



By the Numbers Los Alamos National Laboratory

Updated May 2022



Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), located in Los Alamos, New Mexico, was established in 1943 as Site Y of the Manhattan Project for a single purpose: to design and build an atomic bomb. It took just 20 months to detonate the world's first atomic bomb 200 miles south of Los Alamos at the Trinity Site on the Alamogordo bombing range. The Department of Energy's Environmental Management Los Alamos Field Office (EM-LA) investigates hazardous chemical and radioactive materials contamination as a result of past LANL operations and remediates sites where such materials are found above acceptable regulatory levels. This is known as the legacy cleanup mission.

Cleanup locations include sites of former LANL buildings, hillsides, canyon bottoms, and old landfills. Mission activities include surface and groundwater monitoring and remediation, removing contaminated soil, and decontaminating and decommissioning surplus process-contaminated buildings. Cleanup of contaminated sites follows the 2016 Compliance Order on Consent with the New Mexico Environment Department.

Additionally, EM-LA retrieves, remediates, packages, and disposes of radioactive waste. Most low level and mixed low-level waste is transported from LANL and disposed of in commercially licensed facilities, while transuranic (TRU) waste is disposed of at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, located in Carlsbad, New Mexico.

40

monitoring, extraction, and injection wells have been installed in and around the hexavalent chromium plume at LANL. These wells and associated infrastructure support characterization and migration of the plume via an interim measure.



2,100

potentially contaminated sites were originally identified for action, ranging from small spills to large landfills.

>1/2

of contaminated sites have been investigated and, if needed, remediated.

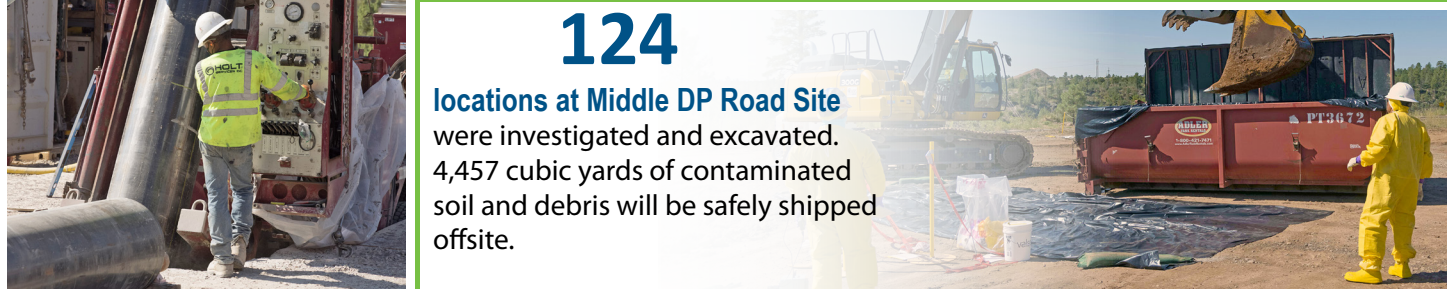
124

locations at Middle DP Road Site were investigated and excavated. 4,457 cubic yards of contaminated soil and debris will be safely shipped offsite.



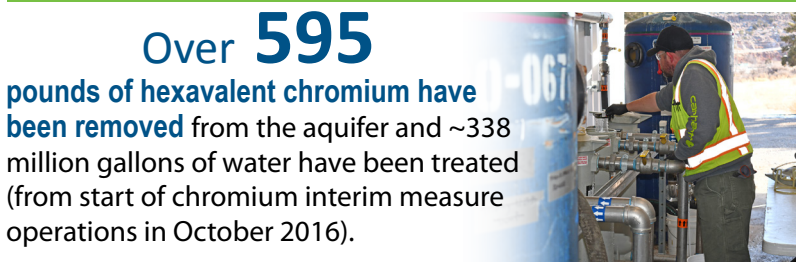
Over the next decade,

work at TA-54 will center on the processing and disposal of above-ground waste inventories, and the processing of retrievably stored below-grade transuranic waste.



Over 595

pounds of hexavalent chromium have been removed from the aquifer and ~338 million gallons of water have been treated (from start of chromium interim measure operations in October 2016).



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

OFFICE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT