



Office of Legacy Management
U.S. Department of Energy



Program Update

July–September 2007

Welcome to the July–September 2007 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.

New U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management Employees

Barbara McNeal

On October 15, 2007, Barbara L. McNeal joins the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Legacy Management (LM) Office of Business Operations as the team lead for the Planning, Budgeting, Acquisition, and Integration team, which is co-located in Washington, DC, and Morgantown, West Virginia.

Barbara comes to us from DOE headquarters, Office of Budget, where she worked as a budget and program analyst for Departmental Administration, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste, and Office of Legacy Management programs. Prior to joining DOE, Barbara worked at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) as an accountant primarily responsible for implementing USDA's Competitive Sourcing Program and in private industry as a manager in the areas of contracts, acquisition, and accounting.

John Montgomery

On October 8, 2007, John Montgomery joins the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management team as team lead for the Archives and Information Management team (LM-10.2) with primary responsibilities in records management and information technology.

John's previous experience includes work for the Bureau of Land Management as Chief Information Manager in the Alaska State Office, Division of Support Services, Branch of Information Technology Services, where he provided policy development, oversight, guidance, and direct operational services.

Goal 5

Office of Management and Budget Program Assessment Rating Tool

The Office of Legacy Management (LM) was selected by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to undergo a 2007 Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART) review during spring/summer 2007. PART is a diagnostic tool used to assess the performance of federal programs and to drive improvements in program performance. OMB scored LM's PART as Moderately Effective based on LM's response to the 25 specific PART questions and supporting evidence. OMB generally defines a program rated as Moderately Effective as having established ambitious goals and being well-managed. This score is a very positive indicator for LM since it was our first PART and supports the requirements to maintain a High Performing Organization designation by OMB.

Directly following the scoring, OMB and LM established the *PART Summary and Improvement Plan*. The one-page document summarizes how LM scored in the PART assessment and provides a discussion of areas that LM is committed to improving. LM's PART document and summary, *Environmental and Post-Retirement Liabilities*, can be viewed by the public at www.ExpectMore.gov.

Visit us at www.LM.doe.gov



Office of Legacy Management Program Update

Goal 2

LM Records Storage Facility Status Report, October 1, 2007

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Legacy Management (LM) decided to consolidate LM's business functions including records management, records storage, information technology infrastructure, and other services in one location, the Consolidated Data Center (CDC), in the vicinity of Morgantown, West Virginia. Although the project originally considered a new building for the Records Storage Facility (RSF), the project goals changed and the facility will now be acquired using a General Services Administration (GSA) lease.

LM contractor staff moved into the CDC in September. The data center equipment installation should be completed by the end of October, when migration of the IT services (software applications and data) will begin. The CDC will be fully operational by May 2008.

Consolidating services in one location provides for direct oversight of the contractor by federal IT staff members already stationed in the Morgantown area; reduces travel costs in support of the LM IT mission; will reduce the time and complexities of transitioning the IT infrastructure into the Record Storage Facility when it is scheduled for occupancy in late 2009; and will allow LM to accelerate its movement to more energy-efficient IT equipment.

Project Schedule and Status

- The project is currently on-schedule and within budget. The RSF will occupy approximately 56,500 square feet (19,500 square feet for administration and office space and 37,000 square feet for records processing and warehouse space) in Morgantown, West Virginia.
- The July 17, 2007, DOE-GSA Market Survey and August 1, 2007, Site Review by Mike Owen resulted in LM management approving the Sabraton-Tin Mill site as the preferred site. This approval was contingent upon resolution of the 500-year flood plain issue and completion of the environmental liability analyses for the site including issues related to the Voluntary Program clean-up as a Brownfield's site, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance, and survey information.
- On August 15, 2007, LM executed the Reimbursable Work Authorization funding document for the due-diligence activities such as NEPA compliance, environmental audits, soil tests, and floodplain analysis. GSA has started this work on the Sabraton-Tin Mill Crossroads Site.
- GSA and the LM RSF team prepared a project organization chart to outline the interactions between LM and GSA, between LM and the DHS (security issues), and between GSA and the developer, an architect, a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) consultant which will assist the project in its Green Building Rating goals; and construction contractors, subcontractors, and others.
- The Solicitation for Offers will go on the street by January 15, 2008. The Lease Award is scheduled for June 2008. Construction completion is planned for October 2009 and Occupancy by DOE is scheduled for December 2009.



