-0693 (David M. Petrush, 287-1382)

OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

No Fear Act Report to Congress:

On February 26, the Office of Civil Rights (OCR) received General Counsel concurrence for the draft FY 2008 No FEAR Act Report to Congress. The draft was previously concurred in by the Office of Human Capital Management. It will now be forwarded to the Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs for final approval before issuance on or before March 31, 2009. Contact: Neil Schuldenfrei, x6-5687

iComplaints Training:

On February 26, an OCR staff member attended a training course at Micropact Engineering that concentrated on changes in the latest version of iComplaints, the database that the Department uses to track complaints of discrimination filed against the Department. Some of the developments in the new version (5.0) include, but are not limited to, Section 508 compliance and a more streamlined approach to performing ad hoc searches. Contact: Dan Broehl, x6-0696

Hispanic Career Advancement Summit:

Staff members of OCR continue to work closely with the planning committee for the Second Annual Hispanic Career Advancement Summit. The Office is currently drafting a revised Strategic Plan for the Summit. Contact: Liza Almo, x6-5983

Media Interest: No

DOE Contact: Bill Lewis, bill.lewis@hq.doe.gov, 6-6530

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

IV. Progress on IPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

VI. FOIA Requests

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

**OFFICE OF HEALTH, SAFETY AND SECURITY
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 27, 2009

I. Schedule: Glenn S. Podonsky, Chief Health, Safety and Security Officer

February 25-26: Traveled to California to meet with the President of the University of California; participate in the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) Independent Oversight Environment, Safety and Health (ES&H) Inspection validation and close-out activities; and tour the SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory. The Acting Deputy Chief for Enforcement and Technical Matters accompanied.

March 5: Travel to Colorado to address the National Supplemental Screening Program Advisory Committee members regarding the successes and direction of the Former Worker Medical Screening Program.

March 10: Provide opening remarks at the 11th Annual Chemical Management Workshop at DOE Headquarters regarding DOE's perspective on chemical safety. (See item below for additional information.)

March 12: Provide an update and outlook of key HSS initiatives to the Energy Facilities Contractor Group (EFCOG) Board of Directors at DOE Headquarters.

Schedule: Michael A. Kilpatrick, Deputy Chief for Operations

See also Chief's schedule.

February 24-25: Traveled to New Mexico to participate in the Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) Independent Oversight Emergency Management Inspection validation and closeout activities.

March 1-5: Travel to South Carolina to participate in the Savannah River Site (SRS) Independent Oversight Safeguards and Security Inspection validation and closeout activities.

Schedule: William A. Eckroade, Acting Deputy Chief for Enforcement and Technical Matters

See also Chief's schedule.

February 27: Traveled to Washington to participate in the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) Independent Oversight Nuclear Safety Follow-Up Inspection validation and close-out activities.

March 1-5: Travel to South Carolina to participate in the Savannah River Site (SRS) Independent Oversight Safeguards and Security Inspection validation and closeout activities.

II. Departmental News

Bechtel Jacobs Company LLC - East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP) Security Enforcement Investigation: In coordination with the Office of Environmental Management (EM), Oak Ridge Office (OR) and the Office of Public Affairs (PA), HSS conducted the on-site portion of the security enforcement investigation this week (February 23-26) into the facts and circumstances surrounding the removal of classified matter from ETTP that occurred in 2007.

Management Impact: The resumption of this investigation follows the closure of the associated criminal case.

Media Interest: The closure of the criminal case regarding the removal of classified matter from ETTP was the subject of recent media attention.

Program Contact: William A. Eckroade, (202) 586-9275

Marshall Islands Program: HSS led a team consisting of Headquarters and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) personnel, the new Chief of Clinical Services (CCS), a medical officer and nurse, and logistics support personnel on a medical mission to the outer islands of Majuro, Utrök, and Mejatto, February 11-27. DOE also conducted community meetings to discuss radiological findings.

Management Impact: These activities satisfy Public Law 108-188 requiring DOE to manage the medical screening and environmental monitoring program at the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Michael A. Kilpatrick, (202) 586-4399

Russian Health Studies Program: Key U.S. scientists traveled to Ozersk, Russia, February 19-28 to work with Russian counterparts at the Mayak Production Association and the Southern Urals Biophysics Institute on epidemiological and historical dose reconstruction studies.

Management Impact: The studies are used by national and international standard-setting organizations for revising radiation protection standards.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Michael A. Kilpatrick, (202) 586-4399

Protective Services Working Group (PSWG) Activities: HSS is scheduled to chair the next quarterly PSWG meeting at DOE Headquarters, next week (March 2).

Approximately 50 protective service personnel will be in attendance.

Management Impact: The group is composed of protective details and liaison agents from most federal agencies to work on issues that affect protective details, to review new technologies and protective methods, and to exchange information and intelligence.

Results from these meetings are incorporated into DOE executive protection operations.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Michael A. Kilpatrick, (202) 586-4399

36th Annual Radiation Effects Research Foundation (RERF) Scientific Council

Meeting: HSS is scheduled to participate in the annual meeting to be held in Hiroshima, Japan, next week (March 2-4), to review current research activities and make recommendations concerning future activities.

Management Impact: RERF is co-funded by DOE and the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare to focus on the study of health effects of radiation in the survivors of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bombings.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Michael A. Kilpatrick, (202) 586-4399

Other Government Agencies (OGAs) Classification/Declassification Training:

1. HSS conducted a 4-day HRRDR course and a half-day refresher course for declassification reviewers from the Air Force Technical Application Center at Patrick Air Force Base, FL, this week (February 25-29).
2. Two half-day Restricted Data (RD)/Formerly Restricted Data (FRD) Recognition and Record Processing Seminars are scheduled to be presented to FBI declassification reviewers in Winchester, VA, on March 12. This briefing is part of DOE's continuing effort to assist other agencies to identify RD/FRD in their documents and prevent its inadvertent release.

Management Impact: These activities support DOE's responsibility to assist OGAs to identify RD and FRD and prevent the inadvertent release of sensitive nuclear technologies.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Michael A. Kilpatrick, (202) 586-4399

Annual Report to Congress on DOE Activities Relating to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB): HSS anticipates providing the Annual Report to the Secretary for review and signature by next week (March 6).

Management Impact: The report is being prepared per Section 316(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 requiring DOE to submit an annual written report to Congress addressing the Department's DNFSB-related activities.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Michael A. Kilpatrick, (202) 586-4399

11th Annual Chemical Management Workshop: HSS is scheduled to host the annual workshop at the DOE Headquarters Forrestal auditorium, March 10-12. This year's theme: "Chemical Safety and Lifecycle Management Workshop – Lean and Green" will focus on topics, including 10 C.F.R. 851, *Worker Safety and Health Program*; cost-effective chemical management; green chemistry; nanotechnology; global harmonization; and aging-related issues. Approximately 300 personnel are expected to attend in person and via videoconference.

Management Impact: The Chief Health, Safety and Security Officer will provide opening remarks on March 10.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Michael A. Kilpatrick, (202) 586-4399

Independent Oversight Activities:

1. Savannah River Site (SRS) Safeguards and Security Inspection: Onsite validation and close-out activities began this week (February 23) and will continue through March 5.
2. Sandia National Laboratories – New Mexico (SNL-NM) Emergency Management Inspection: Onsite validation and close-out activities were conducted this week (February 24–25).
3. Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) Environment, Safety and Health (ES&H) Inspection: Onsite validation and close-out activities were conducted this week (February 24–26).
4. Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) Nuclear Safety Follow-Up Inspection: Onsite validation and close-out activities were conducted this week (February 25–27).
5. National Training Center (NTC) Cyber Security Inspection: Onsite data collection activities are scheduled to be conducted March 9-12.
6. NNSA-SC Classified Cyber Security Inspection: Onsite data collection activities are scheduled to be conducted March 9-12.
7. Argonne National Laboratory (ANL) Emergency Management and Environment, Safety and Health Combined Inspection: Onsite scoping activities are scheduled to be conducted March 11-12.

Management Impact: These activities support the independent evaluation of the status of the Department's security, cyber security, emergency management, and environment, safety and health (ES&H) programs.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Michael A. Kilpatrick, (202) 586-4399

Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) Schedule:

- February 23-26: The Board traveled to Hanford for a site visit.
- March 2: The responsible manager will brief the Board on the status of the respective Implementation Plan (IP) activities for recommendations 2005-1, Nuclear Material Packaging, and 2008-1, Safety Classification of Fire protection Systems,
- March 4: The Los Alamos National Laboratory contractor management will provide a quarterly status update to the Board.
- March 4: NNSA will brief the Board on the status of Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Replacement (CMRR) project certification.
- March 5: Pantex Site Office management will brief the board on Pantex activities.
- March 6: NNSA HQ and Site Office personnel will brief the Board on the Chemistry and Metallurgy Research building exit strategy.
- March 10: One Board member will attend the DOE sponsored Chemical Safety Workshop in the Forrestal Building.
- March 11-13: The Board will travel to Y-12 for a site visit.

Management Impact: Information is provided to keep DOE Senior Management aware of DNFSB activities and interests.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Michael A. Kilpatrick, (202) 586-4399

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

VI. FOIA Requests

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 27, 2009

I. Schedule

Chief Information Officer Tom Pyke will be on travel Monday and Tuesday, March 2 – 3, 2009, participating in the Department of Energy’s Information Management Conference. Carl Staton, Deputy Chief Information Officer will be in the office and may be contacted at 202-586-0166.

II. Departmental News
Nothing to report

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)
Nothing to report

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables
Nothing to report

V. Press Inquiries

Chief Information Officer Tom Pyke participated in an hour-long CIO Talk Radio Internet broadcast on February 18, on the subject of management of IT professionals in a continually changing environment, promoting agile thinking and helping individuals to build on their strengths to achieve high performance.

Deputy Chief Information Officer Carl Staton participated by invitation as a panel member at TechAmerica’s IT conference on February 24. Mr. Staton had the opportunity to cite the DOE’s priorities of ensuring clean, secure energy for the nation, supporting the economy by creating green jobs and increasing competitiveness, and positioning the U.S. to lead on the fight against climate change. After the panel discussion Mr. Staton provided a short interview to Federal News Radio on the OCIO development and deployment of energy efficient, cost effective and secure ‘thin client’ desktop technologies. The other panelists were the CIOs from Health and Human Services and the Federal Aviation Administration.

VI. FOIA Requests
Nothing to report

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications
Nothing to report

**OFFICE OF LEGACY MANAGEMENT
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 27, 2009

I. Schedule

David Geiser, the Acting Director for Legacy Management is on leave from 2/27/09 to 3/3/09. Barbara McNeal will be the Acting Director.

II. Departmental News

Nothing to report

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

Nothing to report

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to report

V. Press Inquiries

Nothing to report

VI. FOIA Requests

The following FOIA Requests were not included in last week's report

Date of Request: 02/10/2009

Requester: Kimberly R. Hillman

Subject Matter: Copies of any and all files and records related to Sylvania Electric Products, Inc. and/or Sylvania-Corning Nuclear Corporation located in Bayside, New York.

Date of Request: 2/12/2009

Requester: Charles D. Saunders

Subject Matter: Copy of the Criticality Engineer's Log Book for the time period between January 1, 1984 and December 31, 1984 depicting jobs done on Plant Site of Building 886 at the former Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Plant.

