



## K-25 east wing demolition wraps up, north end next

Demolition activities for the K-25 Building’s east wing have been completed, and workers are moving on to the facility’s north end. A small section of the east wing, located on the south end, will require further deactivation before it can be demolished.

The north end is the smallest of the gaseous diffusion building’s three major sections, which were aligned in a u-shaped pattern. The building was a mile long from one end of the “u” to the other. Most of the demolition debris is being disposed at the Environmental Management Waste Management Facility.



Workers were wrapping up the east wing demolition when this photo was taken on Sept. 5. The north end sits in the foreground.

## Last shipment made of K-25 Vault 1X waste at ETPP

The final shipment has been made of a stockpile of unusual waste types stored at East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP).

The classified, radioactive contaminated waste, which requires off-site disposal, was stored in Vault 1X at the K-25 Building. It was generated onsite more than a decade ago.

In 2008, with the demolition of the K-25 Building approaching, a cleanup team was assembled to characterize the types of wastes stored in the vault. This characterization information was used to determine the best means of disposal. Much of the waste was separated, repackaged, and shipped to the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS). The remainder, packaged in 177 containers, required treatment before being disposed.

URS | CH2M Oak Ridge LLC (UCOR), the U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE) Oak Ridge cleanup contractor, established a turn-key contract with East Tennessee

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## Summer bus tours of Oak Ridge facilities attract 1,600

The DOE Oak Ridge facilities summer public bus tours concluded Aug. 31, attracting approximately 1,600 guests to the Oak Ridge Reservation.

The annual tour was offered from June through August and included visitors from 40 states. Since its inception in 1996, the DOE public tour program has attracted approximately 27,600 visitors to the Oak Ridge Reservation.

The three-hour bus tour, which includes off-the-bus stops, allows participants the opportunity to interact at DOE's Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Y-12 National Security Complex, and ETP. Guests receive guided commentary providing historical facts and updates about the world-class missions currently under way in Oak Ridge.

The tour program is sponsored each year by the DOE Oak Ridge Office and the National Nuclear Security Administration's Y-12 Site Office. Tour partners included UT-Battelle, LLC, which operates the Oak Ridge National Laboratory; Babcock & Wilcox Technical Services Y-12, LLC, management and operating contractor at the Y-12 National Security Complex; UCOR, Oak Ridge environmental management contractor; The Friends of Oak Ridge National Laboratory; and the American Museum of Science and Energy.

More information about the DOE Oak Ridge Office can be found at [www.oakridge.doe.gov](http://www.oakridge.doe.gov). For those interested in learning more about the American Museum of Science and Energy's current attractions, visit [www.amse.org](http://www.amse.org).



A former K-25 worker during the 1940s, James Bowers (seated) participated in the 2012 DOE Oak Ridge facilities public bus tour. Pictured with Mr. Bowers is his grandson David Bowers (left), and son Tom Bowers (right).



### ORSSAB to meet

The Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board (ORSSAB) will meet at 6 p.m., Wednesday, October 10, at the DOE Information Center, 1 Science.gov Way, in Oak Ridge. The presentation will focus on the DOE Accumulated Waste Disposition Activity.

Contact: Melyssa Noe, (865) 241-3315  
 ORSSAB Support Office: (865) 241-4583 or 241-4584  
 Internet: [www.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab/](http://www.oakridge.doe.gov/em/ssab/)

### A bright idea . . .

A recent report sponsored by DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy finds that LED light bulbs have less environmental impact than CFLs and significantly less than incandescents when taking into account the bulbs' complete life cycles. These bulbs brighten instantly, have the same warm glow as incandescent bulbs, and boast superior efficiency, durability, and longevity. LED bulb prices have fallen 20% in the past year alone as more and more Americans adopt this energy-saving technology.

## Safety Fest gives participants guidance for staying safe

The first-ever Oak Ridge Safety Fest was held Sept. 11-14 at the New Hope Center.

The event was cosponsored by DOE Environmental Management, the City of Oak Ridge, and several other entities. The event provided free safety-related training for individuals, small businesses, local municipality employees, teachers, emergency responders, and individuals desiring to improve the safety performance of their businesses.

Classes covered topics such as CPR and first aid certification, fall prevention, hazard mapping, office safety, hoisting and rigging, and welding safety. All sessions were free.



Pike Electric Inc. demonstrated safety measures needed around power lines.



Safety Fest featured displays from various organizations in the local area.



URS's slip simulator, which teaches people how to walk on slick surfaces, was among the activities at Safety Fest.

## Vault 1X cleanup (continued from p. 1)

Materials and Energy Corporation (M&EC) to treat the waste and dispose of it at NNSS.

"We ensured that the removal and transportation of this waste was done safely with a lot of collaboration among UCOR, M&EC, and DOE," said Mark Ferri, UCOR K-25 Project Manager. "Removing these wastes brings us one step closer to being able to complete demolition of the facility."

Vault 1X is located in a portion of the K-25 Building's east wing that is not currently undergoing de-

molition. Five units on the south end of the wing are contaminated with technetium-99, a slow-decaying radioactive material, and further deactivation will be needed before that section can be demolished. Demolition of the rest of the east wing is nearing completion, and workers are gearing up to begin demolition of the north end, the only other portion of the building that remains standing.

