



Program Update

January–March 2012

Welcome to the January–March 2012 issue of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Legacy Management (LM) Program Update. This publication is designed to provide a status of activities within LM. Please direct all comments and inquiries to lm@hq.doe.gov.

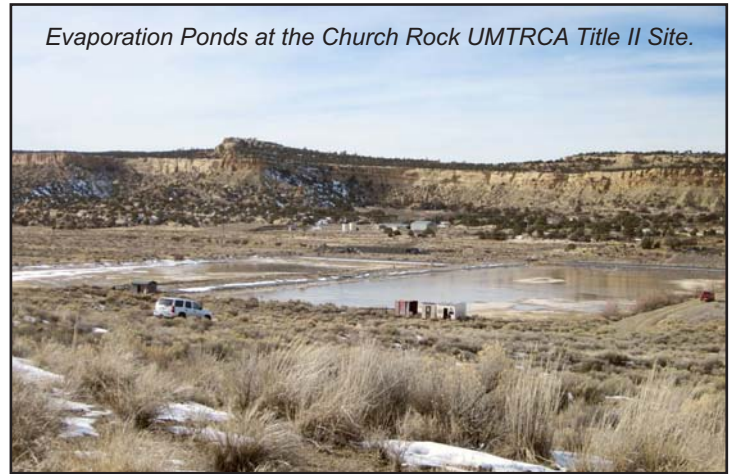
Goal 1

Interagency Working Group Collaborates on Codisposal of Uranium Mine and Mill Tailings Waste in New Mexico

In February 2011, the Office of Legacy Management (LM) began work as part of an interagency effort to develop a design for the disposal of material from the Northeast Church Rock (NECR) mine. The proposed plan is to dispose of approximately 1 million cubic yards of mine-related material at the Church Rock Uranium

Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act (UMTRCA) Title II site in New Mexico.

Evaporation Ponds at the Church Rock UMTRCA Title II Site.



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The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) first discussed the idea with LM and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in 2009, and issued an Action Memorandum that called for disposal of waste from the NECR mine site at the UMTRCA site in September 2011. The NECR mine is the largest abandoned underground uranium mine on the Navajo Nation. It is one of four priority mine cleanups that EPA is currently pursuing with the Navajo Nation. While EPA is leading the design working group, other participants include NRC, LM, the Navajo Nation, the New Mexico Environment Department, and General Electric (GE), the current licensee at the Church Rock UMTRCA site. The proposed action at the Church Rock Title II site includes an estimated 110,000 cubic yards of material stockpiled at the mine from previous removal actions.

In preparation for the design effort, three members of LM's Grand Junction office, as well as representatives from the Navajo Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action/Abandoned Mine Lands Department and the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency, toured the Church Rock and NECR sites in

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Legacy Management Goals

- Goal 1.** Protect human health and the environment
- Goal 2.** Preserve, protect, and share records and information
- Goal 3.** Meet commitments to the contractor work force
- Goal 4.** Optimize the use of land and assets
- Goal 5.** Sustain management excellence



Goal 2

Atomic Energy of Canada Limited Makes Benchmarking Visit to the Legacy Management Business Center

In March 2012, representatives of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL) traveled to the Legacy Management Business Center (LMBC) in Morgantown, West Virginia. AECL is Canada's leading nuclear science and technology laboratory. The purpose of the visit was to gain an understanding of the processes LM uses to transition records and information systems from decommissioned closure sites.

In their 60 years as a Canadian Crown Corporation, AECL has worked to provide energy, health, environmental, and economic benefits from nuclear science and technology with confidence that nuclear safety and security are assured. Megan Diamond and Kerri McQuigge from AECL were given a presentation and participated in discussions regarding LM's processes and experience in managing legacy records.

LM's Karen Hatch facilitated a presentation on best practices; transition planning for records transfer; storage facilities; maintenance of electronic records; retention and disposition; self-assessments, as well as National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) assessments; and Federal guidance governing records management. LM staff shared critical lessons learned, such as the importance of planning and communication, identification of finding aids, utilizing checklists, scheduling records to be transferred, and identifying effective knowledge transfer.