Date of Request: 2/17/2009

Requester: Cathy Maurer

Subject Matter: Radiation exposure records for her father Arthur John Manush and any exposure incidents or accidents between May 21, 1951-March 26, 1982 at the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant (formerly Iowa Ordinance Plant) at Burlington, Iowa

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements and Publications

Nothing to report

**OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 27, 2009

I. Schedule

II. Departmental News

Selection for Technical and Engineering Consulting Services for Loan Guarantee

Program: On February 18, 2009, the Office of Procurement and Assistance Management selected Parsons Infrastructure & Technology Group Inc. (Parsons), to provide independent technical and engineering consulting services to DOE's Loan Guarantee Program Office, including expert, independent verification of the viability of the engineering, technical and construction aspects of the loan guarantee application submitted by Endicott Biofuels II, LLC. Parsons will also reports on Endicotts's progress in constructing and operating a manufacturing facility to produce up to 30 million gallons per year of fatty acid methyl esters for use in the production of biodiesel. A Matching Order was issued to Parsons for services through January 31, 2011. The cost of the services is estimated at \$585,222.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Richard Bonnell, (202) 287-1508 or Jackie Kniskern, (202) 287-1342

Selection for Technical and Engineering Consulting Services for Loan Guarantee

Program: On February 19, 2009, the Office of Procurement and Assistance Management selected R.W. Beck Inc., to provide independent technical and engineering consulting services to DOE's Loan Guarantee Program Office, including expert, independent verification of the viability of the engineering, technical and construction aspects of the loan guarantee application submitted by Sage Electrochromics Inc. R.W. Beck will also report on Sage's progress in constructing and operating a commercial-scale high volume manufacturing facility to produce SageGlass®, energy-saving electrochromic windows, for residential and commercial use. A Matching Order was issued to R.W. Beck for services through June 30, 2012. The cost of the services is estimated at \$629,345.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Richard Bonnell, (202) 287-1508 or Jackie Kniskern, (202) 287-1342

Selection for Legal Services for Loan Guarantee Program: On February 23, 2009, the Office of Procurement and Assistance Management selected Nixon Peabody LLP to provide specialized legal services to DOE's Office of General Counsel (OGC), during three broad phases that generally characterize the loan guarantee process for the loan guarantee application submitted by Beacon Power Corporation to the Loan Guarantee Program Office. Nixon Peabody will also provide DOE, under the direction and supervision of OGC, with oral and written analysis, advice and recommendations,

including briefs, memoranda and letters to support opinions on issues analyzed and evaluated in the Beacon Project. A Matching Order was issued to Nixon Peabody for services through August 31, 2009. The cost of the services is estimated at \$750,000.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Richard Bonnell, (202) 287-1508 or Jackie Kniskern, (202) 287-1342

Earned Value Management System (EVMS) Surveillance Review in Albuquerque, NM: During the week of February 23-27, 2009, the Office of Engineering and Construction Management (OECM) conducted an EVMS surveillance review of Sandia Corporation Lockheed Martin, LLC (SCLM). SCLM's EVMS was originally certified by OECM on September 10, 2004, as being compliant with ANSI/EIA-748.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Jim Fountain, (202) 586-4342

Facilities Information Management System (FIMS) Validation Training: The Office of Engineering and Construction Management conducted its second of two training sessions focused on validation of FIMS data. Although the training provided an overview of the statistical validation process, it also introduced the methods to be used to verify the accuracy of the Department's records for structures – i.e., non-building real property assets such as roads, utilities, sub-stations, etc. The training, held at the Las Vegas Site Office was attended by representatives from each of the real property owning programs. The FIMS data validation process has been identified as a Government-wide best practice in Real Property Management.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Peter O'Konski, (202) 586-4502

Minivan Replaced with Alternative Fueled Model: The Office of Administration replaced a GSA leased 2002 Ford Windstar Cargo gasoline fueled minivan with a GSA leased 2009 Dodge caravan cargo ethanol fueled minivan. Approximately seventy-five percent of the DOE Headquarters fleet is made up of alternative fueled vehicles.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Mary R. Anderson, MA-42, 202-586-437

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

VI. FOIA Requests

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

**OFFICE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 27, 2009

I. Schedule

Acting Assistant Secretary R. Shane Johnson will be traveling to San Diego, California, on March 3-5, 2009, to attend the Generation IV International Forum Policy Group Meeting.

II. Departmental News

Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Issues Design Certification Review Schedule for the General Electric Hitachi (GEH) Economic Simplified Boiling Water Reactor: On February 18, 2009, NRC issued the revised review schedule for Revision 5 of the Design Control Document submitted by GEH to the NRC on June 1, 2008. Revision 5 incorporated design changes and responses to NRC requests for additional information. The revised schedule calls for open items closure by July 2009, completion of the Safety Evaluation Report in December 2009, and final Safety Evaluation Report issuance in August 2010.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Dan Chalk, NE-31, 301-903-8323

Generation IV International Forum (GIF) Policy Group Meeting: The GIF Policy Group Meeting will be held in San Diego, California, on March 3-5, 2009. Discussions will include the latest international developments, the status of Framework Agreement ratification by new members, and updating of the Generation IV Roadmap Technology, which will focus on R&D activities for the next five years. The meeting includes various international participants as well as participants from the Department of Energy, the Argonne National Laboratory, and the Idaho National Laboratory.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Nicole Beall, NE-33, 301-903-3962

Draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Supplement and High-Level Cost Estimate: The Office of Radioisotope Power Systems (NE-34) is coordinating a supplement to the 1991 Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Energy and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) for the development of a Small Radioisotope Power System (SmRPS). Initial funding would be required in fiscal year 2009 to support a tentative launch date of March 2015 to power the first four nodes of the International Lunar Network. The SmRPS is envisioned to provide 60 watts of electricity from a single General Purpose Heat Source Module.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Dirk Cairns-Gallimore, NE-34, 301-903-3332

Idaho Operations Office (NE-ID) Initiates Probe into Recent GovTrip Security Incident: At the Department of Energy (DOE) Information Technology Council meeting on February 19, 2009, the Director, DOE Office of Cyber Security, Office of the Chief Information Officer, expressed his appreciation for the NE-ID Information Technology team's efforts in initially detecting and reporting the recent Northrop Grumman GovTrip security incident. On February 11, 2009, NE-ID noted that end users were experiencing unusual activity while attempting to log on to the GovTrip service and reported the incident to DOE-CIRC. DOE in turn reported the incident to US-CERT, and the Government initiated a significant and comprehensive forensic effort that identified the GovTrip Web server to be compromised. Northrop Grumman has built a new server that meets and exceeds acceptable Government security requirements. Service to GovTrip was restored on February 23, 2009.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Waheed Malik, NE-32, 903-6458

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest

IV. Progress on Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPACT) Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

VI. FOIA Requests

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements and Publications

No activities to report.

**NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 27, 2009

I. Schedule

II. Departmental News

Event: Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) Employee Selected as 2009 Fellow of the American Geophysical Union (AGU): LLNL scientist Rick Ryerson was recently selected to be an AGU Fellow. AGU is a worldwide scientific community that advances the understanding of earth and space for the benefit of humanity. Ryerson was cited for his contributions to understanding transport processes in minerals, magmas, and crustal rocks on every scale. Ryerson leads LLNL's Basic Energy Sciences - Geosciences program and is the Experimental and Applied Geophysics group leader in the Atmospheric, Earth, and Energy Division. His work focuses on geochemical applications of high spatial resolution secondary ion mass spectrometry; only two DOE national laboratory employees received this honor this year.

Media Interest: Local.

POC: Carol Morreira, LSO, 925-422-2265.

Event: Joint Actinide Shock Physics Experimental Research (JASPER): On February 18, Shot 85, a surrogate and first FY 2009 experiment using hydrogen gas, was successfully executed. A tentative shot schedule for the remainder of the Justification for Continued Operations (JCO) period is published. During the week of February 23, Shot 86, using special nuclear material, is tentatively planned for; on March 9, and March 16, respectively, with Shots 87 and 88 to follow. On April 20, the JCO for the JASPER facility will end. In April and May, the facility will implement all Documented Safety Analysis requirements. In April, the Contractor Management Self Assessment/Readiness Verification is scheduled for with the Contractor Operations Readiness Review to follow in June.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Charlotte Carter, NSO, 702-295-3128.

Event: Advanced Design and Production Technologies (ADAPT) and Plant Directed Research and Development (PDRD) Machining Research Receives International Publication: The International Academy for Production Engineering has accepted a paper titled, "Temperature Control and Machine Dynamics in Chip Breaking using Computer Numerical Controlled Toolpaths," co-authored by personnel from Y-12 and the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. The paper is slated for publication in their Annals - Vol.58/1 and for presentation at the 2009 General Assembly in Boston. The paper discusses a collaborative research project (funded at Y-12 by ADAPT and PDRD) that is developing a unique manufacturing technique for controlling the length of

chips produced in turning operations, as well as reducing the temperature of the cutting tool. This technology is directly applicable to both government and private sector machining applications involving hazards due to stringy chips or process quality issues associated with excessive tool wear.

Media Interest: None.

POC: James Hinderer, Y12-30, 865-576-5661.

Event: Solid Phase Micro-Extraction (SPME) Receives U.S. Patent: The SPME capability, funded through the Enhanced Surveillance Subactivity of the Engineering Campaign and deployed at the Pantex Plant, received U.S. Patent Number US 7,464,614 B2. Its main application is analysis of weapon headspace atmospheres over a longer period of time, not possible with “traditional” SPME. Offline SPME allows for analysis of the headspace of interest multiple times, and with different fibers, to fully characterize the volatiles of interest over a time period ranging to months. In July 2008, Pantex completed the off-line SPME sampling on the W87, demonstrating this new diagnostic tool to Technology Readiness Level 6. This important diagnostic is a better fit to the new, more efficiency-oriented Pantex operation and will provide consistent and more frequent sampling in the future.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Victoria Pratt, NA-121.3, 202-586-7358.

Event: House Appropriations Committee Visit: During the week of February 23, staff from the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development performed a review of safeguards and security at the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) as part of their ongoing review of physical security at Category I facilities. The staff members met with safeguards and security officials and received briefings on the various aspects of the security of the site.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Doug Fremont, NA-70, 202-586-9338.

Event: Defense Nuclear Security (DNS) Congressional Briefing: On February 25, the Office of DNS briefed Congressman Rob Andrews (D-NJ). The briefing was in response to the Congressman’s request and provided an overview of the NNSA nuclear security enterprise, the NNSA security approach and the NNSA security improvement roadmap.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Kevin Leifheit, NA-72, 202-586-1478.

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

Event: Status Update on JASON Life Extension Program (LEP) Study: NNSA’s Congressional, Intergovernmental and Public Affairs Office is arranging a meeting with Congressional staff to plan a path forward after delivery of the JASON LEP Winter Study

Report and JASON study leads. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the Winter Study and plans for addressing the JASON findings. In early March, deliberations with laboratory staff are planned in preparation for the NNSA/JASONS meeting with Congressional staffers.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Maurice W. Pitt, NA-121.3, 202-586-9369.

Event: Report to the President on the Annual Assessment of the Stockpile: No later than March 1, of each year, Section 3141, Bob Stump National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2003, requires the Secretaries of Energy and Defense to submit the Annual Assessment Report to the President. The FY 2008 report is in final coordination for Nuclear Weapons Council (NWC) vote by the NNSA Administrator. NNSA was granted an extension by the Office of the Secretary of Defense for Nuclear Matters for the Administrator's vote until after this week's (February 26) Annual Assessment brief to Secretary Chu. The new suspense date (March 5) exceeds the original suspense to the President – this report will be late.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Tim Gipe, NA-12, 202-586-7278.

Event: Deputy Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Nuclear Matters (DATSD/NM) to Visit Sandia National Laboratories (SNL): On March 2, Steve Henry, DATSD/NM, for the Office of the Secretary of Defense, is scheduled to visit SNL for briefings and tours.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Tami Moore, SSO, 505-845-5264.

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

On February 19, Todd Jacobsen, *Nuclear Weapons Complex Monitor*, called regarding the internal audit the Nevada Site Office (NSO) conducted on the Wackenhut Services, Inc., security programs. He also inquired about the status of the National Security Technologies, LLC, Voluntary Protection Program.

POC: Darwin Morgan, NSO, 702-295-3521.

VI. FOIA Requests

Requester: Ann Putney, Santa Monica, CA, History Channel.

Date of Request: On February 18, received at NNSA Service Center.

Subject: 1989 report on offsite monitoring project for detection of radioactive contamination for nuclear testing at the Nevada Test Site (NTS).

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

Event: UltraCell Awarded DOE Federal Grant: DOE awarded UltraCell Corp. a grant to develop a system that checks for gas leaks. The grant provides for \$2.4 million in government spending and \$2.3 million from UltraCell and its partners. Once development and testing of the system is complete, its technology will be implemented in UltraCell's Old Springfield Road manufacturing site near the Dayton International Airport, Dayton, OH. Livermore, CA-based UltraCell will begin building entire fuel cells, rather than just fuel cell sub-assemblies, in Dayton this year.

Media Interest: Possible, local.

POC: Carol Morreira, LSO, 925-422-2265.

**OFFICE OF ELECTRICITY DELIVERY AND ENERGY RELIABILITY
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 27, 2009

I. Schedule

Patricia A. Hoffman, Acting Assistant Secretary, does not have any travel or leave plans for the week beginning February 23, 2009.

II. Key Departmental News

Frequency Regulation Facility Contract Signed. On February 23, in Tyngsboro, MA, Beacon Power and American Electric Power (AEP) signed an agreement to build the first energy storage facility to provide frequency regulation services on a commercial basis. AEP will contribute the site and certain integration services while Beacon will construct the facility. When the 1-megawatt flywheel system is installed and connected, Beacon will begin providing regulation services directly to the mid-Atlantic region system operator and earning commercial revenue from such services. The system is based on the success of two 100kW pioneering units supported jointly by DOE, the California Energy Commission and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority as well as the design of a 20MW facility funded by DOE. Regulation by fast storage is at least twice as energy efficient as using fossil fuel generation for this purpose. It also cuts the carbon footprint by some 70%. Widespread adoption of flywheel and battery technology for this application can be expected in the near future.

