

August 2009

# ECA Bulletin

Local Concerns. National Impact

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**Send your ideas for the Bulletin at  
Allison@energyca.org**

## ECA Suggests Broad Role For Energy Parks and Need To Work Across DOE Offices

The ECA Energy Parks Subcommittee has been working hard to get the message out that the Energy Parks Initiative needs more attention from DOE. Based on conversations with several member communities ECA decided that the next step in achieving our Energy Parks goals is securing a meeting with Under Secretary of Energy Kristina Johnson to discuss the Energy Parks Initiative and the problems it is currently facing. ECA developed two primary recommendations:

(1) DOE must create a cross cutting office or position that will allow different offices within DOE (EM,

NE, NNSA, EERE and Office of Science) to coordinate to move the Energy Parks Initiative forward and

(2) The Energy Parks Initiative can become regional energy demonstration projects by creating incubators for DOE technology HUBS at sites that DOE owns and where DOE has relationships with communities.

On August 27 ECA sent Under Secretary Johnson a letter requesting a meeting. The full text of the letter can be found on page 6.

## ARRA Job Creation Evident at ECA Communities



On ECA’s recent trip to Richland it was easy to see how ARRA money is impacting the community. Signs indicating projects funded by ARRA dollars could be found throughout the entire Hanford site. DOE briefed ECA’s local government officials on the many different projects that hundreds of employees were working on at Hanford. Site officials explained how cleanup efforts have been accelerated by the ARRA funds, and how the money has allowed them to save jobs that would have been lost and create new jobs.

*(Continued on page 9)*

### Executive Committee



Energy Communities Alliance

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## Congress to Return From August Recess With Full Plate

On Tuesday, September 8, Congress returns to Washington after it's August recess. With only seventeen legislative days left before the end of fiscal year 2009, (September 30, 2009) members of congress return with a full plate of agenda items.

Congress will be focused on passing Health Care overhaul bill, which has become the center of a broader national debate on health care in the US. Another controversial bill that congressional leaders hope to take action on before the end of the year is the climate change bill, which includes the cap-and-trade program.

When Congress left before the August recess the Senate had only passed four out of its 12 FY2010 appropriations bills. Political insiders say it is unlikely that all appropriations bills will be resolved prior to the start of the new fiscal year, which starts on October 1. Senate Majority Lender Senator Reid has said he is hopeful that the Senate could pass 4 of the 8 remaining appropriations bills before the start of the new fiscal year. This statement indicates that there will most likely be a continuing resolution to prevent the shut down of the government. Seven of the remaining Senate Appropriations bills are ready for floor action, while the Senate Defense Spending bill has yet to be marked up.

The four appropriations bills that have already been approved, Energy & Water, Agriculture, Homeland Security and Legislative branch will now move to conference, where any differences in the House and Senate versions will be worked out.

Another key priority for Congress is the Senate Defense Authorization Bill. Both the House and the Senate have approved their versions of the Bill, but it still needs to go to conference.

## Congressional Calendar:

September 7—Labor Day

September 8—Congress resumes

September 30—End of fiscal year 2009

October 1—Beginning of fiscal year 2010

**ARRA Update Call for ECA Members: DOE EM will host an ARRA Update Call on Tuesday, September 15 at 1:30 p.m. EST. The call will include members from ECA, NAAG, and NCSL. The call will be lead by Cynthia Anderson and will include updates on the latest EM ARRA activities. Please call Allison at 202-828-2423 for more information.**

### **21<sup>st</sup> Annual Weapons Complex Monitor Waste Management and Cleanup Decisionmakers' Forum**

October 13-16

Amelia Island Plantation

Executive Conference Center

Jacksonville, Florida

ECA will be leading a Session on Energy Parks

Contact Allison for more information at 202-828-2423

## ECA Hosts Technology Transfer Peer Exchange



*ECA Tour Participants in front of Hanford's Waste Treatment Plant*

On August 20-21 ECA hosted its Technology Transfer Peer Exchange in Richland, Washington. Participants included local government officials, DOE leadership, and lab representatives. PNNL, LANL, SRNL, and ORNL all sent lab representatives who briefed

attendees on Technology Transfer Programs and Initiatives at their labs. The meeting featured sessions on what communities and labs need from each other to make Tech Transfer programs successful, creating an Innovation Ecosystem to facilitate Tech Transfer, Tech Transfer and Innovation within the DOE vision, the role of lab and industry partnerships and balancing government and community agendas. Each presentation was followed by lively and productive discussions.