Office of Legacy Management Program Update

Goal 1

Weldon Spring Site Field Trips Are Tops on Educators' Calendars

Although Legacy Management (LM) sites are found in a wide variety of locations throughout the United States, typically LM sites reside in relatively remote areas. These sites aren't often thought of as a sought-out destination for the public! However, the LM Weldon Spring Site located in St. Charles, Missouri, about 30 miles west of St. Louis, is unusual in that it has become a popular public attraction and one of the premier field trip destinations for hundreds of schools across the St. Louis metropolitan area.

Historically, the site was used for trinitrotoluene (TNT) and dinitrotoluene (DNT) production during World War II and uranium refining during the Cold War era. After a 20-year period of inactivity, Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) remedial action of the site started in 1986 and was substantially complete by 2002. A 45-acre disposal facility was constructed to encapsulate contaminated waste from the site. In order to address issues associated with remaining contamination, the site adopted the unique approach of operating an interpretive center to ensure institutional control and community involvement commitments would continue to be met.

The vision for an on-site Interpretive Center (the Center) began in 1999 with a proclamation signed by then-U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Secretary Bill Richardson and the directors of the Missouri Department of Conservation and Missouri Department of Natural Resources. DOE's philosophy was to make the site a community asset by offering educational opportunities that would ensure long-term understanding of the conditions that remain. However, the challenge was to get the word out to the public that the site was not only cleaned up and safe, but a fun and educational place to visit as well.

The entire site and the Center opened to the public in 2002. Since the site is

located directly on a highway that leads to some of the area's most popular tourist attractions, the visitors started trickling in. People couldn't help but stop, point at the massive disposal cell, and ask, "What is that thing?" Center staff became very adept at explaining the entire history of the site and the reason for the disposal cell. Many members of the public already knew the history of the site, but were pleased to find that the Center answered their questions and addressed any doubts they had about the safety of the site. The Center also became an important tool for explaining the long-term surveillance and maintenance program for the site.

However, visitation really started to grow when it became clear that the Center provided a much-needed source of environmental education for area schools. Teachers were looking for science-oriented field trip destinations that could show students the practical applications of concepts they were learning, and the site offered just that and more. A variety of educational programs were developed ranging from a hike to the top of the disposal cell and subsequent discussion about human impact on the environment, to learning about ground water flow, and even the properties of radioactive materials. Each program was carefully designed to hold students' interest through many hands-on activities, while sending a clear message about the site's history and future. All programs were developed with the ability to be

Continued on page 8



The Weldon Spring Disposal Cell area provides users with many recreational opportunities.



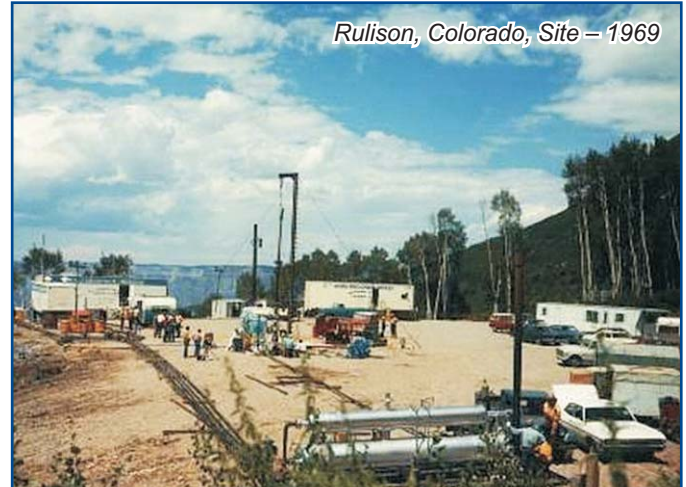
Goal 1

Report Evaluates Potential Contamination Migration at the Rulison Historic Nuclear Explosion Site