Media Interest: Press releases issued

Program Contact: Imre Gyuk, 586-1482

OE Prepares for 2009 Emergency Response Function #12 (ESF #12) Training Classes. In advance of the 2009 hurricane season, which begins on June 1, OE is finalizing preparations for three Emergency Support Function 12 (ESF #12) training classes that will be held in March and April. The classes will be conducted in FEMA Regional Response Coordination Centers in FEMA Region III in Philadelphia, Region V in Chicago, and Region VIII in Denver. Returning ESF #12 responders from throughout DOE will participate in a two-day training course which will include a review of last year's energy emergency responder training and will also incorporate valuable lessons learned from DOE's response to the 2008 hurricane season. New responders from all across the DOE community, the Power Marketing Administrations, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will participate in a three-day initial training class. To provide participants with a more realistic training experience, all trainees will participate in a simulated response exercise based upon 2008's hurricanes Gustav and Ike. Since U.S. researchers are predicting 14 tropical storms in the 2009 Atlantic hurricane season with seven of them developing into hurricanes, it is more important than ever for OE to supplement its cadre of trained volunteers. In addition, it is predicted that three of this year's hurricanes will evolve into dangerous storms with a rank of Category 3 or above on the five-step Saffir-Simpson scale of hurricane intensity. This means they will

become major storms with sustained winds of at least 111 miles per hour, capable of inflicting significant damage to the nation's energy infrastructure.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Matt Rosenbaum, 586-1060 or John McIlvain, 586-9267

National Infrastructure Protection Plan, Joint Oil and Natural Gas Working Group Meeting. On February 24, William Bryan, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration and Ronald Jorgensen from Questar Gas Inc. co-chaired the first meeting of 2009 with representatives of government agencies under the Department of Homeland Security's Critical Infrastructure Advisory Council (CIPAC). The agenda included discussion of the status of various DHS programs and discussion of plans to produce the 2009 Energy Critical Infrastructure Protection Annual Report and the 2010 revision to the Energy Sector Specific Plan. In addition, reports were received from a number of working groups addressing R&D, Metrics, Information Sharing and Cyber. Representatives from DHS briefed attendees on the status of the implementation of chemicals regulations. DOE provided an update on the RSR Project (Reliability/Survivability/Survivability). These meetings provide an opportunity for open discussion on security issues between sector representatives and government officials. On February 25, 2009 the ONG Joint Working Group had a 3 ½ hour classified briefing from officials from the Department of Homeland Security, the Transportation Security Administration and DOE Intel related to this sector.

Media Interest: None

Program Contacts: William Bryan, 586-7517 and Kenneth Friedman, 586-0379

Meeting of Western utility and state officials on moving renewable transmission lines forward. On Feb 24-25, electric utility's needing to purchase electricity supply and state and provincial utility commissions and Governors' offices met in a San Diego meeting sponsored by the Western Governors' Association (WGA) and the Western Electricity Coordinating Council. The meeting is part of a new systematic effort in the Western Interconnection to better link utility generation resource planning and transmission expansion, spurred by the DOE-funded Western Renewable Energy Zones project of the Western Governors Association. Key issues discussed were: how to plan for carbon regulation; integration of large amounts of renewable generation, and most importantly securing commitments of utilities to identify preferred renewable energy zones for possible electricity purchases as part of the WGA Western Renewable Energy Zone project. Specific follow-up actions were identified. The CEO of Public Service Company of New Mexico said that she would raise the meeting follow-up actions at next week's meeting of the Western Electricity Industry Leaders group (CEOs of 15 of the largest utilities in the West) who are pushing for new transmission for renewables, among other things. Further WGA-facilitated discussions are to follow this year between the West's utilities and renewable developers with the aim of resulting renewable electricity purchase agreements with corresponding transmission projects, all part of a "coordinated procurement phase" of the DOE-funded WGA Western Renewable Energy Zone project.

Media Interest: Trade press present

Program Contact: Larry Mansueti, 586-2588

A Notice of Intent (NOI) to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was published in the *Federal register* on February 25, 2009. OE is taking this action to address the environmental impacts of granting a Presidential permit to Energia Sierra Juarez U.S. Transmission, LLC (ESJ; formerly Baja Wind U.S. Transmission, LLC) to construct an electric transmission line across the U.S.-Mexico border. The proposed transmission line would connect up to 1200 MW of wind turbines (the La Rumorosa Project) to be located in the vicinity of La Rumorosa, Baja California, Mexico, onto the southern California electrical grid. DOE originally considered an environmental assessment (EA) to be the appropriate level of review under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). OE published a Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment and conducted public scoping meetings in the vicinity of the project in August 2008. Based in large part on comments received during the scoping period, OE has now determined that an EIS is the appropriate level of NEPA review.

Media Interest: Of interest in the local area south of San Diego.

Program Contact: Jerry Pell, 586-3362

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (14-day advance)

OE Sponsors Technical Conference on Future Grid Design. On March 4, leading energy industry and electric transmission experts will discuss the fundamental issues to be considered in designing future electric transmission and the pros and cons of building an EHV overlay network, in terms of energy, economic efficiency, reliability, access to renewable generation, and reduction of carbon emissions. The design criteria behind several conceptual EHV overlay designs will also be discussed. These issues will be explored during three panel discussion sessions. To maximize State participation this technical conference is being webcast. The conference will be held at the JW Marriott in Washington, DC. The results of this conference will be used to guide OE's regional transmission planning under ARRA.

Media Interest: Moderate

Program Contact: John Schnagl, 586-1056

NPRA Security Conference. On March 10th, DAS William Bryan will be giving a keynote address at the National Petroleum Refiners Association Security Conference in Houston, TX, on the importance of reliability and resiliency in the energy sector.

Media Interest: Moderate

Program Contact: Suzanne Lemieux, 586-5082

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to Report

V. Press Inquiries

Nothing to Report

VI. FOIA Requests

Nothing to Report

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements and Publications
Nothing to Report

**OFFICE OF POLICY AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 27, 2009

I. Schedule

Nothing to Report.

II. Department News

Global Agriculture and Rural America in Transition Conference: Deputy Assistant Secretary Carmen Difiglio presented “Impact of U.S. Legislation on Global Biofuel Markets” at the Global Agriculture and Rural America in Transition Conference sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, February 26-27, in Arlington, VA.

Contact: Carmen Difiglio, 6-8436

Media Interest: Low

III. Upcoming Events of Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

No noteworthy upcoming events.

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to Report.

V. Press Inquiries

Nothing to Report.

VI. FOIA Requests

Nothing to Report.

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

Nothing to Report.

**OFFICE OF CIVILIAN RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 27, 2009

I. Schedule

The Acting Director of the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, Christopher Kouts has no travel or leave planned the week of March 2, 2009.

II. Key Departmental News

On February 25, 2009, in a public meeting, Program staff briefed Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff on recent changes made to the License Application (LA). An updated LA was submitted to NRC on February 20, 2009, as required by NRC regulations, in response to establishment of the Atomic Safety and Licensing Boards for the licensing process. Changes made to the LA were not significant and did not impact conclusions.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Christopher Kouts, 202-586-6850

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

Nothing to report

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to report

V. Press Inquiries

Elaine Hiruo and Dipka Bhambhani, *Platts*, both asked how the final funding for FY '2009 will affect the Program. An OCRWM representative commented that the Program mission is to support the licensing process with the resources provided.

Media Interest: Yes

Program Contact: Allen Benson, 702-794-1322

VI. FOIA Requests

Nothing to report

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

Nothing to report

**OFFICE OF SCIENCE
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 27, 2009

I. Schedule

Dr. Patricia M. Dehmer, Acting Director, Office Science, has no travel or leave plans for the upcoming week.

II. Departmental News

Office of Science Acting Director Dehmer Briefs Advisory Committees: Acting Director of the Office of Science Dr. Patricia M. Dehmer briefed the February 24 meeting of the High Energy Physics Advisory Panel and the February 26 meeting of the Basic Energy Sciences Committee. In her remarks, Dr. Dehmer discussed President Obama's plans for science, energy and the environment and Secretary of Energy Chu's plans for the Department of Energy. She also provided updates on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the 2009 fiscal year omnibus funding bill and the FY 2010 Congressional budget request and out-year estimates for the Office of Science.

Media Interest: Yes.

Program Contacts: Dr. Dennis Kovar, SC-25, 301-903-4597; Dr. Harriet Kung, SC-22, 301-903-0497

Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works (EPW) Investigator Visits Oak Ridge Office (ORO) about the TVA Coal Ash Spill: On February 20, 2009, Majority Senior Investigator Robert Tanner of the Senate EPW visited the ORO and received a briefing on U.S. Department of Energy activities related to the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) coal ash spill of December 21, 2008. The ORO Assistant Manager for Environmental Management (EM), Steve McCracken, Jason Darby of EM, and John Shewairy of ORO Office of Public Affairs(PAO)/Administration provided the briefing and answered questions regarding DOE legacy contamination in the Clinch and Emory Rivers sampling data that the Watts Bar Interagency Working Group has reviewed for both Rivers as it relates to any dredging that TVA may conduct. Tanner requested a copy of a map of the waterways that showed sampling locations, and he was provided (via e-mail) the sampling data recently validated for the Clinch River.

Media Interest: No.

Program Contact: John C. Shewairy, M-4, (865) 576-0888

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

In response to a query, the Office of Science provided a New York Times reporter with a written statement, cleared by the Office of Public Affairs, about the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's provisions for the Office of Science.

As requested, the Office of Science sent a Nature reporter a list of Office of Science active construction projects that have cleared the shovel-ready CD-3 milestone.

Physics Today interviewed Dr. Stephen A. Eckstrand, Acting Associate Director of Science for Fusion Energy Sciences (FES), regarding FES's Research Needs Workshop planned for June 8-12, 2009, which will afford the fusion community an opportunity to provide input into a new FES strategic plan.

VI. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

**SOUTHEASTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 27, 2009

I. Schedule

Kenneth E. Legg, Administrator –

The Administrator has no leave planned for the weeks of March 1 and March 8.

Acting Administrator (Jan. – March): Leon Jourolmon, 706-213-3835

II. Departmental News

2009 Information Management Conference: The Assistant Administrator for Human Resources and Administration and other Southeastern staff will attend the 2009 Information Management Conference March 2-5, in New Orleans, LA. The conference will address management, acquisition, implementation, operation, and maintenance of information technology (IT) in support of the mission, goals, and objectives of DOE and its programmatic offices. The focus is on providing meaningful information and interaction to improve management and maximize value of IT for the agency.

Media Interest: No

Program Contact: Dale Jett, 706-213-3830

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

VI. FOIA Requests

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

**SOUTHWESTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 26, 2009

I. Schedule

Jon Worthington, Administrator

February 23-28- Washington, DC; March 2-Annual Leave

Acting: March 2- Jim McDonald, 918-595-6690

II. Key Departmental News

Southwestern will attend a meeting with legal, commercial, and operational staff of Southwest Power Pool, Inc. (SPP) at SPP's headquarters in Little Rock, Arkansas, on February 26, 2009, to discuss provisions of the SPP/Southwestern agreement and administration of Southwestern's tariff.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Jim McDonald, 918-595-6646

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

VI. FOIA Requests

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

**WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION
WEEKLY REPORT**

February 27, 2009

I. Schedule

Schedule for Administrator

Timothy J. Meeks

March 2-3 Bonneville Power Administration Meeting, Portland, OR

March 9-11 Mid-West Board Meeting, Arlington, VA

March 17-18 Operations & Maintenance Meeting, Montrose, CO

(Acting: Tony Montoya; acting March 2-3, Theresa Williams)

II. Departmental News

Water Quality Test Expected to Reduce Colorado-Big Thompson Generation.

Western staff will meet with representatives of the Bureau of Reclamation on March 6, to discuss proposed Colorado-Big Thompson Project operational changes this summer as an ongoing test to improve the water quality in Grand Lake. Grand Lake is the largest natural lake in Colorado and was integrated into the Colorado-Big Thompson Project.

All water pumped from Lake Granby into Shadow Mountain Reservoir must pass through Grand Lake before entering the Adams Tunnel. Grand County feels that high nutrient loads entering Grand Lake in the hottest summer months cause algae blooms and associated water quality problems in Grand Lake. As was done last year, Reclamation plans to curtail all pumping from Lake Granby and most Adams Tunnel diversions for two weeks this July or August. Water samples taken before, during and after the curtailment will be used to evaluate the effect of the curtailment. The curtailment will make most Colorado-Big Thompson Project generation unavailable during a time of historically high seasonal energy prices and electric loads. Western purchase power costs will likely increase as a result of this test.