The meeting started with an optional tour on August 19th of the Hanford Site. Tour participants got a chance to see the B-Reactor, the K basins, the TRU retrieval trench, and the new Waste Treatment Plant that should be up and running by 2019. It was a great opportunity to see different examples of the various projects Hanford is working on.

ECA will be posting copies of the presentations and notes on its website this month. We will include a meeting summary and more information on the Technology Transfer Peer exchange in September's Bulletin. Please contact Allison if you have any questions.

## Secretary Chu, Assistant Secretary Triay and Others Visit Hanford Site To Announce New Agreement with State of Washington

As part of his visit to the Hanford Site, Energy Secretary Steven Chu joined top officials from Washington State, Oregon and the U.S. Department of Justice to announce a proposed legal settlement that will impose a new, enforceable and achievable schedule for tank waste cleanup at Hanford.

A crowd of over 100 people, including Tribal Nation representatives, community members, local elected officials, stakeholders, Hanford Advisory Board members, workers and others, gathered to watch Chu make the announcement on August 11. He was joined by Washington Governor Chris Gregoire, Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski, Washington Attorney General Rob McKenna, U.S. Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell, acting U.S. Assistant Attorney General

John Cruden, acting EPA Regional Administrator Dan Opalski, Energy Under Secretary Kristina Johnson and EM Assistant Secretary Inés Triay.

Together the officials announced a proposed consent decree between the DOE and Washington State that will set a new and achievable schedule for construction and startup of the Waste Treatment Plant (WTP) and the retrieval of waste from the large underground single-shell storage tanks at Hanford. The proposed consent decree settles litigation filed by Washington State last November and joined by the State of Oregon to compel DOE to complete key aspects of Hanford cleanup.

In tandem with the consent decree, DOE, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and

*(Continued on page 12)*

# Intergovernmental Meeting with the US Department of Energy

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OCTOBER 21-23, 2009

HOTEL MONTELEONE  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

**Participating Intergovernmental Groups**  
**ENERGY COMMUNITIES ALLIANCE (ECA)**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL OF THE STATES (ECOS)**  
**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL (NAAG)**  
**NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES (NCSL)**  
**NATIONAL GOVERNORS ASSOCIATION (NGA) CENTER FOR BEST PRACTICES**  
**STATE AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENT WORKING GROUP (STGWW)**

This meeting will provide an opportunity for State, Local and Tribal Government Entities to meet and discuss key EM Issues. At the meeting participants will explore ways to improve EM processes and participate in EM decision making.