Tony Carter, LM Senior Policy Advisor, and Edwin Parks, LM Records Management Program Analyst, attended the presentation on LMBC operations for AECL personnel. The AECL representatives were taken on a tour of the LMBC Warehouse and given a records request demonstration using the Warehouse Inventory System and the Electronic Recordkeeping System.

The visit to the LMBC served as a benchmarking opportunity for AECL to gain an understanding of how LM preserves, protects, stores, and transitions records and information systems during the decommissioning process. The visitors were particularly interested in the LMBC Warehouse, as AECL is considering building a warehouse for their records operations.

AECL personnel were impressed by the operations at the LMBC and expressed their appreciation to LM personnel for taking the time to lead the presentation and tour. ❖



LM personnel and records support contractor staff discuss records operations at the LMBC with members of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited.



LMBC warehouse operations are demonstrated for personnel from Atomic Energy of Canada Limited.



LM personnel and records support contractor staff met with representatives from Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL) to discuss records management retention activities at the LMBC. From left are Ruth McKinney, Source One Management; Karen Hatch, LM; Tony Carter, LM; Megan Diamond and Kerri McQuigge, ACEL.



Goal 1

LM Creates Cooperative Agreement with the Northern Arapaho Tribe

On August 25, 2011, the Office of Legacy Management (LM) finalized a new cooperative agreement with the Northern Arapaho Tribe to ensure that an alternate water supply system (AWSS) remains a viable institutional control at the Riverton, Wyoming, Processing Site. The water supply system provides residents living near the site access to safe drinking water.

The Riverton Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act Title I site, located on the Wind River Indian Reservation in central Wyoming, processed uranium ore from 1958 to 1963. Although there is no disposal cell at Riverton (the mill tailings were moved to another uranium mill in Wyoming for disposal), ore processing resulted in contamination of the shallow groundwater. A natural flushing remedy was selected for remediation of the groundwater of the site. Because of a major flood on the Little Wind River in June 2010, contaminants were mobilized. LM will conduct additional work in the summer of 2012 to better define the extent of the groundwater contamination and evaluate how the June 2010 flood and floods in the future may affect the movement of contaminants.

In 1998, DOE and Indian Health Services jointly funded installation of the AWSS to provide potable water to residents in the vicinity of the Riverton site as an alternative to groundwater use. The system consists of more than 8 miles of transmission pipe, a 1,000,000 gallon supply tank, and connections to approximately 30 residences and businesses.

Shortly after installation of the AWSS, concerns about the safety, viability, and longevity of the system were raised by the Northern Arapaho and Eastern Shoshone Tribes, the two tribal nations that share the Wind River

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1,000,000 gallon tank for the alternate water supply system.

Hydrant flushing conducted by the Northern Arapaho Utility Organization.





Goal 5

LM Participates in 2012 Waste Management Conference

The Office of Legacy Management (LM) presented 12 papers and 6 posters at the Waste Management Conference in Phoenix, Arizona, February 27 through March 1. The annual Waste Management Conference is an international conference regarding the management of radioactive material and related topics.

The majority of the LM presentations were part of a panel session titled “Post Closure Challenges and Long-Term Stewardship/Legacy Management.” The session included discussions on topics including postclosure challenges; sites in desert environments; long-term stewardship and monitoring of the Amchitka, Alaska, Site; background concentrations of uranium in groundwater; riparian and upland restoration at the Rocky Flats, Colorado, Site; lessons learned from the annual inspection process at the Weldon Spring, Missouri, Site; and restoration of natural resources at the Fernald Preserve in Harrison, Ohio.

As part of a poster session titled “Environmental Remediation – General,” LM Archives and Information Management team members John Montgomery and Jeanie Gueretta, and Source One records manager, Ruth McKinney, presented a poster on LM’s records management activities. The poster provided detailed information about each phase of the records lifecycle: creation, maintenance, and disposition. The poster also featured a collage of photographs ranging from the Government’s Cold War–era efforts to current operations at the LM Business Center and the LM Grand Junction office.

In addition, LM presented posters on radiation detector calibration models; the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program; the Pinellas County, Florida, Site; phytoremediation at the Monument Valley, Arizona, Processing Site; and operating water monitoring and treatment without line power at the Rocky Flats site. LM also hosted an exhibit with information about the LM program. ❖



LM staff works at the Waste Management Conference.