Media Interest: Local media

Program Contact: Jack Dodd, 202-586-5581

Reclamation Releases Gloomy Preliminary Water Supply Allocation. On February 20, Reclamation released its preliminary water supply allocation from the Central Valley Project. The news was sobering as two water allocation alternatives were released based on two below normal water precipitation forecasts. Under the worst case scenario, Reclamation anticipated making no deliveries to irrigation customers and delivering only 50 percent of normal water supplies to municipal and industrial (M&I) customers. Under the first scenario, water deliveries to wildlife refuges and water rights holders were targeted at 75 percent of normal. Under the second water precipitation forecast, water deliveries to agriculture could be as high as 10 percent of normal, while deliveries to M&I customers, wildlife refuges, and water rights holders were set at 60 percent, 100 percent, and 100 percent respectively. These forecasts were based on data which did not include the recent rainfall received by. Accordingly, it may be possible that, based on

updated water precipitation/runoff data, some adjustments to the projected water delivery targets could be made. As a result of these projections, hydropower generation accomplishments from the Central Valley Project for the upcoming spring, summer and fall seasons are expected to be significantly lower than normal.

Media Interest: Trade and local media

Program Contact: Jack Dodd, 202-586-5581

Western Prepares to Bill Customers Under New California Market Paradigm. In

FERC Docket ER06-615 and ER08-1113, *California Independent System Operator Corp.*, Western is analyzing the latest data associated with the CAISO's Market Redesign and Technology Upgrade market changes. Unless ordered by FERC, the CAISO's MRTU proposal will go into effect on April 1, 2009, and it may lead to substantial rate increases for Western's customers. Based on Western's contracts with its customers, Western will begin sending out invoices for collections under MRTU in March 2009. Western is continuing to pursue legal remedies associated with both the substantive and rate impacts associated with MRTU.

Media Interest: Trade media

Program Contact: Jack Dodd, 202-586-5581

Resolution to MISO Seams Issue Sought. Western filed an intervention and limited protest in Midwest Independent Transmission System Operator, Inc., Docket No. ER09-592. With FERC's recent rejection of the amendments to MISO's Part III of Module F to MISO's Tariff, Western must now enter into an agreement under Part II of Module F of MISO's Tariff. This docket has requested the termination of the existing seams agreement between MISO and MAPP, and a new agreement under Part II of Module F will now need to define how the seam will function between Western and MISO. Western had concerns with MISO's initial response to a proposed service agreement under Part II of Module F and filed the limited protest to contest the existing seams agreement termination pending final resolution of issues related to new service under Part II of Module F.

Media Interest: Trade media

Program Contact: Jack Dodd, 202-586-5581

WestConnect Regional Transmission Pricing Experiment Moves Forward. On February 25, WestConnect filed its Compliance Filing in response to FERC's Order on the WestConnect Regional Transmission Service Experiment issued on February 10, 2009. FERC's Order accepted the Participation Agreement the participants in the Experiment will operate under, and conditionally accepted the Regional Tariffs to be used in the experiment subject to modification and the submission of additional information. In the filing, the WestConnect Experiment participants made the required modifications and submitted the additional information. Western will be a participant in the Experiment.

Media Interest: Trade media

Program Contact: Jack Dodd, 202-586-5581

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

This week, Western staff continued to respond to trade and national media inquiries about the impact of the economic stimulus package on Western.

VI. FOIA Requests

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

DOE WEEKLY REPORT TO THE SECRETARY

March 6, 2009

The following program offices did not submit a Weekly Report for this time period:

All Program Offices Reported

BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION WEEKLY REPORT

March 6, 2009

I. Schedule

March 10: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) Administrator Steve Wright will be in Washington, D.C., to deliver testimony about BPA's Treasury borrowing authority at a hearing of the House Resources Committee Subcommittee on Water and Power Deputy Administrator Steve Hickok will be acting.

II. Departmental News

Public Workshops on BPA's Energy Conservation Role: BPA has scheduled three public meetings on March 9, 10 and 16 for collaborative development of proposals for its role in energy efficiency after 2011. BPA completed a series of regional meetings in February to hear the views of customers and other interested participants on how BPA should implement its obligations for energy efficiency after its current power sales contracts expire. The three meetings in March are intended to produce one or more straw proposals for additional regional discussion.

Media Interest: Low

Contact: Sonya Baskerville 202-586-5640

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

Nothing to report.

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to report.

V. Press Inquiries

Sea Lion Removal: Pacific Northwest media are covering the initiation of efforts to deter sea lions from preying on salmon below Bonneville Dam.

VI. FOIA Requests

Equipment Supply Bid Information: On February 25, Scott C. Johnson, of ABB, Inc. in Lake Oswego, Oregon, requested information related to a contract award for transmission service equipment.

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

Nothing to report.

**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
WEEKLY REPORT**

March 6, 2009

I. Schedule

Steve Isakowitz has no leave or travel planned for the week of March 9, 2009.

II. Departmental News

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

VI. FOIA Request

VII. Grants, Economic Announcement, and Publications

**OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
WEEKLY REPORT**

March 6, 2009

I. Schedule

Nothing to report.

II. Departmental News

Congressional Hearings:

On March 10, Carl Bauer, director, National Energy Technology Laboratory, will testify before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee regarding energy development and water resources production.

Media Interest: Yes

Program Contact: Robert Tuttle, 202-586-4298

On March 10, Tom D'Agostino, NNSA Administrator, NA-1 will testify before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies regarding Complex Transformation.

Media Interest: Yes

Program Contact: Jim Lambert, 202-586-8343; Betty Nolan, 202-586-7328

On March 10, Timothy Meeks, WAPA and Steve Wright, BPA will testify before the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power at a hearing entitled "Federal Power Marketing Administration Borrowing Authority: Defining Success."

Media Interest: Yes

Program Contact: Robert Tuttle, 202-586-4298

On March 11, Secretary Steven Chu will testify before the Senate Budget Committee at a hearing entitled, "The President's FY 2010 Budget for the Department of Energy." The focus will be on policy direction, as outlined in the President's Budget Overview submitted last month; no specific budget numbers will be discussed.

Media Interest: Yes

Program Contact: Betty Nolan, 202-586-7328; James Windle, 202-586-1983

On March 11, Victor Der, Acting Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy, FE will testify before the House Science and Technology Subcommittee on Energy and Environment at a hearing entitled, "FutureGen and the Department of Energy's Advanced Coal Programs."

Media Interest: Yes

Program Contact: Robert Tuttle, 202-586-4298

Congressional Meetings and Briefings:

On March 9, Valri Lightner and Valerie Sarisky-Reed, EE and CI staff will meet with Senator Bill Nelson's (D-FL) staff, Susie Perez-Quinn regarding cellulosic biofuels and biomass.

Media Interest: No

Program Contact: Martha Oliver, 202-586-2229

On March 9, Douglas Kaempf, EE and CI staff will meet with Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) staff, Trent Boserman to discuss combined heat and power systems.

Media Interest: No

Program Contact: Robert Tuttle, 202-586-4298

On March 9, Matt Rogers, Senior Advisor to the Secretary for ARRA and CI staff will meet with Senator Byron Dorgan (D-ND) to discuss implementation of the Recovery Act provisions and funding.

Media Interest: No

Program Contact: Betty Nolan, 202-586-7328

On March 10, Bob Schnapp, Alan Beamon, and Erik Rasmussen, EIA and CI staff will meet with Representative Bill Foster (D-IL) to discuss EIA's electricity generation data collection.

Media Interest: No

Program Contact: Kathy Peery, 202-586-2794

On March 13, EE and CI staff will meet with Representative Marcy Kaptur's (D-OH) staff, Matt Kaplan to discuss solar energy.

Media Interest: No

Program Contact: Martha Oliver, 202-586-2229

Congressional Site Visits and Events:

On March 13-14, Representative Michael Simpson (R-ID), member of the House Appropriations Committee, plans to visit the Savannah River Site for tours and briefings.

Media Interest: No

Program Contact: Steve Lerner, 202-586-5470

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

Nothing to report.

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to report.

V. Press Inquiries

Nothing to report.

VI. FOIA Requests

Nothing to report.

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements and Publications
Nothing to report.

**OFFICE OF ECONOMIC IMPACT AND DIVERSITY
WEEKLY REPORT**

March 6, 2009

I. Schedule

The Acting Director of the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity, Annie Whatley will be in the office the week of March 9, 2009.

II. Key Departmental News

Congressional Hearing before the House Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Contracting and Technology, entitled "Ensuring Stimulus Contracts for Small and Veteran-Owned Businesses." The hearing will take place Thursday, March 12, 2009 at 10:00 am in room 2360 of the Rayburn House Office Building. The Subcommittee would like the Department to discuss the plans and strategies that the agency is putting in place to ensure that small businesses, including veteran-owned and service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses, can participate in government contracting opportunities to the maximum extent. Brenda DeGraffenreid, Acting Associate Director for the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, will be the witness for the Department.

Media Interest: None

Point of Contact: Brenda DeGraffenreid, 586-4620

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

23rd Annual Reservation Economic Summit (RES) 2009 and American Indian Business Trade Fair - The OSDBU will participate in "RES 2009," the largest Native-American-Owned Business Conference held in the United States. The conference is hosted by various tribally-owned governments and Native American corporations. The conference will be held March 9-12, 2009, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Media Interest: None

Point of Contact: Brenda Degraffenreid, 586-4620

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to report

V. Press Inquiries

Nothing to report

VI. FOIA Requests

Nothing to report

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements and Publications

Nothing to report

**OFFICE OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE ENERGY
WEEKLY REPORT**

March 6, 2009

I. Schedule for Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Steve Chalk

Steve Chalk has no travel scheduled during this reporting period.

II. Departmental News

DOE Issues Geothermal Technologies Funding Opportunity Announcement for up to \$84 million, March 4, 2009. DOE's Geothermal Energy Program released two Funding Opportunity Announcements for up to \$84 million total on March 4, 2009. The first Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) will focus on Enhanced Geothermal Systems (EGS) Component Research and Development/Analysis. Projects are sought to develop innovative technology for cost-effective creation, management, and utilization of EGS in reservoir environments. The second FOA will focus on EGS Demonstration Projects. The program seeks projects in a variety of geologic formations that will quantitatively demonstrate and validate stimulation techniques that successfully sustain sufficient fluid flow and heat extraction rates for 5-7 years that produce at least 5 MWe per year per project.

Media Interest: Trade press

Program Contact: Ed Wall, 202-586-0410

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

Nothing to report that rises to Secretarial attention.

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to report that rises to Secretarial attention.

V. Press Inquiries

Nothing to report that rises to Secretarial attention.

VI. FOIA Requests

Nothing to report during this reporting period.

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements and Publications

Nothing to report during this reporting period.

**ENERGY INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION
WEEKLY REPORT**

March 6, 2009

I. Schedule
Nothing to report

II. Departmental News

Workshop on the Relationship Between Financial and Physical Energy Markets:

The March 3, workshop panel included academics, representatives from the Federal Reserve, the Government Accountability Office, the Commodities Futures Trading Commission (CFTC), and several DOE offices. EIA staff presented recent research into the use of implied volatilities from the NYMEX options markets as a measure of uncertainty in short-term price forecasts. Dr. Robert Weiner of George Washington University presented research on the connection between speculation and oil price volatility, while Jeff Harris of CFTC provided an overview of their data and recent staff research.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Tyler Hodge, EI-62, 586-0442

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)
Nothing to report

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables
Nothing to report

V. Press Inquiries
Nothing to report

VI. FOIA Requests
Nothing to report

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

EIA Scheduled to Release March 2009 Short-Term Energy Outlook (STEO): On March 10, 2009, EIA staff will release the Short-Term Energy Outlook. The STEO summarizes the outlook for demand, supply and prices for petroleum, natural gas, electricity and coal.

Media Interest: Some

Program Contact: Khadija El-Amin, EI-62, 586-8760

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT WEEKLY REPORT

March 6, 2009

I. Schedule

Acting Assistant Secretary, Inés Triay will be in the office March 9-13, 2009.

II. Key Departmental News

Six Savannah River Site (SRS) Organizations Hit New Heights of Safety: On February 26, 2009, SRS workers were commended for working five million hours without incurring an illness or injury serious enough to result in time away from work. "It's phenomenal," says Chuck Munns, President and Chief Executive Officer of Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC (SRNS), which holds the M&O contract for the Department of Energy. "SRS has always had a tremendous safety culture, which is important because everyone is entitled to a safe workplace. The bottom line of the documented safety performance here simply means that important work is getting done safely and people are going home to their families the same way they came to work – and that's what it's all about. This is real tribute to each and every employee, to the Department of Energy and to the various managing companies that have been in place over the years."

Media Interest: Regional. Local. National

Program Contact: Carl Everatt, (803) 952-8379

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest

Representative Paul Broun, (R-GA-12 District), to Visit the Savannah River Site (SRS): Representative Broun will visit SRS on April 14, 2009, for an aerial tour of SRS and a visit to the Savannah River National Laboratory.