**Featured Speakers:**

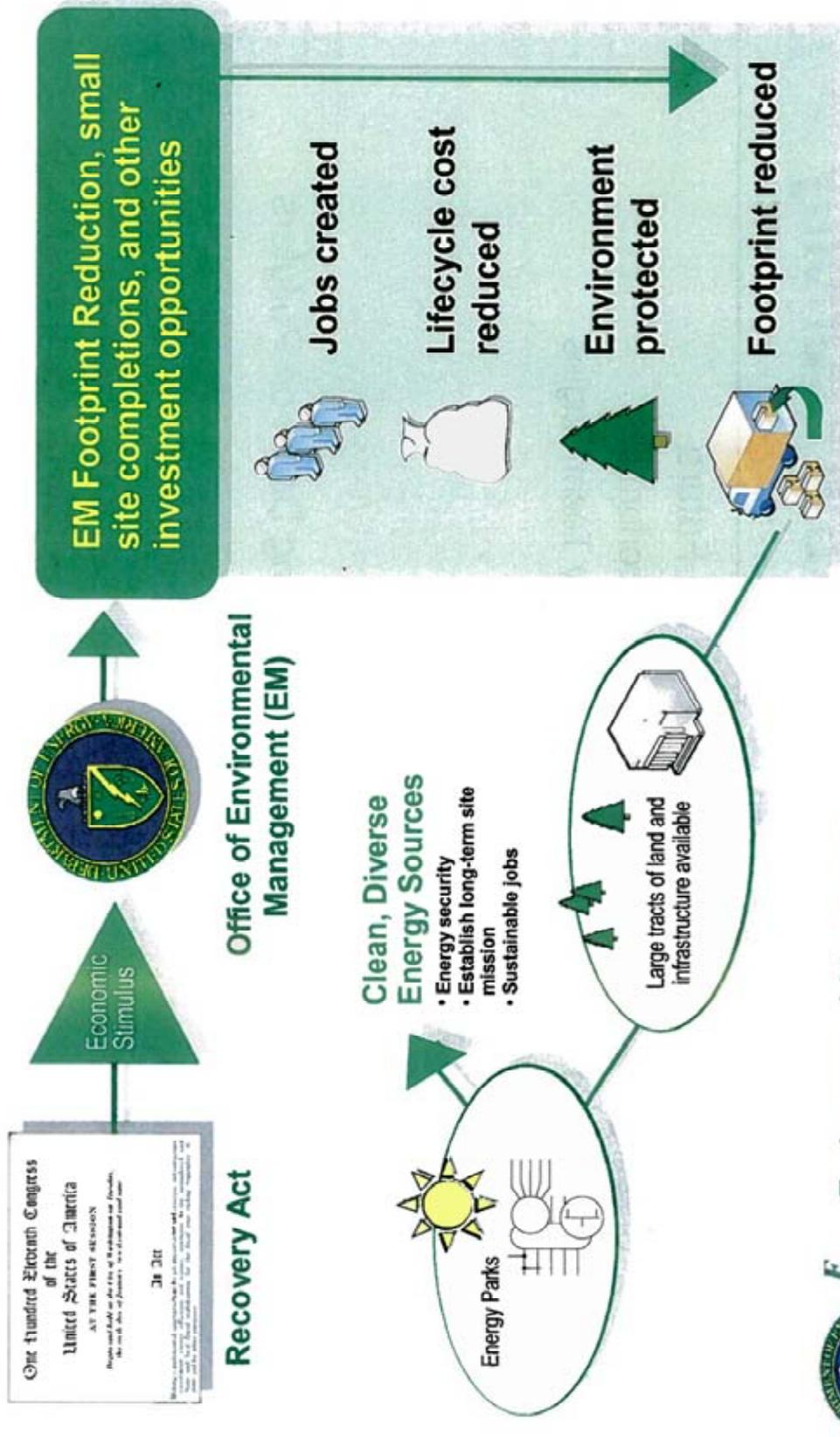
- **Ines Triay**, Assistant Secretary, DOE Office of Environmental Management
- **Frank Marcinowski**, Office of Regulatory Compliance, DOE Office of Environmental Management
- **Merle Sykes**, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Planning and Budget, DOE Office of Environmental Management
- **Cynthia Anderson**, EM Recovery Act Program Manager

**Featured Topics:**

- **Department of Energy Budget**
- **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act**
- **Energy Parks**
- **NRD**
- **Waste Management**

*Look for more information from ECA soon. Contact Allison at 202-828-2423 or [Allison@energyca.org](mailto:Allison@energyca.org) with questions*

# Footprint Reduction



www.em.doe.gov

**EM Environmental Management**  
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August 27, 2009

Under Secretary Kristina Johnson  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20585

**Re: Meeting Request to discuss “Energy Parks Initiative”**

- 1) A cross cutting office is needed within DOE to improve the ability of different offices to coordinate and accomplish DOE initiatives; and**
- 2) Energy Parks Initiative can be regional energy demonstration projects by creating incubators for DOE technology HUBS at sites that DOE owns and where DOE has relationships with communities.**

Dear Under Secretary Johnson:

I am writing on behalf of Energy Communities Alliance (ECA) to request a meeting to discuss the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) “Energy Parks Initiative” and the need for a cross cutting office in DOE to improve the ability of different offices to coordinate and accomplish DOE initiatives. By leveraging DOE-owned assets and getting various DOE offices to think beyond current “stove pipe” operations, DOE can create regional energy demonstration projects that can be models for the country.

ECA is the organization of local communities that are adjacent to Department of Energy and National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) activities. Our board members include elected and appointed officials from communities supporting DOE sites.

ECA’s goal is to help make DOE’s Energy Parks become regional energy demonstration projects that can be models for local communities at sites that DOE owns as well as other federal facilities. Our members recognize the opportunities the Energy Parks Initiative presents to create national models for smart energy grids, become incubators for new technologies being created by DOE technology HUBS and DOE national laboratories, increase energy efficiency, develop

clean energy resources and create new, green jobs for the skilled laborers familiar with DOE sites and missions in our communities. These are goals we know we share with DOE.

ECA believes that the current structure of DOE makes it difficult for offices to coordinate unless the Secretary tells them to work together. A prime example of this coordination problem is the Energy Parks Initiative. ECA feels this project needs direction from the top leadership at DOE to allow different DOE offices to work together to achieve Energy Parks goals. ECA is concerned that the Energy Parks Initiative is not moving forward because the Office of Environmental Management (EM) is the program's only supporter.