The poster sessions were well received.



Goal 2

LM Partners with Diné Environmental Institute on Remediation of Uranium Processing Sites

Diné Environmental Institute (DEI) is a key stakeholder and partner in the Office of Legacy Management's (LM) efforts to develop and implement sustainable and culturally acceptable remedies for soil and groundwater contamination at uranium milling and mill tailings disposal sites on the Navajo Nation. DEI is a center for environmental education, research, and community outreach located on the Shiprock, New Mexico, campus of Diné College, the Navajo Nation institution of higher education. DEI plays a key role in shaping the philosophy of remedial actions, advancing the science of sustainable remedies, fostering communication among other stakeholders, listening to and responding to the concerns of the Navajo people, and training a new generation of scientists to address the uranium mining legacy and other environmental and energy issues on the Navajo Nation.

An educational philosophy grounded in the Navajo traditional living system, called Sá'ah Naagháí Bik'eh Hózhóón, places human life in harmony with the natural world. DEI has used this philosophy to guide researchers to look beyond traditional engineering approaches and seek more sustainable remedies for contaminated soil and groundwater at former uranium mill sites near Monument Valley, Arizona, and Shiprock, New Mexico. Both sites are Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act Title I sites managed by LM.

Following this philosophy, researchers are asking, first, what is Mother Earth already doing to heal a land injured by uranium mill tailings, and second, what can we do to help her? This has led researchers to investigate applications of natural and enhanced attenuation remedies involving native plants, or phytoremediation, and indigenous microorganisms, or bioremediation. Although such applications are fairly common in wetland and humid environments, enhanced attenuation in the desert is new and innovative.

DEI faculty and students are working side-by-side with LM scientists and scientists from universities on enhanced attenuation pilot studies for contaminated soil and groundwater at Monument Valley and Shiprock. Diné College faculty, student interns, and local residents have contributed to several aspects of the pilot studies, including site characterization, sampling designs,



Diné College students Alverae Laughter and Westin Lee measure fourwing saltbush plants as part of a greenhouse study of stunted growth and micronutrient supplements at the Tsaile, Arizona, campus.

installation and maintenance of plantings and irrigation systems, monitoring, and data interpretation. Research results look promising.

At Monument Valley, nitrate and ammonium, waste products of the milling process, remain in an alluvial groundwater plume spreading from the soil source where tailings were removed. Planting and irrigating two native phreatophytic shrubs (fourwing saltbush and black greasewood) has markedly reduced both nitrate and ammonium in the source area over an 8-year period.

Most of the reduction is attributable to irrigation-enhanced microbial denitrification rather than plant uptake. However, soil moisture and percolation flux monitoring show that the plantings control the soil-water balance in the source area, preventing additional leaching of nitrogen compounds. Enhanced denitrification and phytoremediation results indicate plume remediation will also be successful. Finally, landscape-scale remote sensing methods developed for the project suggest that transpiration from restored native phreatophyte populations rooted in the aquifer could limit further expansion of the plume.

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Goal 5

LM Stakeholder Survey 2012 Update

In 2005, the Office of Legacy Management (LM) conducted a survey of key stakeholders at four LM sites: Monticello, Utah, Disposal and Processing Sites; Mound, Ohio, Site; Pinellas County, Florida, Site; and Rocky Flats, Colorado, Site. These sites were chosen to include input from stakeholders associated with sites in various stages of long-term maintenance. The purpose of the survey was to conduct an objective, third-party assessment of LM's performance.

Since the original survey 7 years ago, LM has made significant progress. In order to document LM's

evolution, as well as identify areas for improvement moving forward, LM will soon conduct another independent stakeholder survey. The follow-up survey will gauge stakeholder satisfaction regarding LM's outreach and communication efforts, as well as the effectiveness of technical remedies employed at LM sites, changes since the 2005 survey, achievements over the past 6 years, and capability to identify gaps.

LM intends to provide notification of the survey on its website and by mailing postcards to stakeholders. ❖

Goal 2

LM: LEEDing the Way

On February 13, 2012, twenty-four West Virginia University (WVU) students were welcomed by the Office of Legacy Management's (LM) Cheryl Haggard, and Petroplus Lane LLC's JoMarie Conaway Bowers to the LM Business Center (LMBC), a building that has been awarded two Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certifications. The students were conducting research on LEED building design and selected the LMBC as a real-life LEED success story. The students are enrolled in an integrated civil engineering design class, which concentrates on civil engineering design, along with green construction concepts. The LMBC is located in close proximity to the WVU campus.