Media Interest: None Anticipated

Program Contact: Jim Giusti, (803) 952-7684

WIPP's Ten-year Anniversary of First Waste Receipt: March 26, 2009, will mark the 10-year anniversary of the first waste receipt and disposal at the WIPP site. Multiple local events marking the milestone are being planned.

Media Interest: High

Contact: Roger Nelson, 575-234-7213

IV. Progress On EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to report.

V. Press Inquiries

Nothing to report.

VI. FOIA Requests
Nothing to report.

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements and Publications
Nothing to report.

**OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY
WEEKLY REPORT**

March 6, 2009

I. Schedule

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Der

March 11 Washington, DC testifying before the House Science and Technology Subcommittee on Energy and the Environment regarding Fossil Energy R&D.

March 16-18 Queenstown, MD speaking at the Wye Workshop on Strategic Initiatives for Coal and Power.

II. Key Departmental News

Industry Team Completes Scaled Fuel Cell Stack Tests under FE's Solid State Energy Conversion Alliance (SECA) Program. The SECA Industry Team led by FuelCell Energy, Inc., has exceeded an operational milestone in the long-term testing of two 11.0 kWe solid oxide fuel cell (SOFC) stacks provided by VersaPower Systems, Inc., a first-tier subcontractor. After 5,000 hours of operation (including transients) at an average temperature of 705°C and a fuel utilization of 61.5 percent with simulated coal syngas, the stacks had exhibited overall degradation rates of only 1.7 and 2.6 percent per thousand hours—less than the SECA 2008 degradation target (4 percent per thousand hours) for steady state operation alone. Each stack incorporates 64 anode-supported planar cells with active area of 550 cm²—more than quadruple the baseline design area. Fuel cell area scale-up is part of the SECA manufacturing strategy for achieving the lowest possible SOFC system cost. Co-managed at NETL and the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, SECA aims to develop large (> 100 MW) fuel cell power systems that will produce affordable, efficient and environmentally-friendly electrical power from coal with greater than 50 percent overall efficiency (HHV to AC power, including integrated coal gasification and CO₂ separation processes) for \$700/kWe or less by 2010. **Program Contacts:** Travis Shultz, 304/285-1370; Wayne Surdoval, 412/386-6002

Scientists Report Unique Reaction in Molecular Chains Self-Assembled on a Metallic Surface. Scientists at NETL and the University of Pittsburgh demonstrated the possibility of inducing a self-perpetuating chain reaction on a metal surface with low-energy electrons injected from the tip of a scanning tunneling microscope. The researchers demonstrated that a single electron caused a self-perpetuating chain reaction that rearranged the bonds in 10 consecutive dimethyldisulfide (CH₃SSCH₃) molecules self-assembled on a gold surface. As the original bond of each molecule was broken by the reaction, the molecule rearranged itself to form a new molecule. Reporting their finding in *Science* (Vol. 322, No. 5908, pg. 1664ff.)—the prestigious magazine of the American Association for the Advancement of Science—the scientists provide theoretical and experimental evidence supporting a mechanism involving electron attachment

followed by dissociation of a CH_3SSCH_3 molecule and initiation of a chain reaction by one or both of the resulting CH_3S intermediates. The ability to sustain chain reactions on metal surfaces has clear implications in areas such as nanotechnology, photo-catalysis, and data storage.

Program Contact: Dan Sorescu, 412/386-4827

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (14-day advance)

None

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

None

V. Press Inquiries

None

VI. FOIA Requests

None

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements and Publications

None

**OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL
WEEKLY REPORT**

March 6, 2009

- I. Schedule**
No leave or travel plans.

- II. Departmental News**
Nothing to Report.
- III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)**
- IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables**
- V. Press Inquiries**
- VI. FOIA Requests**
- VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications**

**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF HUMAN CAPITAL OFFICER
WEEKLY REPORT**

March 6, 2009

I. Schedule

II. Key Departmental News

Nothing to report in this area.

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

Nothing to report in this area.

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to report in this area.

V. Press Inquiries

Nothing to report in this area.

VI. FOIA Requests

Nothing to report in this area.

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements and Publications

Nothing to report in this area

**OFFICE OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS
WEEKLY REPORT**

March 6, 2009

I. Schedule

II. Departmental News

Whistleblower Q&As:

The Office of Hearings and Appeals (OHA) has posted on its web site its newly-developed Questions and Answers (Q&As) relating to hearings conducted under the DOE's Contractor Employee Protection Program, 10 CFR Part 708.

Media Interest: No

DOE Contact: Virginia Lipton, virginia.lipton@hq.doe.gov, 287-1436

Cases Received:

OHA received an appeal of an Initial Agency Decision issued by an OHA Hearing Officer, relating to a complaint filed under the DOE Contractor Employee Protection Program (10 C.F.R. Part 708).

Hearings Conducted:

An OHA Hearing Officer conducted a personnel security hearing (10 CFR Part 710) in Idaho Falls, ID.

On March 5, 2009, the Director of the Office of Hearings and Appeals (OHA) presided over an oral argument concerning the Elk Hills oil field (formerly Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 1). For over 50 years, DOE and Chevron operated the field as a unitized property. In 1998, in the largest privatization in U.S. history, the federal government sold its interest in the field. As a result, DOE and Chevron agreed to a process to finalize their equity interests in the unit: the Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy (ASFE) determines the parties' equity interests on a zone-by-zone basis, and Chevron may appeal a determination to OHA. The current Chevron appeal concerns a 2007 ASFE decision arising from an OHA remand of an earlier determination concerning the Stevens Zone, the largest producing zone in the field. DOE's contingency reserve for the Elk Hills equity finalization is over \$200 million. A decision in the case is expected to issue later this year. Janet N. Freimuth, janet.freimuth@hq.doe.gov, 202 287-1439.

Decisions Issued:

Personnel Security (10 CFR Part 710)

On February 27, 2009, an OHA Hearing Officer issued a decision in which he concluded that an individual's suspended access authorization should not be restored. A DOE Operations Office suspended the individual's security clearance when a routine reinvestigation of the individual revealed that he (i) was experiencing severe financial difficulties, (ii) had been arrested in 2005 for failure to update his registration as a sex offender and for driving with no proof of insurance or valid registration, and (iii)

provided conflicting information to the DOE regarding the date that he had committed a felony and his date of marriage to a former spouse. After conducting a hearing and evaluating the documentary and testimonial evidence, the Hearing Officer concluded that the individual had not intentionally provide false or misleading information to the DOE. However, the Hearing Officer further found that the individual was experiencing severe financial difficulties, with no realistic hope of relief in the foreseeable future, and had engaged in a pattern of illegal behavior that called into question his ability or willingness to abide by security rules and regulations. The individual failed to produce evidence sufficient to overcome these security concerns. OHA Case No. TSO-0675 (Robert B. Palmer, 287-1449)

On March 5, 2009, an OHA Hearing Officer issued a decision in which she determined that an individual's access authorization should not be restored. In reaching this conclusion, the Hearing Officer found that the individual had failed to mitigate the security concerns associated with her diagnosis of Bipolar Disorder type II, a recent episode of depression, her failure to file taxes and habitual gambling. In reaching this determination, the Hearing Officer found, after weighing the psychiatric testimony and other evidence, that the individual's mental condition was not stable and therefore posed an unacceptable risk to national security. The Hearing Officer further found that the individual's failure to file taxes demonstrated that her illness is significant enough to impair her judgment and reliability. However, with respect to her gambling, the Hearing Officer found that the individual had sufficiently mitigated the concern based upon evidence that her gambling was not pathological or beyond her financial means. OHA Case No. TSO-0666 (Avery Webster, 287-1324)

On March 5, 2009, an OHA Hearing Officer issued a decision finding that an individual's access authorization should not be granted. During a background investigation, the local DOE security office (LSO) discovered inconsistencies between the individual's responses to the illegal drug question on his 2006 Questionnaire for National Security Positions (QNSP) and his responses regarding his illegal drug use during a 2007 Personnel Security Interview (PSI). Security concerns were also raised by the individual's history of illegal drug use, including his admission to using marijuana 100 times between 1972 and 1991, using hashish one time in 1973, using marijuana prior to going to work six or seven times between 1973 and 1974, and failing a drug test while previously holding a DOE security clearance in 1990. After carefully weighing all the evidence, both favorable and unfavorable, the Hearing Officer found that the individual presented compelling evidence to mitigate the security concerns associated with his past illegal drug use. However, the Hearing Officer found that the individual had failed to mitigate the security concerns regarding his misrepresentations on his 2006 QNSP. The Hearing Officer also found that the individual had failed to mitigate the security concerns about his reliability and trustworthiness associated with using marijuana while holding a security clearance. OHA Case No. TSO-0677 (Kimberly Jenkins-Chapman, 287-1449)

Appeal

On February 24, 2009, OHA issued a decision granting an appeal filed by the Environmental Protection Bureau of the State of New York (New York) under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). In its appeal, New York contested a determination issued to it by the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE), which released information to New York in accordance with an October 2008 OHA order that granted in part an appeal from a previous determination. New York argued that OE continued to withhold information from documents that OHA ordered disclosed or withheld subject to a new determination (Documents 23(a), 26 and 27). OHA conducted a review of the withheld information and the terms of the October 2008 order. As a result of the review, OHA found that OE had properly continued to withhold one sentence from Document 27, as stated in the October 2008 order. As for Document 23(a), OHA found that OE had properly continued to withhold exempt information. However, OHA also concluded that Document 26 may contain some factual, non-exempt and segregable material, and thus should be reviewed again by OE. Therefore, the appeal was granted in part, and remanded to OE. OHA Case No. TFA-0289 (Valerie Vance Adeyeye, 287-1486)

Media Interest: No

DOE Contact: Fred Brown, fred.brown@hq.doe.gov, 287-1545

OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS**No FEAR Act Report to Congress:**

The Office of Civil Rights (OCR) is receiving final concurrences for the draft FY 2008 No FEAR Act Report to Congress. The report will be issued on or before the regulatory deadline of March 31, 2009.

Contact: Neil Schuldenfrei, x6-5687

EEOC MD-715 Report:

OCR is finalizing the draft of the FY2008 Federal Agency Annual EEO Program Status Report (EEOC MD-715 Report). The Report will be circulated to the Office of General Counsel and the Office of Human Capital Management for concurrence before submission to EEOC. OCR anticipates submitting the report by March 31, 2009.

Contact: Neil Schuldenfrei, x6-5687

Title IX Letter of Finding:

OCR completed a draft Letter of Finding on the Title IX compliance review conducted at the University of Washington, Seattle Campus. The draft will be sent to the University for review and comment before it is issued in final form.

Contact: Lloyd Buddoo, x6-7351

Title IX Compliance Review:

OCR is making final preparations for a Title IX compliance review to be conducted at North Carolina State University March 16-20, 2009. DOE employees from OCR, HG, and various field offices will participate in the Title IX compliance review, which will

focus on the University's Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.
Contact: Lloyd Buddoo, x6-7351

Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act Seminar:

On April 7, 2008, OCR will host a seminar on the new Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act. The speaker for the seminar will be Christopher Kuczynski, Assistant Legal Counsel for EEOC's ADA Policy Division. Representatives from the Office of Human Capital Management, the Office of General Counsel, NNSA, DOE field EEO/Diversity Managers, and others will be invited to participate.

Contact: Neil Schuldenfrei, x6-5687

Media Interest: No

DOE Contact: Bill Lewis, bill.lewis@hq.doe.gov, 6-6530

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

IV. Progress on IPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

VI. FOIA Requests

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

**OFFICE OF HEALTH, SAFETY AND SECURITY
WEEKLY REPORT**

March 6, 2009

I. Schedule: Glenn S. Podonsky, Chief Health, Safety and Security Officer

March 5: Traveled to Colorado to address the National Supplemental Screening Program Advisory Committee members regarding the importance of safeguarding personally identifiable information (PII); and successes and direction of the Former Worker Medical Screening Program.

March 10: Provide opening remarks at the 11th Annual Chemical Management Workshop at DOE HQ regarding DOE's perspective on chemical safety. (See item below for additional information.) The Deputy Chief for Operations will accompany.

March 12: Address the Energy Facilities Contractor Group (EFCOG) Board of Directors at DOE HQ regarding key HSS initiatives.

March 17: Recognize members of the Green Computing and Green Building Teams for their efforts in enabling the Department to achieve a "green" score on the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Environmental Stewardship Scorecard. Representatives from Headquarters and Program offices are expected to attend. The Deputy Chief for Enforcement and Technical Matters will accompany.

March 18: Sit for an interview on the IBM Center for the Business of Government Radio Hour. The interview will air sometime in mid-April.

Schedule: Michael A. Kilpatrick, Deputy Chief for Operations

See also Chief's schedule.

March 1-5: Traveled to South Carolina to participate in the Savannah River Site (SRS) Independent Oversight Safeguards and Security Inspection validation and closeout activities.

