

# U.S. Department of Energy Long-Term Stewardship Working Group (LTSWG) Overview

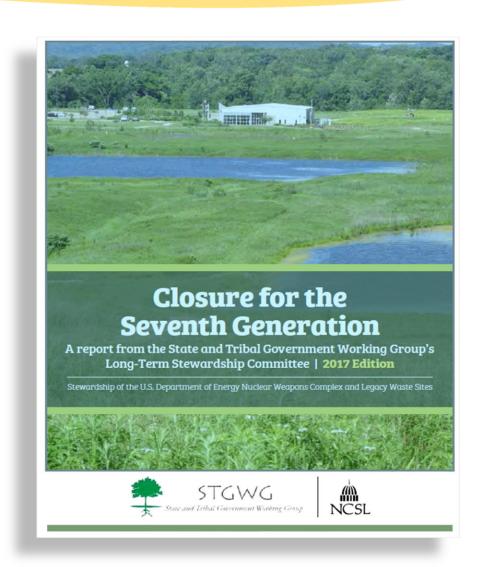
For Spring STGWG Meeting 2023

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Director for Subsurface Closure

**May 2023** 

- State and Tribal Government Working Group (STGWG) 2017
   Closure for Seventh Generation Report
- STGWG provided 23 recommendations for DOE regarding:
  - ➤ LTS Planning Process
  - > LTS Implementation
  - Funding and Budget Process
  - > Tribal Issues and Engagement
  - > Public Education and Awareness
- In response to the STGWG, the DOE Long Term Stewardship Working Group (LTSWG) was formed



## **LTSWG Mission**

To develop tools and provide recommendations to DOE leadership to foster a collaborative, consistent approach to long-term stewardship planning and implementation across the DOE enterprise.

- The DOE is committed to safe and responsible management associated with the closure of World War II and Cold War era sites.
- The LTSWG was created to ensure collaboration on high priority national and cross-cutting site-level long-term stewardship (LTS) topics across EM, LM, and NNSA, the DOE organizations.
- Our commitment to LTS is demonstrated through protection of human health and the environment and transparent communication and management of taxpayer dollars.
- DOE values working closely with federal, tribal, state, and local governments to ensure public and environmental safety for generations to come.

#### LTSWG Objectives Include:

- Providing guidance on incorporating <u>Closure for the Seventh-Generation</u> recommendations into long-term stewardship planning and implementation
- Coordinating communication, education, and outreach on DOE long-term stewardship status to enable productive exchanges of information with federal agencies, tribes, states, and local governments, stakeholders, and communities
- Soliciting input on next priorities from federal agencies, tribes, states, local governments, stakeholders, and communities as part of outreach
- Developing a consistent approach for LTS site transfer and stewardship that addresses best practices and lessons learned
- Identifying and leveraging knowledge, skills, and technology needed to address emerging issues in long-term stewardship and refinements in remedies



## Jointly organized and led by:

- DOE Office of Environmental Management (EM-1)
- Office of Legacy Management (LM-1)
- National Nuclear Security
   Administration (NA-50)

## Consists of representatives from:

- EM Office of Regulatory and Policy Affairs (EM-4)
- LM Office of the Deputy Director (LM-2)
- NNSA, Office of Environment and Sustainability (NA-533)

- Members are federal employees and include site and subject matter representatives to reflect implementation experience and encourage cross-Departmental collaboration.
- Quarterly meetings rotating between Washington, D.C., and DOE sites

# LTSWG Committees

- LTSWG Committee Development
  - Temporary Committee
     Short Term Objectives
  - Permanent/Standing Committee Long Term Objectives
  - Committees composed of 6-9 members



Current LTSWG Committees	Purpose
Site Transfer Best Practices	Develop a consistent approach for LTS site transfer and stewardship that addresses best practices and lessons learned by reviewing existing LTS documents and practices utilized by DOE program offices
Information Management/GIS	Develop and recommend common approaches to information management with an initial focus on Geospatial Information System (GIS) data collection and platforms for sites transitioning to LTS, including best practices for sharing and managing site-level cleanup information through GIS
Communications and Education	Execute the strategy for internal and external communications

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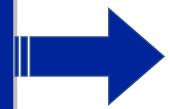
## **STGWG Recommendation #3**

Begin the process of developing LTS plans and other oversight mechanisms at operating and cleanup sites before completion of cleanup at any site area or parcel.

- Consider how LTS applies to the entire site or specific site areas and the associated timelines of LTS planning and implementation.
- ➤ Ensure that sites with ongoing missions follow the 10 elements for transition of land into LTS
- Ensure that LTS plans maintain flexibility while protecting human health and the environment by accounting for future changes to risk scenarios as site uses change

## Response

LTSWG will develop a consistent approach for LTS site transfer and stewardship that addresses best practices and lessons learned by reviewing existing LTS documents and practices utilized by DOE program offices.



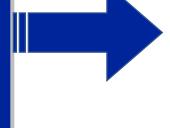
### **STGWG Recommendation #20**

Ensure information about contaminated areas within sites is preserved, communicated and made accessible for states, tribes and future site users.

Seek improvements in accessibility of site LTS data/documents and continuity in data collection and storage for states and tribes using the information.

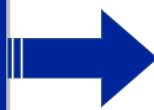


LTSWG will utilize multiple resources to facilitate open and two-way communication about best practices and strategies to regulators, tribes, and stakeholders.



## **STGWG Recommendation #22**

Continue to support existing visitor centers and consider the development of additional visitor centers, as appropriate, and other methods of providing information to the public on the history and cleanup actions at a site.



## Response

LTSWG will execute the strategy for internal and external communications.

Regarding communication with partners, stakeholders, and tribes, a variety of platforms will be used to distribute information, including email updates and a website operated by the Office of Legacy Management, among other strategies.

# LTSWG DRAFT Communications Strategic Overview

- Update overview
- Develop and maintain Long-term Stewardship web presence with information and resources
- Offer overviews and information on LTSWG activities
- Offer internal DOE brown bag informational sessions on LTSWG



## **Next steps:**

- Continue dialogue
- Solicit feedback from STGWG on plans and activities.
- Build on our current understanding of each other's needs



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