The students, who were taken on a detailed tour of the building, were interested in observing a LEED Gold-certified building in operation. The LMBC LEED characteristics include daylight for all internal offices via windowed clerestory, occupancy sensor lighting, water usage reduction via low-flow toilets and waterless urinals, a storm water collection system, a fitness center, drought resistant landscaping, and locally made building materials.



West Virginia University students visited the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design-certified Legacy Management Business Center to observe its green features in operation.

The final project for the class is to complete a comprehensive civil engineering project involving several specialties of the field, including designing a LEED-certifiable building incorporating principles of management, contracts and specifications; cost analysis; and study of critical path method as applied to the construction industry.

LM was honored to show off the LMBC to future designers of LEED buildings. ❖

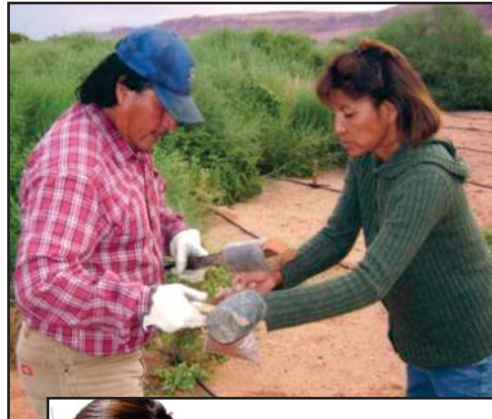


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LM Partners with Diné Environmental Institute on Remediation of Uranium Processing Sites

At Shiprock, groundwater is contaminated by uranium, nitrate, and other constituents as a result of milling operations. Native phreatophytes are extracting water and possibly some of the groundwater constituents. Phytoremediation test plots were set up in 2006 with assistance from DEI students and faculty to evaluate the feasibility of enhancing hydraulic control. Researchers are evaluating several factors that will influence the success of enhanced phytoremediation, including site preparation methods, establishment and growth of different plant species, root access of plume groundwater, and uptake and toxicity of groundwater constituents.

DEI's insight and experience implementing an educational policy that fosters diversity of thought, the joining of tradition and science, and the importance of community has been instrumental in building stakeholder relations. DEI and Diné College are training a new generation of scientists and community leaders who will write the next chapter in the Navajo story about uranium mining, milling, and environmental stewardship. They will know the history, continue the traditions, advance the science, facilitate the needed partnerships, inform the people, protect human health, and fulfill their duty as caretakers of Mother Earth, helping her restore and sustain the health of the land. ❖



Diné College students Garry Jay and Rita White sample soil for nitrogen content as part of soil and groundwater phytoremediation pilot studies at Monument Valley, Arizona.



Diné College students (left to right): Michelle John, Rita White, and Vanessa Todacheenie sample fourwing saltbush plants for analysis of heavy metal uptake in phytoremediation test plots at Shiprock, New Mexico.

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LM Creates Cooperative Agreement with the Northern Arapaho Tribe

Reservation. In 2002, during routine system flushing, elevated concentrations of naturally occurring radionuclides (radium) were detected in samples collected from AWSS hydrants. Studies showed that the radium had been concentrated by a biofilm in the pipes. In response to these concerns and sampling results, LM funded an independent engineering analysis of the AWSS and conducted a 2-year flushing and monitoring study of the system. Recommendations from these evaluations included replacement of system components to support a 100-year lifespan of the system, capital improvements to meet the demands from projected population growth in the area, and a hydrant-flushing program to control build-up of radionuclides in the system.