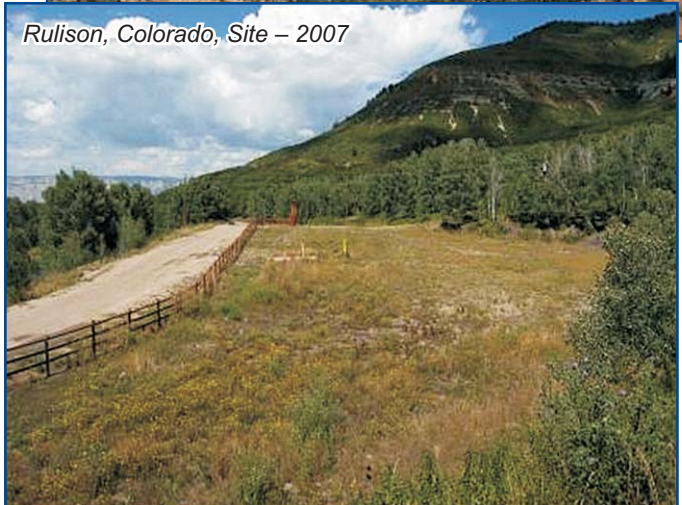
The Office of Legacy Management (LM) recently released a modeling report conducted to predict potential migration of radionuclides at the underground nuclear explosion site in Rulison, Colorado. The report, Tritium Transport at the Rulison Site, a Nuclear-Stimulated Low-Permeability Natural Gas Reservoir, evaluates potential radionuclide migration from the nuclear explosion site with the presence of nearby natural gas drilling. The report will be used as a tool in the decision process to determine the long-term management of the site.

Project Rulison was the second natural gas reservoir stimulation experiment in the Plowshare Program, which was designed to develop peaceful uses for nuclear energy. On September 10, 1969, the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, a predecessor agency of the U.S. Department of Energy, detonated a 40-kiloton nuclear device 8,426 feet below the ground surface in an attempt to release commercially marketable quantities of natural gas. Contamination was subsequently removed from the surface of the blast site. No feasible technology exists to remove subsurface radioactive contamination in or around the test cavity.

The modeling report assesses tritium migration under two scenarios: (1) no drilling near the site and (2) natural gas production conditions. The model evaluates tritium migration from the Rulison detonation point to a hypothetical gas production well in the most vulnerable location outside of the current drilling exclusion area. Conceptual flow and transport models were developed to simulate tritium migration. Tritium was selected for the model because the most likely transport pathway from the detonation zone to the surface would be through tritiated water vapor to a well producing gas. Results indicate that tritium at concentrations above natural background levels would not reach the hypothetical production well in 95 percent of simulations. Tritium is produced naturally in the upper atmosphere when cosmic rays strike nitrogen molecules in the air and is also produced during nuclear explosions. An average natural background level of tritium is three picocuries per liter. A curie is a measure of radioactivity; "pico" means



Rulison, Colorado, Site – 1969



Rulison, Colorado, Site – 2007

one-trillionth of a unit. Rainwater contains about 25 picocuries of tritium per liter.

"This report represents a significant technical milestone to move forward with the long-term management of the site and to ensure that the public's health and welfare and the environment are protected," said Tom Pauling, LM Environment Team Lead. The report will be reviewed by staff from the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, two state agencies involved with regulating the site.

The report is available on the LM website at <http://www.lm.doe.gov/land/sites/co/rulison/rulison.htm>.



Office of Legacy Management Program Update

Goal 4

DOE Announces Renewal and Expansion of Uranium Leasing Program

On July 6, 2007, the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management (DOE-LM) finalized the *Uranium Leasing Program Final Programmatic Environmental Assessment* (PEA) and issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the preferred "Expanded Program" alternative. Under this alternative, DOE-LM will continue the Uranium Leasing Program, extending the 13 existing leases for a 10-year period, and offering additional leases (up to 25 lease tracts) to the domestic uranium industry for the same 10-year period. This decision supports the intent of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 while also providing a source of revenue to the federal government from mining royalties.

In making the decision, DOE-LM reviewed and considered all comments received on the draft document during the public review process. In response to those comments, the final PEA now includes: (1) clarification of the purpose, need, and scope; (2) a more realistic ore production and transportation evaluation for the expanded leasing program; (3) an expanded discussion of the potential affects of an ore haul truck accident; (4) additional stipulations that will be incorporated into all future lease documents to address specific critical issues, including collaboration with other federal, state, and local agencies to identify, assess, and implement actions to lessen local traffic impacts.