DOE originally developed the Energy Parks Initiative to use contaminated land and move it into productive use for energy development. Energy Parks were intended to create demonstration projects with local communities at DOE sites to implement new energy ideas being developed at national laboratories and in private industry. The program has grown into initiatives by local governments to assist DOE to create electric smart grids, create models for other federal facilities in alternative energy production, develop regional energy power initiatives, and to provide access to researchers to undertake energy-related technology demonstration projects.

When ECA met with Secretary Chu in February, we discussed the promise of Energy Parks, and why the Energy Parks Initiative and other initiatives born out of one DOE office will fail if DOE permits "Silos" to continue. ECA has met with various offices to discuss this initiative and the offices are very focused on "their" programs and "their" current mode of operation that has not changed for over eight (8) years. No one seems to be looking at how the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE), Office of Science, the Office of Nuclear Energy (NE), NNSA and any other office can work together on a large project to assist our country with energy initiatives. We know that a couple of cross-office meetings have occurred, but when we talk to staff that attended the meetings the response is usually that they are very interested and energized by the ideas but their management is not focused on the issue since they have "their" own initiatives (in fairness we point out that without political appointees many offices have continued on current paths).

DOE has operations at sites across the country that are managed by EM, NNSA, Office of Science, NE and others. Our communities are very excited about the possibility of using alternative energy and emerging nuclear technologies to provide power to DOE sites and their communities. They are trying to work on and promote these programs but are running into roadblocks when they contact non-EM DOE offices. When members approach the DOE office that manages their site or a DOE office for funding a specific project, they are told Energy Parks is not their initiative, and the community should seek out EM. EM has attempted to get support, but without leadership from DOE offices above EM there is very little they can do with Energy Parks. Because of these complex relationships, it is essential that DOE create a cross-cutting position to coordinate efforts between all the DOE offices.

Our members believe that Energy Parks could provide many solutions to the country's energy goals. Energy Parks would provide an opportunity for DOE to fulfill its stated goals of investing in clean energy jobs of the future, securing our nation's energy future, closing the

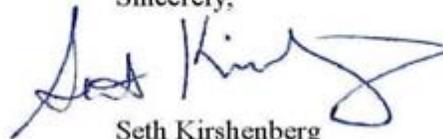
carbon loophole, and reducing emissions. Energy Parks will provide opportunities for economic development and jobs in our communities while utilizing the diverse and unique resources of each community including: highly trained workforces, extensive infrastructures, natural resources, property and location.

Finally, DOE is required to meet energy efficiency goals pursuant to Executive Order 13423. Given the recent press coverage DOE received about the lack of energy efficiency in DOE buildings, and similar statements from both President Obama and Secretary Chu, it seems the Department should be focused on its Energy Parks Initiative. Energy Parks provide shovel-ready opportunities to demonstrate regional master planning between federal facilities and communities and various types of renewable and other energy sources. Several communities have already developed energy projects that benefit DOE, while others are in the planning stages. These projects will use renewable and/or alternative energy sources such as low flow turbines, photovoltaic, wind, biomass, geothermal, and nuclear energy that can provide energy to the DOE site, the community and in many cases the region (many of these projects are being funded primarily by the local government.).

ECA would like to continue this conversation and discuss the next steps in achieving the goal of DOE offices working together on all initiatives and DOE's Energy Parks Initiative goals.

A member of my staff will contact your scheduler to follow up and set a meeting time. If you have any questions, please contact me at 202/828-2317 or at [sethk@energyca.org](mailto:sethk@energyca.org).

Sincerely,



Seth Kirshenber  
Executive Director, ECA

cc: Secretary Chu, Secretary of Energy  
Assistant Secretary Triay, DOE EM  
ECA Member Communities  
Councilmember Robert Thompson, ECA Chair, Richland, WA  
Commissioner Seth Beal, ECA Vice Chair, Butte County, ID  
Councilor Chuck Smith, ECA Secretary, Aiken County, SC  
Councilor Mike Wismer, ECA Treasurer, Los Alamos County, NM  
Councilor Lorraine Anderson, ECA Immediate Past Chair, Arvada, CO  
Mayor Tom Beehan, Oak Ridge, TN  
Mike Grauwelman, ECA Chair of Energy Parks Initiative Subcommittee, Miamisburg  
Mound Improvement Corporation  
Elizabeth Ogunwo, Scheduler for Kristina Johnson, Under Secretary of Energy

## ARRA Job Creation Evident At ECA Communities

*(Continued from page 1)*

The work at Hanford was just one example of how ARRA funds are benefiting sites throughout the country. DOE reports that to date 4,704 jobs have been created or saved by ARRA money (see chart on p. 10). Of the \$6 billion that EM received from the stimulus package \$5.9 billion has been allocated to sites, \$4.2 billion has been obligated to contracts and \$249 million has been spent. Many of our communities are seeing the positive effects in their communities as well.