The new cooperative agreement between LM and the Northern Arapaho Tribe provides critical support to ensure the AWSS delivers safe, potable water to local residents and will accommodate future growth in the area. Specifically, the agreement funds training of tribal personnel who operate the system, periodic flushing of the system, upgrades to the supply tank access road, and corrective maintenance to replace aging system components. Funding to expand system capacity for anticipated future growth includes connecting a newly drilled well to the system and extending a line that is currently a dead end to create a continuous loop in a portion of the system. Elimination of the dead end will enable better flow in the system. ❖



Goal 2

Yucca Mountain Transition Progress – Congressional Interest

The Office of Legacy Management (LM) was assigned responsibility for the Yucca Mountain Project (YMP) records, information systems, and the Licensing Support Network (LSN) with the closure of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (RW) on October 1, 2010. LM's commitment to preserve, protect, and share YMP legacy records and information was recently communicated in a DOE report to Congress. The report highlighted several key points.

DOE has taken numerous steps to preserve the YMP information and ensure that, while there would be some delay, it could resume the licensing proceeding if ordered, provided Congress appropriated funding. As an integral part of planning for the termination of RW, senior DOE management worked with LM to develop comprehensive and systematic plans for transitioning, archiving, and preserving the records, information systems, and scientific knowledge from the YMP previously managed by RW.

These plans are designed to ensure: (1) preservation of the information and electronic systems for storing and retrieving the information, (2) conformity to regulatory requirements for preservation of Federal records, and (3) compliance with applicable Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) regulations and Atomic Safety and Licensing Board orders in the Yucca Mountain licensing proceeding.

LM has preserved the LSN collection of some 3.6 million documents and over 30 million pages relevant to the Yucca Mountain licensing proceeding. LM kept the LSN participant website compliant and accessible via NRC's LSN Internet portal until NRC shut down the portal on August 5, 2011, due to funding constraints. An electronic copy of the DOE LSN collection previously available through the LSN portal is maintained at the LM Business Center (LMBC) in Morgantown, West Virginia. Additionally, an electronic copy has also been provided to the NRC and other parties to the Yucca Mountain licensing proceeding that have requested a copy.

In addition to the LSN, LM has preserved the YMP Records Information System (RIS); and other information systems previously operated by RW and its contractors.



Scientific testing inside the tunnels of Yucca Mountain.

LM completed processing YMP records into the RIS and has moved the hardware, as well as software, for the RIS to the LMBC. Beyond the LSN and RIS, LM has successfully consolidated and moved more than 20 other former YMP information systems from Las Vegas, Nevada, to the LMBC for preservation. Other YMP information systems are being preserved by Sandia National Laboratories.

To date, the LMBC has responded successfully to over 210 routine requests for information from DOE Federal and contractor employees. Members of the public may file requests for documents under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). These requests will be responded to in accordance with DOE's FOIA procedures. ❖



Goal 2

EEOICPA – Dayton Project Update

The U.S. Department of Labor has expanded the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act (EEOICPA) eligibility for former Dayton Project workers. Prior to March 6, 2012, people who worked at the Dayton Project for the Monsanto Chemical Company and R.G. Mattern Company were only eligible for EEOICPA Part B—which provides compensation for beryllium disease, silicosis, or radiation-induced cancer—but were not extended full EEOICPA benefits. People who worked at the facility between 1943 and 1950 are covered under EEOICPA.

During the Cold War, tens of thousands of workers were employed in the nation's atomic weapons programs. Congress passed EEOICPA to provide compensation to people who have become ill as a result of working at atomic weapons facilities. Individuals who worked as an employee, contractor, or subcontractor at a covered site or operation, or their eligible survivors, may be eligible for benefits under EEOICPA.

The Dayton Project originated in 1943 when the Manhattan Engineer District (MED) began to investigate the chemistry and metallurgy of polonium. Because of its earlier work in this field, the Monsanto Chemical Company was chosen as the contractor for the project.

The MED-contracted work was performed at Monsanto's Nicholas Road location (Unit I) in 1943. By October 1944, the expanding project was transferred

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Goal 5

FY 2013 Budget Request

On February 13, 2012, President Barack Obama submitted the fiscal year (FY) 2013 budget request to Congress. The Office of Legacy Management (LM) requested \$177 million. The funding will be divided among LM's five goals as follows:

Goal 1:

Protect Human Health and the Environment

\$41 million
(includes \$1.3 million for Environmental Justice program)

Goal 2:

Preserve, Protect, and Share Records and Information

\$15 million

Goal 3:

Meet Commitments to the Contractor Work Force

\$98 million

Goal 4:

Optimize the Use of Land and Assets

\$10 million

Goal 5:

Sustain Management Excellence

\$13 million

FY 2013 begins on October 1, 2012. ❖

Goal 2

LM Records Digitization Project Update

The Office of Legacy Management (LM) continues to work on a records digitization project which commenced in October 2011. In support of LM's goal to preserve, protect, and share records and information, LM is converting more than 400,000 x-ray film records to digital format. The availability of these records in electronic format will ensure long-term preservation, reduce cost and safety risks, and expedite records retrieval.