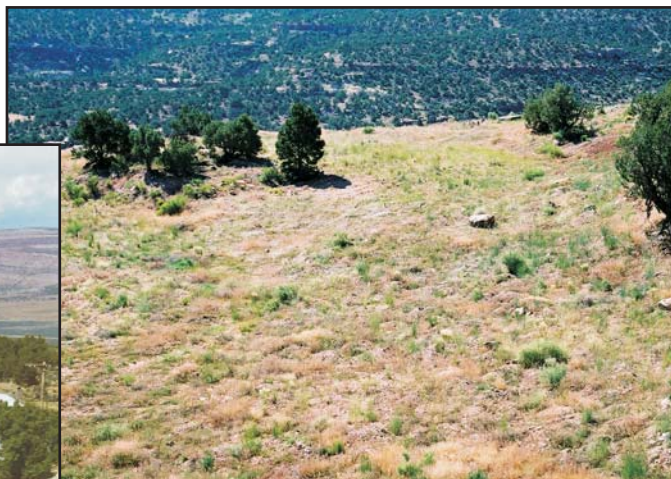
For more than 30 years, DOE has administered numerous leaseholder operations, including

exploration, mine-development, and extraction of material, without any significant environmental impacts. Additionally, DOE was proactive in successfully completing reclamation activities at its legacy abandoned uranium mine sites that dated back to the 1950s and 1960s. DOE-LM is now preparing to extend that critical stewardship role into the future for another 10-year period.

Under the Expanded Program alternative, DOE-LM will assure that the public's health and welfare and the environment are protected. The leaseholders are required to comply with all applicable statutes, rules, and regulations and are required to post reclamation performance bonds that are sufficient to fund the ultimate reclamation of their respective lease operations. After ensuring that the leases contain all necessary provisions and stipulations, DOE-LM will extend the 13 active leases to the current leaseholders and will proceed with the solicitation process for exploration and mining of up to 25 additional lease tracts.

A link to the PEA and FONSI documents can be found on the DOE-LM website at http://www.LM.doe.gov/land/sites/uranium_leasing/uranium_leasing.htm. Hard copies (paper version or CD) of the documents can be requested by calling 1-800-399-5618.

C-JD-5 Mine (active)



C-CM-25 Mine (reclaimed)



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Goal 4

Former New Brunswick Laboratory Site Sold in a Public Auction

The General Services Administration (GSA) completed an online auction of the former New Brunswick Laboratory site located in New Brunswick, New Jersey, resulting in a final bid of \$1,125,000 by a private buyer. The online auction was open to the public from May 21, 2007, until July 11, 2007. In the event the high bidder is unable to complete the transaction, GSA will begin negotiations with the second highest bidder. The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management and GSA anticipate a letter of "No Further Action" (no further cleanup required) from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP). Issuance of the letter is required before the property can be transferred to the new owner.

The New Brunswick Laboratory was operated as a general nuclear chemistry laboratory performing radiochemical analyses for the Manhattan Engineer District and the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission from 1948 to 1977. After the site was closed and laboratory operations and personnel were relocated, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) began cleanup operations. DOE completed remediation of the site in 1996 and certified that the site complied with applicable radiological cleanup criteria in 2001.

Before the site could be transferred to a public agency or sold to the general public, NJDEP required additional ground water and soil testing. Test results found elevated levels of arsenic in one soil sample. NJDEP found that site ground water quality was acceptable.

The property is subject to a Deed Notice to be issued by the NJDEP. The Deed Notice was recorded at the Office of the Clerk of Middlesex County, New Jersey, on September 20, 2007, in Book 05871, Page 0866, to restrict certain uses on the remediated property. The buyer's deed will include the restriction that prohibits excavation in the area of the elevated arsenic, pursuant to the Deed Notice. The conveyance of the property will be completed upon the issuance by the NJDEP of a "No Further Action" letter in October 2007.

In accordance with state law, DOE will inspect the property every other year and certify that the use



The former New Brunswick Laboratory site located in New Brunswick, New Jersey, was sold to a private buyer via an online auction.

restrictions are observed by the owner and the site remains protective of human health and the environment.