## New CERCLA documents

Available at the DOE Information Center

DOE/OR/01-2457&D2/A1: *Addendum FY-12-BCV-01 to the Water Resources Restoration Program Sampling and Analysis Plan for the Bear Creek Valley Watershed*

DOE/OR/01-2560&D1: *Remediation Strategy Plan for the Molten Salt Reactor Experiment at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee*

DOE/OR/01-1982&D2: *Water Resources Restoration Program Sampling and Analysis Plan for the Melton Valley Watershed, Oak Ridge Reservation, Oak Ridge, Tennessee*

DOE/OR/01-2574&D1: *Action Memorandum for the Time-Critical Removal Action for the Removal of Mercury from the Storm Sewer System at the Y-12 National Security Complex, Oak Ridge, Tennessee*

DOE/OR/01-2524&D2: *Fiscal Year 2011 Phased Construction Completion Report for Poplar Creek at the East Tennessee Technology Park, Oak Ridge, Tennessee*

DOE/OR/01-2582&D1: *Notification of Non-Significant Change to the Action Memorandum for the Decontamination and Decommissioning of the K-25 and K-27 Buildings, East Tennessee Technology Park, Oak Ridge, Tennessee: Demolition of the North Wing and Retaining Walls*

## EM staff spotlight: Rick Farr

Richard (Rick) Farr serves as a DOE Facility Representative at ORNL in the Facilities Operations Division of the Oak Ridge Site Office Environmental Management organization.

Mr. Farr earned his degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Tennessee (Knoxville) in 1980, and in 1981 he went to work for the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), Knoxville, where he was heavily involved in the start-up of the TVA's Sequoia Nuclear Plant and the Watts Bar Nuclear Plant. While employed at TVA, he held several positions as system engineer, pre-operational engineer, project control engineer, and project manager.

In 1991, Farr began his DOE Oak Ridge career in the Facilities Operations Division of the Environmental Management organization as a Project Manager, and after a couple of years, he was appointed as a Facility Representative at the Department's Fernald, Ohio, facility.

Since coming to the DOE Oak Ridge Office, all of Farr's positions have involved project management of high hazard category 2 facilities, including the Molten Salt Reactor Experiment, TRU Waste Processing Center, gunite tanks, K-25, all of the environmental management reactors at ORNL, the ORNL isotope circle EM facilities, and other environmental management facilities at the DOE Oak Ridge Office.

In Farr's spare time, he enjoys spending time with his family, church activities, boating, camping, and four-wheeling.



Rick Farr

## ETTP receives Federal Electronics Challenge award

ETTP has become the first DOE Environmental Management site to receive the Federal Electronics Challenge (FEC) platinum award.

The FEC is a partnership program that encourages federal facilities and agencies to purchase greener electronic products, reduce impacts of electronic products during use, and manage obsolete electronics in an environmentally safe way. Federal agencies and facilities participate as partners in the program.

ETTP received the gold award in 2011 and is now one of only 10 platinum winners in 2012. The site won the platinum award, the highest level given, largely for its efforts in recycling end-of-life electronic equipment, purchasing environmentally friendly computer products, reducing paper and other consumables from its Radio Frequency Identification Transportation System, and implementing electronic energy saving measures during 2011.

A former gaseous diffusion complex built as part of the Manhattan Project, ETTP is now being transformed into a private sector industrial park. UCOR, DOE's Environmental Management contractor in Oak Ridge, is assisting in this transformation by cleaning up various areas and demolishing unneeded buildings at the site.

"Our site has done a fantastic job of ensuring that our purchases and operations abide by the principles instilled by the Federal Electronics Challenge," said Leo Sain, UCOR President and Project Manager. "We are committed to helping the federal government in its efforts to improve its sustainable practices when purchasing, managing, and disposing of electronics assets."

The FEC is managed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Office of Federal Environmental Education.

The Radio Frequency Identification Transportation System played a major role in ETTP receiving the FEC award. The system, which uses paperless waste shipment tracking, reduces costs and improves efficiency.



# October 2012

All meetings held in Oak Ridge unless otherwise noted.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Public Warning Siren Test, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 ORSSAB Meeting 6 p.m. DOEIC	11	12	13
14	15	16 ORSSAB Stewardship Committee 5:30 p.m. DOEIC	17 ORSSAB Environmental Management Committee 5:30 p.m. DOEIC	18	19	20
21	22	23 ORSSAB Public Outreach Committee 5:30 p.m. DOEIC	24	25 ORSSAB Finance & Process Committee 5 p.m. DOEIC ORSSAB Executive Committee 5:30 p.m. DOEIC	26	27
28 30	29	30	31			<b>Note:</b> Please call the ORSSAB Office at (865) 241-4583 or 241-4584 to verify that ORSSAB committee meetings will be held as these are subject to change.
U. S. Department of Energy • Oak Ridge Office Public Involvement Calendar						

## NEPA action

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 requires federal agencies to consider environmental impacts of their actions in the decision-making process. Following is a pending DOE-ORO action and its status as of October 2012.

**Environmental Assessment (EA) for Proposed Changes to Parcel ED-1 Land Uses, Utility Infrastructure, and Natural Area Management Responsibility, Oak Ridge, Tennessee:** In accordance with DOE National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations, an EA Determination has been made for the proposed changes to

Parcel ED-1 land uses, utility infrastructure, and Natural Area management responsibility. The intent is to enhance the development potential of Horizon Center business/industrial park, while ensuring protection of the adjacent Natural Area. Based on the analysis in the EA, DOE will either prepare a Finding of No Significant Impact and proceed with the action or prepare an Environmental Impact Statement if the EA reveals the potential for significant environmental impacts. Requests for additional information should be addressed to Steve Cooke, NEPA Document Manager, at (865) 241-1259, or to Gary Hartman, NEPA Compliance Officer, at (865) 576-0273.