The x-ray film digitizing process converts film to electronic images in the Digital Imaging and Communications in Medicine (DICOM) format. DICOM is the accepted international legal standard for digital medical images. Digital processing was performed by a vendor at Louisville, Kentucky, and Grand Junction, Colorado.

During February 2012, initial digitization efforts were completed at the Grand Junction location while digitizing work continues at the Louisville location. After the images are captured in electronic format, all images are verified for quality. The DICOM electronic images will be stored in the LM Electronic Recordkeeping System for accessibility and long-term preservation. The project is planned for completion by September 30, 2012. ❖



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Interagency Working Group Collaborates on Codisposal of Uranium Mine and Mill Tailings Waste in New Mexico

January 2012. The GE remedial project managers, and the former Church Rock Mill Site manager, conducted the tour. The group viewed the condition of the tailings cells and two evaporation ponds at the Church Rock UMTRCA Title II site, as well as the mine shaft and material from the NECR mine site that will be transported to the UMTRCA site. Representatives also walked the Pipeline Arroyo, located southwest of the cells, that is an erosion concern. Deb Steckley, the LM site manager, stated, "The tour was very informative and will help us understand the issues and challenges facing the design team." LM's site manager and technical support, including disposal cell cover engineers and an ecologist, will participate in design working group activities and review repository design studies and documents. EPA has expressed interest in a vegetative cover for the mine waste, similar to that at the LM-managed Monticello site in Utah. Additionally, DOE will have the opportunity to share lessons learned from performing long-term stewardship at 27 UMTRCA disposal cells.

The Church Rock UMTRCA Title II site is located 17 miles northeast of Gallup, New Mexico, in McKinley County. United Nuclear Corporation (UNC) began operating the uranium mill in 1977 under an NRC license. The uranium mill processed ore from nearby mines, including the former NECR mine. UNC closed the mill in 1982 due to a depressed uranium market. UNC was later purchased by GE. An estimated 3.5 million tons of tailings were disposed of in cells built near the uranium mill.

The Church Rock UMTRCA Title II site will eventually transfer from GE to LM after all NRC license requirements are met. LM will then perform long-term surveillance and maintenance of the colocated uranium mine material and mill tailings. The design of the new repository is expected to be a major part of LM's activities under the currently planned second Navajo Nation *Five-Year Plan*. The first plan (2007 through 2012) has been a multiagency effort to address long-term stewardship of UMTRCA cells and associated groundwater contamination, mine reclamation, and studies of the health impacts of uranium mining on former workers and other residents living on the Navajo Nation. Cleanup of material from the NECR mine site and construction of the proposed repository at the



Church Rock UMTRCA Title II Site and Northeast Church Rock Mine Site Tours.

Church Rock UMTRCA Title II site is planned to occur between 2014 and 2018. The realization of the repository is contingent upon issuance of a decision document by EPA Region 6 and modification of the UMTRCA Title II license by NRC. ❖

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EEOICPA – Dayton Project Update

to a building belonging to the Dayton school district at 1601 West First Street (Unit III). When space at Unit III was inadequate to house the Dayton Project work, the project expanded to the former Runnymede Playhouse in Oakwood (Unit IV).

The work being done by the Dayton Project was moved for a final time to the Mound facility in Miamisburg, Ohio, when the operations exceeded the capacity of Units III and IV. In February 1949, processing began at the Mound facility and shortly thereafter Units III and IV of the Dayton Project were decontaminated and demolished with ownership interests in the properties returned to the original owners. ❖



Goal 1

Environmental Justice Activities



2012 National Environmental Justice Conference & Training Program

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Interior, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and the Howard University School of Law have teamed with others to sponsor this year's 2012 National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program. The theme this year will be "Enhancing Communities Through Capacity Building and Technical Assistance."