Schedule: William A. Eckroade, Acting Deputy Chief for Enforcement and Technical Matters

See also Chief's schedule.

March 1-3: Traveled to South Carolina to participate in the Savannah River Site (SRS) Independent Oversight Safeguards and Security Inspection validation and closeout activities.

II. Departmental News

Enforcement 2008 Annual Report: HSS issued an enforcement annual report this week (March 6). The report is posted on the HSS web site.

Management Impact: The report summarizes calendar year 2008 enforcement actions and accomplishments and communicates the focus areas for calendar year 2009.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: William A. Eckroade, (202) 586-9275

36th Annual Radiation Effects Research Foundation (RERF) Scientific Council

Meeting: HSS participated in the annual meeting held in Hiroshima, Japan, this week (March 2-4), to review current research activities and make recommendations concerning future activities.

Management Impact: RERF is co-funded by DOE and the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare to focus on the study of health effects of radiation in the survivors of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki atomic bombings.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Michael A. Kilpatrick, (202) 586-4399

Other Government Agencies (OGAs) Classification/Declassification Training:

1. Two half-day Restricted Data (RD)/Formerly Restricted Data (FRD) Recognition and Record Processing Seminars are scheduled to be presented to FBI declassification reviewers in Winchester, VA, next week (March 12). This briefing is part of DOE's continuing effort to assist other agencies to identify RD/FRD in their documents and prevent its inadvertent release.
2. A 4-day Historical Records Restricted Data Reviewers course is scheduled to be conducted the week of March 16 for reviewers from the Army Declassification Office in Springfield, VA.

Management Impact: These activities support DOE's responsibility to assist OGAs to identify RD and FRD and prevent the inadvertent release of sensitive nuclear technologies.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Michael A. Kilpatrick, (202) 586-4399

Annual Report to Congress on DOE Activities Relating to the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB): HSS anticipates providing the Annual Report to the Secretary for review and signature next week (March 9).

Management Impact: The report is being prepared per Section 316(b) of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 requiring DOE to submit an annual written report to Congress addressing the Department's DNFSB-related activities.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Michael A. Kilpatrick, (202) 586-4399

11th Annual Chemical Management Workshop: HSS is scheduled to host the annual workshop at the DOE Headquarters Forrestal auditorium, next week (March 10-12). This year's theme: "Chemical Safety and Lifecycle Management Workshop – Lean and Green" will focus on topics, including 10 C.F.R. 851, *Worker Safety and Health Program*; cost-effective chemical management; green chemistry; nanotechnology; global harmonization; and aging-related issues. Approximately 300 personnel are expected to attend in person and via videoconference.

Management Impact: The Chief Health, Safety and Security Officer will provide opening remarks on March 10.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Michael A. Kilpatrick, (202) 586-4399

Independent Oversight Activities:

1. Savannah River Site (SRS) Safeguards and Security Inspection: Onsite validation and close-out activities were completed this week (March 5).
2. National Training Center (NTC) Cyber Security Inspection: Onsite data collection activities are scheduled to be conducted next week (March 9-12).
3. NNSA-SC Classified Cyber Security Inspection: Onsite data collection activities are scheduled to be conducted next week (March 9-12).
4. Argonne National Laboratory (ANL) Emergency Management and Environment, Safety and Health Combined Inspection: Onsite scoping activities are scheduled to be conducted next week (March 11-12).
5. Pantex Environment, Safety and Health Inspection: Onsite planning activities are scheduled to be conducted March 16-20.

Management Impact: These activities support the independent evaluation of the status of the Department's security, cyber security, emergency management, and environment, safety and health (ES&H) programs.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Michael A. Kilpatrick, (202) 586-4399

Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) Schedule:

- March 4: The Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) contractor management provided a quarterly status update to the Board.
- March 4: NNSA briefed the Board on the status of Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Replacement (CMRR) project certification.
- March 5: Pantex Site Office management briefed the board on Pantex activities.
- March 6: NNSA Headquarters and Site Office personnel briefed the Board on the Chemistry and Metallurgy Research (CMR) building exit strategy.
- March 9: The Responsible Manager will brief the Board on Recommendation 2008-1, *Safety Classification of Fire Protection Systems*, implementation plan activities.
- March 10: One Board member will attend the DOE sponsored Chemical Safety Workshop in the Forrestal Building.
- March 11-13: The Board will travel to the Y-12 National Security Facility (Y-12) for a site visit.
- March 17: The Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management (EM) will brief the Board on topics selected by the Board.
- March 19: The Assistant Deputy Administrator for Nuclear Safety and Operations, NNSA will brief the Board on topics selected by the Board.

- March 20: Bechtel, Inc. management will provide a quarterly status update to the Board.

Management Impact: Information is provided to keep DOE Senior Management aware of DNFSB activities and interests.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Michael A. Kilpatrick, (202) 586-4399

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

VI. FOIA Requests

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER
WEEKLY REPORT**

March 6, 2009

I. Schedule

Nothing to report

II. Departmental News

Nothing to report

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

Nothing to report

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to report

V. Press Inquiries

Nothing to report

VI. FOIA Requests

Nothing to report

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

Nothing to report

**OFFICE OF LEGACY MANAGEMENT
WEEKLY REPORT**

March 6, 2009

I. Schedule

David Geiser, is Acting Director for Office of Legacy Management

II. Departmental News

Community Leaders Institute Technical Assistance Workshop: On March 5-7, in Albuquerque, NM, the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Medical University of South Carolina University (MUSC) will sponsor a three-day technical assistance workshop for tribal leaders, and community members seeking grant support for their activities. Experts will lead “hands-on” sessions in identifying appropriate grant funding agencies, planning, preparing and submitting an application and establishing and utilizing a 5013 non-profit designation. The purpose of this Technical Assistance Workshop is to reinforce the principle of “progress requires informed and active leaders” and to emphasize the unique relationship between environmental protection, human health, environmental justice and economic development as an essential part of community development.

Media Interest: None

Contact: Melinda Downing, 586-7703

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

Nothing to report

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to report

V. Press Inquiries

Nothing to report

VI. FOIA Requests

Nothing to report

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements and Publications

The Office of Legacy Management provided \$400,000 to the Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative, the community reuse organization for the Portsmouth Site in Ohio. Funding for this grant was provided from prior year funds in the Worker and Community Transition program. This was the final payment on a 2003 commitment to assist the community. The Piketon area has been affected by decreases in the workforce at the Portsmouth uranium enrichment facility and currently has some of the highest unemployment in Ohio.

**OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT
WEEKLY REPORT**

March 6, 2009

I. Schedule

II. Departmental News

Construction Industry Institute (CII) Benchmarking Conference, San Antonio, TX:

An Office of Engineering and Construction Management (OECM) representative participated in the CII Benchmarking Conference held March 4-6, 2009. The conference provided an opportunity to understand the technical details of the CII Benchmarking & Metrics Program and to discuss experiences and lessons learned from implementing benchmarking processes.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Bob Raines, (202) 586-5627

Site Visit for the Waste Treatment Plant (WTP) Project at the Office of River Protection (ORP): An OECM representative met with the project management team at ORP the week of February 23-27, to review the contractor's updated work plan and develop key near term contractor performance metrics to be reported to EM-HQ.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Brian Kong, (202) 586-3151

Facilities and Infrastructure – Facilities Information Management System (FIMS)

User Training: The Office of Engineering and Construction Management (OECM) conducted a FIMS User training session at the Forrestal Building on March 4-5. The training provided an overview of the FIMS database organization, as well as an introduction to query techniques and reporting capabilities. OECM conducts multiple user training sessions at various locations throughout the year.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Monja Vadnais, (202) 586-6199

Facilities and Infrastructure - Infrastructure Management Working Group

(IMWOG) Workshop: The Office of Engineering and Construction Management (OECM) as well as the National Nuclear Security Agency (NNSA) and the Office of Science (SC) attended and presented at the Spring 2009 Workshop. IMWOG is a subcommittee of the Energy Facility Contractors Group (EFCOG) whose purpose is to promote excellence in the execution of the Department's missions by sharing best industrial practices, applying lessons learned and providing integrated recommendations in the areas of infrastructure management and modernization. The Spring 09 Workshop specifically focused on energy reduction, sustainability, and maintenance methods of real property assets.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Monja Vadnais, (202) 586-6199

The Office of Aviation Management (MA-30) has produced the Mission and Cost Performance Indicators for the five major DOE Aviation Programs: Bonneville Power Administration; Western Area Power Administration; Nevada Site Office; NNSA/Office of Secure Transportation; and Savannah River Site Office. Data entered by each aviation program into GSA's Federal Aviation Interactive Reporting System (FAIRS) was analyzed for FY2000-2008 to produce a comprehensive Mission and Cost Analysis Report. The Report for each organization provides an overall view of each program's mission performance and operating costs on both government-owned aircraft and Commercial Aviation Services (CAS) operations, emphasizing trends from FY2000 through FY2008. OAM provides these indicators as additional analytical information that can be used by each program's aviation management in identifying possible anomalies and trends in making current and future management decisions.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Robert Jenkins, (202) 586-5532

Forrestal Ceiling Sprinkler Project: The five-year project to provide sprinklers and additional fire alarm upgrades for the entire Forrestal Building continues. The General Services Administration (GSA) has completed work on the 6th floor West (North Building) and is working to complete the 6th Floor East. Construction on this phase will continue through the end of April 2009. The next phase, 5th Floor (West Side), will begin in May 2009.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Michael Shincovich, MA-43, (202) 586-6080

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

VI. FOIA Requests

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

**OFFICE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY
WEEKLY REPORT**

March 6, 2009

I. Schedule

Acting Assistant Secretary R. Shane Johnson has no official travel next week.

II. Departmental News

Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOA) to U.S. Universities for

Infrastructure: The Department of Energy (DOE) plans to issue a new FOA in March 2009, valued at least \$2.25 million, to fund equipment and infrastructure upgrades at U.S. universities that will enhance their ability to conduct cutting-edge nuclear research and development. Infrastructure includes equipment and instrumentation for research reactors and other nuclear science and engineering laboratories and facilities. Applications for the Infrastructure FOA will be due on April 1, 2009. DOE anticipates announcing the selection by mid-June 2009, with grants issued by the end of September 2009.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Suibel Schuppner, NE-31, 301-903-1652

Accelerated Transfer of Idaho National Laboratory (INL) Facilities: Driven by passage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and the availability of funding for this purpose, the Office of Environmental Management has requested an expeditious transfer of excess INL facilities to accelerate the decontamination and decommissioning of these facilities. As a result, the Idaho Operations Office Contracting Officer has issued direction to the Laboratory to vacate and transfer 15 eligible buildings by March 12, 2009.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Joe Boda, NE-32, 301-903-7123

Cooperation between the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) on Integral Very-High-Temperature Reactor (VHTR) Test Facility at Oregon State University: Office of Gas Reactor Deployment staff and researchers from the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) attended the NRC meeting on February 24-25, 2009, in College Station, Texas, on NRC-funded work to build a scaled (nonnuclear) Integral VHTR Test Facility at OSU. NRC has also engaged with Sandia National Laboratories and several universities, including OSU, in a cooperative agreement to design and build a facility to investigate thermal-fluid effects using helium as coolant. It is recognized by both DOE and NRC that such facilities will provide valuable information needed to investigate and validate the analysis models used to

design and to evaluate independently the safety of the Next Generation Nuclear Plant. A follow-up meeting has been arranged for March 10, 2009, to continue and enhance this cooperation.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Rob Versluis, NE-33, 301-903-1890

International Lunar Network (ILN) Summit Meeting: On March 2, 2009, members of the Office of Radioisotope Power Systems (NE-34) participated in an ILN summit meeting at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Headquarters. The intent of this meeting was to bring together the mission team of the Marshall Space Flight Center and the Advanced Physics Laboratory with the NASA/Department of Energy Small Radioisotope Power System (SmRPS) development team. The SmRPS is envisioned to be a 60-watt electric power system that NASA will use on various missions and will be demonstrated on the ILN. The ILN mission goal is an enhanced geological study of the Moon using a highly sensitive seismometer.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Dirk Cairns-Gallimore, NE-34, 301-903-3332

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest

IV. Progress on Energy Policy Act of 2005 (EPACT) Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

VI. FOIA Requests

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements and Publications

No activities to report.

**NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION
WEEKLY REPORT**

March 6, 2009

I. Schedule

On March 11, Administrator Tom D'Agostino is scheduled to speak at the National Defense University on NNSA's programs.