For more information on this topic, contact Steve Schiesswohl, DOE Office of Legacy Management, at (720) 377-9683.

Goal 3

Work Force Restructuring Benefits Contract

On February 21, 2007, the Office of Legacy Management (LM) signed a contract with Professional Services of America (PSA) to provide administrative support for LM's responsibilities to provide post-closure benefits for involuntarily separated workers at the Fernald, Mound, and Rocky Flats sites. Administrative activities the contractor is responsible for include outplacement services, tuition reimbursement, relocation assistance, entrepreneurial resource programs, and tracking a preference-in-hiring program. The contract will run through February 21, 2009. PSA is directed by a Native American certified as a Women's Business Enterprise and Small Disadvantaged Enterprise.



Office of Legacy Management Program Update

Goal 1

Environmental Justice Community Education and Advisory Project

This project is a partnership with two federal agencies, a Grass Roots Community, a local university, and the private sector in Aiken, South Carolina. The project is funded as part of the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Environmental Justice (EJ) Program. This is an EJ grant with Savannah State University (SSU) Savannah, Georgia, and has been funded by the Department since 1995. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) began matching DOE's funding level annually since October 2000. This grant has benefited SSU by giving the university an opportunity to develop a state-of-the-art Environmental Science Master's Program with over 30 graduates, mentoring more than 60 interns, and coordinating a "Teaching Radiation Technology and Energy Workshop" for more than 250 math and science teachers. Additionally, SSU's subcontractor Citizens for Environmental Justice's (CFEJ) executive director, has held over 60 community outreach meetings with stakeholders in Georgia and South Carolina, and held more than 10 bi-state conferences in Savannah, Georgia. DOE's Savannah River Site (SRS) EJ Program is unique to the Department due to the partnership among a local university, the community, two federal agencies, and the private sector contractor.

Minority Energy Task Consortium

In July 2007, the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Legacy Management, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Small Town Alliance, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce convened a roundtable discussion with the newly established "Minority Energy Task Force" (METF). The METF is a collaboration of non-profit organizations, federal agencies, historically black colleges and universities and minority-serving institutions (HBCU/MSI), and private sector corporations (energy industry specialists) designed to explore and develop opportunities that empower minorities to own and work in all aspects of the field of alternative energy.

Phase I of the consortium's primary objectives is to find ways to:

- Include minorities in the development and ownership of infrastructure in the alternative energy industry.

- Mentor minorities to qualify and compete for ownership and career opportunities throughout the industry.
- Promote research and education programs to inform the public about legislation that promotes minority participation in the alternative energy industry.
- Build a mentor/protégé program between HBCU/MSI and industry leaders to enhance minority participation in ownership and career success.

Phase II will be a roundtable panel discussion scheduled for November 15, 2007, in Washington, DC. Phase II should produce a well-balanced consortium committed to working together to produce effective solutions that bridge the gap between alternative energy and minorities and rural communities.

Phase III will bring together the consortium, minorities, and rural community residents interested in the field of alternative energy at the National Environmental Justice Conference, March 27-29, 2008, in Washington, DC. This venue will serve to actively engage minorities by introducing them to various aspects of the industry and the consortium.

Holly Hill Technology Center Grand Opening

Approximately 100 elected officials and residents participated in the grand opening of the Holly Hill Technology Center on Saturday, September 15, 2007. This is the second South Carolina community technology center that the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Environmental Justice Program collaborative partnership has opened this year. Last year, DOE committed to supporting at least two centers in response to a request from Congressman James Clyburn. In each instance, DOE's Office of Legacy Management (LM) found a local organization that would be the responsible party for housing the center and providing local leadership. The computers, furniture, and other equipment in the centers are excess and surplus government equipment. LM leads a broad-based partnership that helps the centers find the necessary resources and assistance to become financially self-sufficient. Current participants in the Holly Hill effort include Community Organization for Rights and Empowerment, Orangeburgh Consolidated School District 3, DOE, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, General Services Administration, Claflin University, United Negro College Fund Special



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Programs, the Office of Congressman James Clyburn, and others. The mission of the Holly Hill Technology Center is to build capacity in the Holly Hill, South Carolina, region for using computer-based technologies as a means of environmental protection, academic achievement, and economic development.