The conference will bring together individuals and organizations from all aspects of environmental justice for an open debate and to share best practices. In addition, communities that have experienced environmental injustices have requested technical assistance in helping them gain a voice to help affect positive change. As a result, training tracks have been added which will include community-focused technical assistance. This interactive training will provide invaluable information to help these communities achieve their goals.

The conference includes several noteworthy speakers:

- The Honorable Congresswoman Donna Christensen, M.D. (Democrat, U.S. Virgin Islands) will lead a panel on health disparities.
- The Honorable Nancy Sutley, Chairperson of the White House Council on Environmental Quality, will provide a plenary speech.
- Under Secretary for Nuclear Security, Thomas D'Agostino, will be the keynote speaker.
- The Honorable James Clyburn, Assistant Democratic Leader, U.S. Congress (Democrat, South Carolina), will provide welcoming remarks.

The conference kickoff will take place the evening of April 11, 2012, at the Howard University School of Law. The remaining days of the conference, April 12 and 13, will be held at the Washington Marriott at Metro Center. For additional information about DOE's Environmental Justice Program, please contact Melinda Downing, Environmental Justice Program Manager, at melinda.downing@hq.doe.gov or access DOE's Environmental Justice website at http://www.lm.doe.gov/env_justice/index.htm, or the conference website at <http://www.thenejc.org>. ❖

Urban Waters Federal Partnership Hosted by the U.S. Department of Energy

The Urban Waters Federal Partnership (UWFP) is an interagency effort to reconnect urban communities, particularly those overburdened and economically distressed, with their waterways by improving the coordination among Federal agencies and collaborating with community-led revitalization efforts. The partnership has a growing roster of participating Federal agencies.

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Environmental Justice (EJ) Program hosted UWFP's monthly meeting in January 2012 and is working with one of the pilot

locations, the Anacostia Watershed in Washington, DC/Maryland, on an upcoming Community Leaders Institute (CLI). The CLI is a program, administered in partnership with Medical University of South Carolina, to empower minority, low-income, and tribal communities through community capacity-building and technical assistance.

DOE is also working with UWFP on becoming an official partner for a UWFP Signatories Meeting planned for April. The UWFP currently includes seven pilot

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Environmental Justice Activities

Agencies Publish Environmental Justice Strategies to Ensure Protection from Environmental Harm and Benefit from Federal Programs

In August 2011, the Obama Administration renewed its focus and commitment to Executive Order (EO) 12898, *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations*, with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on Environmental Justice (EJ MOU). The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) was one of 17 Federal agencies which signed the EJ MOU.

As part of the EJ MOU, a commitment was made for each agency to finalize its EJ Strategy and publish them by February 2012, the anniversary month of the initial signing of EO 12898. The commitment was included in a news release published jointly in February by the White House Council on the Environment and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. One of DOE's initiatives, Pueblo Project in Los Alamos, New Mexico, which provides four tribal governments the opportunity to run pollution monitoring programs and provide technical input on National Nuclear Security Administration decisions, was highlighted in the news release. To read the news release, visit <http://yosemite.epa.gov/opal/admpress.nsf/d0cf6618525a9efb85257359003fb69d/cd2d72a02dda6281852579b100516ff3!OpenDocument>.

DOE updated its *Environmental Justice Strategy* (Strategy) and published it in 2008. DOE is currently in its fourth year of the Strategy's companion document, the *Environmental Justice Five-Year Implementation Plan*, which guides DOE's environmental justice activities. Work on an updated Strategy will begin later in 2012. ❖

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Urban Waters Federal Partnership Hosted by the U.S. Department of Energy

locations: Anacostia Watershed; Patapsco Watershed/Baltimore Region, Maryland; Bronx and Harlem River Watersheds, New York; South Platte River, Denver, Colorado; Los Angeles River Watershed, California; Lake Pontchartrain Area, New Orleans, Louisiana; and the Northwest Indiana Area. ❖

Alaska Forum on the Environment in Anchorage, Alaska

The Alaska Forum on the Environment (AFE), in its 14th year, was held February 6 through 10, 2012, in Anchorage, Alaska. AFE is a statewide gathering, with an increasing presence of representatives from the continental U.S., including environmental professionals from government agencies, nonprofit and for-profit businesses, community leaders, Alaskan youth, conservationists, biologists, and community elders.