II. Departmental News

Event: United Kingdom (UK) Quality Assurance Benchmarking: As a follow-up to the NNSA benchmarking study of government organizations involved in oversight and acceptance of high risk commodities, the United Kingdom's Ministry of Defense (MOD) and Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE) plan to conduct a similar benchmarking study of European organizations. In addition, MOD and AWE are finalizing a project plan to further develop weapons quality assurance oversight practices, based upon discussions with NNSA during a visit to the UK in September 2008. This project plan will include an audit of the quality assurance system and product certification processes, the development of meaningful metrics and incentivized contractor goals, the development of a new risk-based approach to product acceptance by the MOD, and the aforementioned benchmarking study. By September 2009, the benchmarking study should be completed; with the remaining project plan items completed by March 2010. Kansas City Site Office (KCSO) management will continue to work with UK management to evaluate and compare their results with those of the previous NNSA study. This study and follow-up are part of an ongoing effort to streamline and improve NNSA weapons quality assurance oversight operations.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Jeff Shoulta, KCSO, 816-997-3919.

Event: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)/NNSA Fine Resolved: This week, EPA and DOE/NNSA agreed to a reduced fine of \$165,000 in the informal 2008 dispute over the shutdown of treatment facilities at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL). Previously, assessed fines and penalties could reach \$750,000 if the process had progressed to formal dispute resolution. DOE also agreed to build an additional five treatment facilities by the end of 2009 over the facilities proposed in the original startup plan. DOE acknowledged no guilt in the settlement agreement.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Mike Brown, AMES, 925-423-7061.

Event: Joint Actinide Shock Physics Experimental Research: On February 25, Shot 86 was completed – initial indications revealed data with excellent quality and the system operated within acceptable parameters. On February 26, during reentry procedures, high levels of contamination were registered on the passive air sampler filter for the Secondary Confinement Chamber. All other swipes were negative for exposure. Contamination

appears to be contained within the confinement boundary. All procedures were appropriately followed and prompt notifications made; access to the facility is restricted until further notice.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Charlotte Carter, NSO, 702-295-3128.

Event: Successful Recovery of Controlled Substance: Facility managers at the Nonproliferation Test and Evaluation Complex exhibited sound and effective judgment after discovering a controlled substance in Area 5, north of the Frenchman lake bed. National Security Technologies, LLC (NSTec), Radiological Safety and Material Control and Accountability personnel, were called to identify and secure the material, which was conducted in a noteworthy and timely manner. NSTec Radiological Safety is writing an Occurrence Report on the discovery.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Peter Munding, NSO, 702-295-1008.

Event: University Research Program In Robotics (URPR): The University of Michigan has successfully completed a major enhancement to its personnel tracking system, which is designed to remotely track the movement of personnel around high-value assets or in security-sensitive situations where the Global Positioning System is often unavailable. With this enhancement, the system can now accurately track personnel walking backward, sideways, or in any other direction. While such gaits are rarely used for walking, they are used when evacuating injured persons, when dragging heavy objects, or when performing certain tasks. Competing personnel tracking systems that only count steps to compute distance traveled fail when users engage in uncommon gaits. Among many possible applications, the University of Michigan's personnel tracking system can be used for the monitoring and guidance of DOE personnel in sensitive areas, or automated position tagging of measurements performed by technicians. The University is working with Los Alamos, Lawrence Livermore, and Sandia National Laboratories to implement this system. In the event of an unusual occurrence, this tool could enable more effective response options.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Syed Zaidi, NA-121.3, 202-586-4344.

Event: National Academy of Sciences (NAS) Nuclear Security Study: On March 5, the Office of Defense Nuclear Security met with members of NAS regarding the upcoming NAS nuclear security study. The study, entitled "Risk-Based Approaches for Security in the DOE Nuclear Weapons Complex," will advise the Department on the augmentation of its current risk-based approach, as well as examine nuclear weapons usable materials and facilities. The meeting was to discuss the coordination and path forward in preparation for the upcoming information gathering meeting.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Doug Fremont, NA-70, 202-586-9338.

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

Event: Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board Activity: On March 9-13, a Board staff member will visit the Nevada Test Site (NTS). During the visit, he will discuss and review: Device Assembly Facility (DAF) fire suppression improvements; recent Joint Actinide Shock Physics Experimental Research facility conditions; observe activities and the status of the Criticality Experiment Facility Project; Radiological Waste Management Complex; subcritical experiments; G-Tunnel; and, oversight. He also plans to attend the DAF Nuclear Explosive Safety Master Planning meeting.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Eric Amarescu, NSO, 702-295-5218.

Event: Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) Visit: On March 11-12, the DNFSB is scheduled to visit Y-12 for tours and briefings.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Ken Rhyne, YSO, 865-576-9901.

Event: NTS Tour: On March 11, National Security Technologies, LLC, is hosting a capabilities briefing and tour of NTS programs for James Howell, Deputy Director, Special Concepts and Capabilities Development, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Washington, DC and James Jones, Associate Director, Idaho National Laboratory.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Darwin Morgan, NSO, 702-295-3521.

Event: Combined NSPD-28 Oversight Committee (NOC)/Nuclear Weapons Council Standing and Safety Committee (NWCSSC): On March 12, the first combined NOC/NWCSSC of 2009 plans to meet. Mr. Gerald Talbot will attend as Vice Chairman.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Roy Matthews, NA-10, 202-586-7631.

Event: Fire Stations Line Item: On March 9, Nevada Site Office (NSO) personnel will participate via televideo in the Energy Systems Acquisition Advisory Board-equivalent conference to recommend approval of Critical Decision-3b, authorization to construct. The project is still waiting for the DOE Secretary's approval of exemption from Executive Order (EO) 13202 at NTS. The procurement process remains on hold pending a decision on this exemption request.

Media Interest: None.

POC: Kevin Thornton, NSO, 702-295-1541.

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

NNSA Public Affairs: This week, Ken Baker, Principal Deputy Administrator for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation interviewed with the Los Angeles Times about the Global Threat Reduction Initiative's domestic radiological source recovery. The

interview followed a media embed for the recovery of a plutonium source in California. Public Affairs responded to the national, regional, and local media inquiries on nuclear nonproliferation, and various other issues.

Media Interest: High.

POC: Anna Awosika, NA-3.5, 202-586-7371.

VI. FOIA Requests

Date Received: February 19.

Requester: John Upton, San Francisco Examiner.

Subject: Request for all records pertaining to reported incidents, violations and disciplinary hearings involving former LLNL employee Tony Pirone after February 4, 2002. On February 26, this FOIA was closed.

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

**OFFICE OF ELECTRICITY DELIVERY AND ENERGY RELIABILITY
WEEKLY REPORT**

March 6, 2009

I. Schedule

Patricia A. Hoffman, Acting Assistant Secretary, does not have any travel or leave plans for the week beginning March 9, 2009.

II. Key Departmental News

ESF #12 Refresher Training Class. On March 3-4, in preparation for the 2009 hurricane season, OE conducted its first Emergency Response Function #12 (ESF #12) refresher training class of the year. FEMA Region III hosted the class in their Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC) in Philadelphia. Returning ESF #12 responders from throughout DOE were joined for the two-day training course by a representative from Pepco Energy and three ESF #3 Action Officers from the Army Corps of Engineers. The first day of the class included a review of last year's energy emergency responder training and incorporated valuable lessons learned from DOE's response to the 2008 hurricane season. In addition, Tom Finnegan, FEMA Region III Emergency Management Program Specialist, provided the responders with an informative presentation and tour of the facility. To provide participants with a more realistic training experience, the final day of the session was dedicated to conducting a full-scale simulated response exercise based upon 2008's hurricanes Gustav and Ike.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Matt Rosenbaum, 202-586-1060 or John McIlvain, 202-586-9267

OE Briefs Delegation from Bosnia and Herzegovina. On March 4, Anthony Lucas presented a briefing to the Ministry of Security and Civil Protection Sector from Bosnia and Herzegovina. The briefing covered a wide range of topics including consequence management, operational contingency planning, emergency management through policy development, research and development for future technologies, and enhancing the security of energy infrastructure. The delegates were most interested in learning about policies and procedures that could be implemented to reduce infrastructure vulnerabilities and as a result, prevent long term outages as well.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Anthony Lucas, 202-586-0893

OE Acting Assistant Secretary Briefs Scientific Computing Advisory Committee. On March 4, in Washington DC, Pat Hoffman briefed the Advanced Scientific Computing Advisory Committee on the challenges facing the nation's electric power grid as a complex system that can benefit from the development of advanced computational tools for planning and operation. This committee advises the DOE Office of Science's Advanced Scientific Computing Research (ASCR) office on the various activities under the general area of high-performance computing. This briefing continues the interaction

between OE and ASCR which began with OE's participation in a joint complex systems workshop in late 2006 that resulted in several ASCR pending projects on mathematics research to enable smart grids. OE and ASCR are now engaged in planning a joint workshop to focus on specific electric power computing needs and ways to leverage ASCR scientific computing capabilities to meet these needs.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: Phil Overholt, 586-8110

Technical Conference on Future Grid Design. On March 4, leading energy industry and electric transmission experts discussed the fundamental issues that need to be considered in designing future electric transmission and the pros and cons of building an EHV overlay network, in terms of energy, economic efficiency, reliability, access to renewable generation, and reduction of carbon emissions. The design criteria behind several conceptual EHV overlay designs was also discussed. While there was agreement that additional electric transmission is needed to fully develop the Nation's renewable generation, there was no consensus on grid design or how that design should be developed. Participants encouraged Federal action on proposed legislation such as renewable portfolio standards and carbon legislation to help improve regulatory certainty. The conference was well attended and webcast participation exceeded 150 with widespread geographic representation. The results of this conference will be helpful in guiding OE's regional transmission planning under ARRA.

Media Interest: The event was attended by media

Program Contact: John Schnagl, 586-1056

OE Issues 2005 and 2008 Hurricane Comparison Report. The Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration Division (ISER) of the Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE) recently released its "Comparing the Impacts of the 2005 and 2008 Hurricanes on US Energy Infrastructure" Report. The report compares the two hurricane seasons and the impacts on the oil, gas and electricity sectors. State and federal government response actions are also addressed. The report can be found on OE's home page at www.oe.energy.gov.

Media Interest: Some

Program Contact: Alice Lippert, 202-586-9600

Japanese Utility Delegation Briefed on Administration Energy Policies. OE and EE Solar Program staff briefed a delegation from 15 Japanese electric utilities that is on a study tour of the US visiting electric utilities, FERC, and DOE. The delegation was briefed on the President's overall energy policy views, relevant portions of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, major relevant portions of the President's FY10 Budget Request released last week, and issues relating to distribution grid integration of solar photovoltaics.

Media Interest: Some

Program Contact: Larry Mansueti, 202-586-2588

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (14-day advance)

Nothing to Report

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables
Nothing to Report

V. Press Inquiries
Nothing to Report

VI. FOIA Requests
Nothing to Report

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements and Publications
Nothing to Report

**OFFICE OF POLICY AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
WEEKLY REPORT**

March 6, 2009

I. Schedule

Acting Assistant Secretary Jonathan Shrier and Deputy Assistant Secretary Phyllis Yoshida will be on official travel March 10-12, attending the Governing Board and other meetings at the International Energy Agency (IEA) in Paris, France. The Governing Board will focus on preparations for the IEA Ministerial in October 2009. Deputy Assistant Secretary Alan Hegburg will be Acting Assistant Secretary on March 10, and Deputy Assistant Secretary Carmen Difiglio will be Acting Assistant Secretary on March 11-12.

II. Department News

CAFE Rulemaking Comments to DOT: Acting Assistant Secretary Jonathan Shrier provided comments to the Department of Transportation on their proposed final CAFE rule for model year (MY) 2011. Several areas of concern were raised, including our expectation that the proposed standard would be below what we expect auto manufacturers to achieve in MY 2011.

Contact: Carmen Difiglio, 6-8436

Media Interest: None

Japan: The Office of Policy and International Affairs (PI) continued meeting with Japanese officials seeking information on the Department's research and development programs to be initiated under the Recovery Act. A researcher from Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) met with PI and Office of Science personnel to discuss basic research projects and DOE policy with respect to foreign participation. Two additional meetings are scheduled over the next several days on vehicle technology programs and petroleum projects. We continue to collect information from DOE program areas on their interest in participating in a visit to Japanese laboratories, where it might make sense to expand cooperation, and will schedule an intra-agency conference call on structuring a balanced response to the Japanese R&D initiative.

Contact: Kay Thompson, 6-7997

Media Interest: None

International Clean Energy Alliance: PI staff attended the March 4, meeting of the International Clean Energy Alliance. Nancy Sutley, chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), was the principal speaker. She noted that the Obama Administration would make the single largest investment in United States history. Of particular note was the priority placed on investment in new technologies, principally CCS and advanced vehicle technologies. On climate change, she indicated that a market-based cap on carbon was a goal. She said that CEQ, together with Carol Browner's White House Office of Energy and Climate Change, would coordinate and develop an

integrated policy for energy and climate change. One issue they are already working on is how to site and connect renewable energy onto the electricity grid. She said that DOE was already setting up more robust systems for advanced technologies, including hydrogen cars.