United Negro College Fund Mentors for Environmental Scholars Program

In September 2007, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) awarded the United Negro College Fund Special Programs Corporation with a renewed 5-year Cooperative Agreement to administer the Mentorship for Environmental Scholars (MES) Program. Since its inception, the MES Program has provided 54 underrepresented students with exposure to the environmental research projects in which the Department is actively involved. The overall long-term goal of the MES Program is to provide traditionally underrepresented students with exposure to research in the areas of biotechnology, computer science, environmental science, and engineering. The MES program is a shining example of how DOE is striving to ensure the strength of our nation's scientific research that is aligned with its research agenda and missions through the MES program.

Addition of photos to pages 7 and 8 will fill this space

Continued from page 2

Weldon Spring Site Field Trips Are Tops on Educators' Calendars (continued)

tailored to fit a wide age range and were crafted to complement Missouri science curriculum standards.

For 2007, it is projected that the Center will reach nearly 20,000 members of the community, largely through scheduled groups, but also through walk-in visitors and outreach efforts to schools that have limited field trip funding. Schools are calling earlier and earlier to schedule trips, causing the Center calendar to fill up quickly and require scheduling groups as far as eight months in advance.

The Weldon Spring Site Interpretive Center will continue to provide the community with pertinent information about the site. Public response to site activities has been very positive and LM feels that this type of feedback is essential to ensuring long-term understanding of the site mission.



The Hollenbeck Middle School Science Club Tours the Weldon Spring Interpretive Center

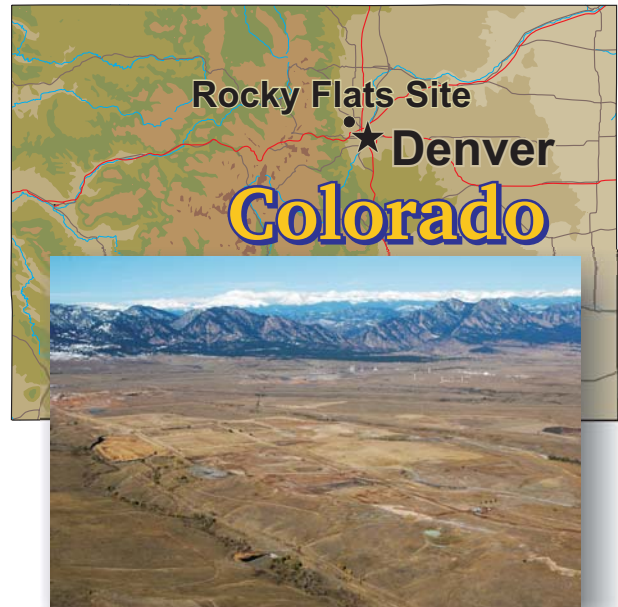


Office of Legacy Management Program Update

Goal 5

Office of Legacy Management Training and Retreat Includes Tour of the Rocky Flats Site

During the annual Office of Legacy Management (LM) Training and Retreat in June 2007, Director Michael W. Owen and the LM staff had an opportunity to tour the Rocky Flats Site to gain a greater appreciation for long-term surveillance and maintenance operations. Following the tour, many employees reported that it gave them a greater understanding of site closure processes and long-term surveillance and monitoring operations. During the tour, Rocky Flats staff discussed site remediation; ground water control; water sampling and testing techniques; re-vegetation; and design and operation of the remediation cells. The site, which at one time had more than 800 structures, now has no building complexes, and the majority of the property was transferred to the U.S. Department of Interior for management by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge in July 2007.



Requirements for eastern Colorado in the summer include a pavilion and refreshments. LM employees discuss site activities with Bob Darr, the support contractor site representative.



Jalena Maestas, Liz Weyler, and Chris Pennal observe during a stop on the tour. Employees learn that the site handles pond operations, landfills, and numerous eco-systems. The Preble's meadow jumping mouse found on the site is a threatened species receiving special habitat attention, and engineered wetlands have been created to enhance the bio-diversity of the site. LM has enhanced the site's natural habitat through revegetation, erosion control and noxious weed and pest control.



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