Sessions were held that specifically addressed environmental concerns in Alaska. There were several sessions that addressed tribal and native Alaskan populations. In addition, there were also segments of the conference which involved and promoted Alaska's youth.

For the second consecutive year, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the Medical University of South Carolina gave a presentation on their partnership and one of DOE'S key environmental justice partnerships, the Community Leaders Institute (CLI). The CLI is a program to empower minority, low-income, and tribal communities through community capacity building and technical assistance. A CLI is planned to begin in Alaska this summer. ❖



Participants at the Alaska Forum on the Environment Environmental Justice Collaboration and Policy share ideas in a talking circle. Photo taken in Anchorage, Alaska, on February 8, 2012.



Goal 5

LM Announces Management Changes

Dr. David Shafer has been selected as the new Asset Management Team Leader with responsibility for beneficial reuse, real and personal property, safety, NEPA compliance, environmental sustainability, and the Uranium Leasing Program. He will be working out of the Office of Legacy Management (LM) office in Westminster, Colorado. David joined LM in April 2011 and was serving as LM's Environment Team Leader for the Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act (UMTRCA) sites and Nevada Offsites and as the Grand Junction Office manager.

From 1989 to 1998, David worked in the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Environmental Management on environmental restoration projects managed by DOE field offices in Las Vegas, Nevada, and Albuquerque, New Mexico, as well as at the Hanford Site in Washington State. From 1998 to 2011, he worked for Desert Research Institute (DRI), a nonprofit research organization of the Nevada System of Higher Education. With DRI, he conducted basic and applied research for a variety of Federal agencies, including DOE, the U.S. Department of Defense, the U.S. Forest Service, and the National Science Foundation. At DRI, David also performed work in China and Australia.

After earning degrees in geology and geography at Oregon State University and geological sciences at the University of Tennessee, David earned a doctorate degree in quaternary sciences at the University of Arizona in 1989. David's other work experience includes teaching geology and geomorphology at Colgate University in New York, working as a ranger for the U.S. National Park Service, and working as a natural history instructor at the field station of the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry.

Dr. April Gil has been selected as the Environment Team Leader for UMTRCA sites and Nevada Offsites and as the Grand Junction Office manager. She has oversight responsibility for protection of human health and the environment at former uranium mill sites, uranium mill tailing disposal sites, and the eight sites where the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission conducted subsurface nuclear tests outside of the main Nevada Test Site. April joined LM in June 2010 and was most recently a site manager for UMTRCA Title I and Title II sites in New Mexico and Wyoming.

April started her Federal career with DOE in 1994 as the Chief of the Regulatory Interactions and Compliance Branch of the Yucca Mountain Project. April stayed with the Yucca Mountain Project, moving up to lead the Regulatory Interactions Division and later directing the License Application Development Division.

April has a bachelor of science degree and a master of science degree in geology from the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology and a doctorate in environmental science from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. April spent much of her childhood on the Navajo Nation. ❖

Goal 5

LM Welcomes New Employee

Tim Vanek joined the Office of Legacy Management (LM) on March 24, 2012, as a Realty Specialist. Tim will be working with the Asset Management Team in the Grand Junction, Colorado, office. He comes to LM from the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Challis Field Office, where he served as a Realty Specialist since February 2003. Tim began his Federal service as an Environmental Health Specialist with the Indian Health Service in Tuba City, Arizona. He was born and raised in North Royalton, Ohio, and graduated from Montana State University with a bachelor degree in microbiology. Tim retired from the U.S. Army/Army National Guard with more than 21 years of service. ❖




Anticipated LM Sites Through FY 2015



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

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

Thank you for your assistance.





Legacy Management Goals



Goal 1. Protect human health and the environment

Objectives

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



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

Objectives

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



Goal 3. Meet commitments to the contractor work force

Objectives

1. Safeguard contractor pension plans.
2. Fund contractor health and life insurance.



Goal 4. Optimize the use of land and assets

Objectives

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



Goal 5. Sustain management excellence

Objectives

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



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Legacy
Management

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U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Legacy Management

Program Update

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