Contact: Kay Thompson, 6-7997

Media Interest: None

III. Upcoming Events of Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

No noteworthy upcoming events.

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to Report.

V. Press Inquiries

Nothing to Report.

VI. FOIA Requests

Nothing to Report.

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

Nothing to Report.

**OFFICE OF CIVILIAN RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT
WEEKLY REPORT**

March 6, 2009

I. Schedule

The Acting Director of the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, Christopher Kouts has no travel or leave planned the week of March 9, 2009.

II. Key Departmental News

Nothing to report

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

Nothing to report

IV. Progress On EPACT Deliverables

Nothing to report

V. Press Inquiries

Mark Waite, *Pahrump Valley Times*, called with questions about the status of the DOE's 116 water permit applications submitted to Nevada's State Engineer.

Dipka Bhambhani, *Platts*, Will Dalrymple, *Nuclear Engineering International* (UK), and Erica Lovley, *Politico.com*, called with questions regarding the Program's future. An OCRWM spokesperson referred both to the office of HQ-PA.

Andy Cummings, *Trains Magazine*, asked for the status of the Nevada rail project. In addition, Mr. Cummings had questions on the future of the program and was referred to HQ-PA.

Media Interest: Yes

Program Contact: Allen Benson, 702-794-1322

VI. FOIA Requests

A FOIA request dated March 3, 2009, was received from Harmon, Curran, Spielberg & Eisenberg, LLP, requesting records that are related to contracts executed between DOE and various utilities for the disposal of spent nuclear fuel and/or high-level radioactive waste.

Media Interest: No

Program Contact: Jackie Chestnut, 202-586-5481

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

Nothing to report

**OFFICE OF SCIENCE
WEEKLY REPORT**

March 6, 2009

I. Schedule

Dr. Patricia M. Dehmer, Acting Director, Office Science, has no travel or leave plans for the upcoming week.

II. Departmental News

New York Governor Patterson Visits Brookhaven National Laboratory to Announce Cheaper Power and Solar Array Project for Lab: New York Governor David Patterson, along with a number of other local elected officials, visited the Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) on February 27. The Governor announced the State's intention to make 15 megawatts of hydroelectric power available for BNL. This new source of cheaper power for BNL will be captured through a new long-term electric contract to be negotiated by the Department of Energy. The Governor also announced that BNL is the projected site for a 36.9 megawatt solar array project. This project arises out of a Long Island Power Authority (LIPA) Request for Proposals for the long-term purchase/development of 50 megawatts of solar-generated power for use on Long Island. A proposal submitted by BP Solar used BNL as the preferred host for a 36.9 megawatt private-sector solar array project. The BP Solar proposal was accepted by LIPA and negotiations between DOE and BP Solar, to actually site the project at BNL, will begin soon. The Governor spoke at Berkner Hall Auditorium, which was filled. Other meeting rooms in Berkner were used for simulcasts and were "standing room only." Some 800 people watched the webcast on WBNL.

Media Interest: Yes

Contact: John Carter, BHSO, 631-344-5195

Computer Modeling of Microbial Pathways: One key to utilizing microbes for applications such as biofuels production or environmental clean-up is understanding the complex metabolic pathways of these organisms. Computational modeling and simulation are among the latest in the arsenal of tools scientists have for probing the complex biochemical interactions that take place in living cells, providing new insights into the functioning of these organisms and a foundation for optimizing microbes for DOE mission-related applications. Dr. Costas Maranas of Pennsylvania State University and his colleagues have done pioneering work using computational methods to reconstruct pathways involving 40 percent of the genes of one of the smallest known self-replicating organisms. Their computational model of this organism, designated iPS189, includes 262 biochemical reactions and 274 metabolites and captures 87 percent of the genes essential for the microbe's function. This work provides a roadmap for the automated construction of computer-based metabolic models for other organisms important for DOE mission needs. Details can be found in the journal *PLoS Computational Biology*, February 2009, Vol. 5, Issue (2). This work was jointly

sponsored by DOE's Office of Biological and Environmental Science and the Office of Advanced Scientific Computing Research.

Media Interest: None

Contacts: Susan Gregurick, SC-23.2, (301) 903-7672; Christine Chalk, SC-21.1 (301) 903-5152

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

VI. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

**SOUTHEASTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION
WEEKLY REPORT**

March 6, 2009

I. Schedule

Kenneth E. Legg, Administrator –

The Administrator has no leave planned for the weeks of March 8 and March 15.

Acting Administrator (Jan. – March): Leon Jourolmon, 706-213-3835

II. Departmental News

SERC Reliability Corporation 2009 Spring Joint Conference: Staff from Southeastern will be attending the SERC Spring Conference in Cary, NC, March 11-13. SERC hosts this conference twice a year to provide a forum for industry participants to discuss operations and reliability issues affecting the region. Staff from Southeastern's Power Resources Division will also be attending a Virginia-Carolinas Operating Task Force Meeting held in conjunction with the SERC Conference.

Media Interest: No

Program Contact: Douglas Spencer, 706-213-3855

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

VI. FOIA Requests

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

**SOUTHWESTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION
WEEKLY REPORT**

March 5, 2009

I. Schedule - Jon Worthington, Administrator

II. Key Departmental News

Representatives from the Southwestern Power Administration (Southwestern), the Southwestern Power Resources Association, and the City of Jonesboro will meet with Arkansas Congressman Marion Berry's Office on March 12, 2009, to discuss Southwestern's final determination of impacts to hydropower interests as a result of implementing the White River Minimum Flow Legislation.

Media Interest: None

Program Contact: George Robbins, 918-595-6680

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

VI. FOIA Requests

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

**WESTERN AREA POWER ADMINISTRATION
WEEKLY REPORT**

March 6, 2009

I. Schedule

Schedule for Administrator - Timothy J. Meeks

March 9-11 Mid-West Board Meeting, Arlington, VA

March 17-18 Operations & Maintenance Meeting, Montrose, CO
(Acting: Tony Montoya)

II. Departmental News

Western Solicits Interest in Projects to Implement Recovery Act Authority: On March 4, Western expects to publish a Request for Interest in the *Federal Register* seeking interest in potential projects that can be funded using the Recovery Act authority to borrow up to \$3.25 billion from the U.S. Treasury. These projects will provide Federal funding in partnerships to develop transmission infrastructure that delivers renewable energy to market across the West. Statements of Interest are due by April 3, 2009.

Tentative selection of initial projects is expected by May 1.

Media Interest: Trade, national, regional and local media

Program Contact: Jack Dodd, 202-586-5581

Transmission Infrastructure Program Guidance Proposed: As required by the Recovery Act, Western expects to publish a *Federal Register* Notice on March 4, 2009, initiating a public process to develop policies and practices to guide the implementation of the new authority to borrow \$3.25 billion from the U.S. Treasury. Western will host a public meeting to explain the proposed Transmission Infrastructure Program and accept oral and written comments on March 23, 2009, at Western's Corporate Services Office. Participants may also join the meeting via Webcast. The public comment period closes April 3, 2009. Western expects to publish a *Federal Register* Notice on May 1, 2009, announcing the final program.

Media Interest: Trade, national, regional and local media

Program Contact: Jack Dodd, 202-586-5581

Boulder Canyon Project Proposed Rate Adjustment Public Process Begins: On February 2, Western published a *Federal Register* Notice announcing a proposed adjustment to the Boulder Canyon Project base charge and rates for FY2010. The projected increase in the Boulder Canyon Project composite rate would be approximately seven percent more than the existing rate for FY09. The primary reasons for the increase in the composite rate are increased operating costs and projected decrease in energy sales due to drought conditions which result in lower than normal levels in Lake Mead. Western will hold an informal customer meeting with the Boulder Canyon Project customers on March 11, 2009, to disclose projected rate adjustment information to the customers and provide an opportunity for customer feedback. A public information

forum, which allows the customers and interested parties to ask questions and provide comments which will become part of the official record, will be held on April 1, 2009. A public comment forum is scheduled for April 22, 2009. The public comment period will close on May 4.

Media Interest: Trade media

Program Contact: Jack Dodd, 202-586-5581

Completion of Wind/Hydro Integration Feasibility Study: The EPO Act 2005, Section 2606 Wind/Hydro Integration Feasibility Study evaluates the use of Native American generated wind energy by Western to meet its firm power commitments and will provide a recommendation to Congress regarding the feasibility of a demonstration project. The public comment period closed on February 13, 2009. Western received eight sets of comments resulting in minor modifications to the report, none of which affected findings or conclusions. The final report will be submitted to DOE HQ for Secretarial coordination by the end of March 2009.

Media Interest: Trade media

Program Contact: Jack Dodd, 202-586-5581

Transmission Agency of Northern California Transmission Project: The Transmission Agency of Northern California (TANC) proposes to develop transmission lines in Northern California to enhance reliability, transmit renewable resources and other energy from source to load, increase the load carrying capability of the existing transmission system, and enhance the operability and reliability of the California-Oregon Transmission Project and the Central Valley Project transmission system. TANC will be the lead state agency for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act, while Western will be the lead Federal agency for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act. The U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management are expected to be cooperating agencies in the environmental analysis. Western published a Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental impact statement on February 23. Twelve public scoping meetings are planned throughout the project area in late March through mid April. The public scoping period closes April 30.

Media Interest: Trade and local media

Program Contact: Jack Dodd, 202-586-5581

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

This week, Western staff continued to respond to trade and national media inquiries about the impact of the economic stimulus package on Western.

VI. FOIA Requests

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications

DOE WEEKLY REPORT TO THE SECRETARY

March 13, 2009

The following program offices did not submit a Weekly Report for this time period:

All Program Offices Reported

BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION WEEKLY REPORT

March 13, 2009

I. Schedule

March 23 – 24: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) Administrator Steve Wright will be on annual leave. Deputy Administrator Steve Hickok will be acting.

April 6: The Administrator will speak to a National Smart Grid Conference in Spokane, Washington. United States Senator Maria Cantwell is headlining the conference.

II. Departmental News

Integrated Program Review: On March 18, BPA will initiate an abbreviated Integrated Program Review (IPR) to provide regional stakeholders an opportunity to revisit proposed program spending levels for FY 2010 – 2011. These spending levels are included in the proposed power and transmission rates for those years. BPA committed to provide this opportunity in its closeout letter for the more detailed IPR conducted in 2008. The first meeting will be in Portland.

Media Interest: Low

Contact: Sonya Baskerville 202-586-5640

Workshop on Preliminary Needs Assessment: BPA will hold a public workshop on March 17 in Portland to discuss its Preliminary Needs Assessment. The assessment is the first step in BPA's Resource Program study, an analysis of any gaps in BPA's future power supply compared to its expected obligations.

Media Interest: Low

Contact: Sonya Baskerville 202-586-5640

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

Nothing to report.

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables
Nothing to report.

V. Press Inquiries
Nothing to report.

VI. FOIA Requests
Nothing to report.

VII. Grants, Economic Announcements, and Publications
Nothing to report.

**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
WEEKLY REPORT**

March 13, 2009

I. Schedule

Steve Isakowitz has no leave or travel planned for the week of March 16, 2009.

II. Departmental News

PA&E Participates in Gas Tax Forum: On March 5, PA&E attended the Foundation for Defense of Democracies (FDD) Leading Thinkers forum on The Federal Gasoline Tax. FDD organized the panel discussion with Charles Krauthammer, James Woolsey, Roger Ballentine, and other energy policy experts to discuss a proposal to raise the federal gas tax by about a dollar and neutralize the increase with a roughly \$14 reduction in weekly FICA payroll tax or increase in benefits received (the average amount the consumer pays for a weeks gas). It is intended to be a simple, revenue neutral system to reduce our dependence on foreign oil from dangerous regions (and stabilize prices) while also abating CO2 emissions. While the proposal would have few direct effects on DOE programs and revenues, many of the discussants noted that policies designed to decrease reliance on foreign oil should also consider the role that hybrid vehicles and biofuels can play.

Media Interest: No

Program Contacts: Robert McManmon, (202) 586-9782

Recovery Act Reporting Requirements: CF20 and CF-40 represented DOE at OMBs March 5th meeting on reporting required by the Initial Implementing Guidance for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2008. OMB focused on the initial three reporting types - major communications, formula block grant allocations, and weekly reports. OMB stressed the need for transparency and timeliness in the reporting process. Participants reviewed the overall status of compliance and means to overcome barriers to compliance with the Act. As a result of discussion, OMB modified reporting requirement formats and offered to post information to Recovery.gov to further assist agencies.

Media Interest: No

Program Contacts: David Abercrombie, (202) 586-8664 / Margo Mark, (202) 586-9080

III. Upcoming Events or Matters of Secretarial Interest (7-day advance)

IV. Progress on EPACT Deliverables

V. Press Inquiries

VI. FOIA Requests

VII. Grants, Economic Announcement, and Publications