In a recent EM meeting DOE officials discussed lessons learned among sites and contractors receiving ARRA funding. Assistant Secretary of EM Ines Triay emphasized that EM's mandate is to create jobs quickly where possible while delivering projects on time and within budget. She also described EM's goal to use small businesses as much as possible to conduct Recovery Act work. At the same meeting Cynthia Anderson discussed how training new employees to conduct EM cleanup work not only supports EM, but also helps individuals develop their career skills. All participants emphasized the need for communication between all parties involved in cleanup and Recovery Act work.

### Other ARRA Highlights:

More than 49,000 job applicants are seeking employment opportunities

More than 26 job fairs have been held across the nation by EM sites to make available employment opportunities

As of today, more than 4,700 jobs have been saved and created in 12 states through use of stimulus funding

### Oak Ridge:

The Oak Ridge Office received \$755 million in Recovery Act funds for environmental cleanup projects at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), the Y-12 National Security Complex, the East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP), and for cleanup operations at the Transuranic Waste Processing Center. The Recovery Act funding accelerates the start of critically needed

cleanup work at ORNL and Y-12 by up to three years

and over 500 jobs have already been created or saved.

### Projects at Oak Ridge:

- Cleanup and demolition of Building 3026, the former Radioisotope Development Laboratory in ORNL's central campus, has begun. The demolition of the long-vacant facility, including its wooden superstructure and concrete hot cells, is slated for completion in 2010.
- Removal of excess equipment and scrap materials has begun at Y-12. The Y-12 Beta 4 (Building 9204-4) and Alpha 5 (Building 9201-5) facilities, which date back to the 1940s, are currently storing legacy material from years of past plant operations. Recovery Act funding is supporting work to remove legacy contamination from these facilities to allow for eventual demolition, reducing the footprint and infrastructure at the site.
- Construction of a 465,000 yd<sup>3</sup> expansion of the Environmental Management Waste Management Facility (EMWMF) to accept more demolition waste is now underway, using funds from the Recovery Act. The EMWMF is a permitted low-level radioactive, hazardous, and mixed waste disposal facility that serves as the on-site landfill for cleanup waste.
- \$100 million in Office of Science funding, which includes funds to build the Chemical and Materials Sciences facility at ORNL. This facility will be used to design new materials for energy related products, such as batteries and solar panels.
- \$733 million in Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy funding, which includes \$660 million to be awarded as Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants to city and county governments across the United States. These grants will be used to develop and implement projects to improve energy efficiency and reduce energy use and fossil fuel emissions.
- \$69 million in statutory reimbursement funds, administered by the Office of Environmental Management, for the reimbursement of cleanup costs to companies that formerly processed uranium and thorium for sale to the federal government.
- \$100 million in the Work for Others program to

*(Continued on page 10)*

**ARRA Update**

*(Continued from page 9)*

provide assistance to Federal agencies and non-Federal entities using Oak Ridge’s highly specialized and unique assets.

**Portsmouth**

The Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion plant has received \$118 million from ARRA funds and with that money 200 jobs are expected to be created or saved. Recovery Act funding is the key factor in 43 new employees currently being hired at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant, many of these employees coming from corporations that have experienced recent layoffs. The new employees will support projects to decontaminate and decommission an electrical switchyard, a cooling tower complex, the former X-760 Chemical Engineering Building, and the removal of excess uranium materials currently being stored at the site in the Uranium Management Center. Additional Recovery Act work will include the removal of the contaminant source for the groundwater plume beneath the area of the former X-701B Holding Pond.

**Paducah**

Recovery Act funding received by Paducah (\$79

million) has opened up employment opportunities for contractors to begin hiring about 150 employees to accomplish the work at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant. These workers will support the removal and disposal of large process equipment and the demolition of chemical processing facilities. The first eight people hired to accelerate the removal of inactive facilities at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant are already on the job, after completing the six-week training program. Eleven additional workers were hired in the last month, with more hires expected in the coming months. Work has begun on the removal of the C-410 Feed Plant, a 250,000 square-foot facility whose demolition is being accelerated by the Recovery Act. Other facilities to be demolished at the site include the East End Smelter and the Uranium Metal Reduction Plant. All three facilities were used in the early years of operation of the uranium enrichment plant, but have been shut down for decades.

**Idaho**

The Idaho Cleanup Project is taking on a new waste management challenge that creates new jobs and paves the way for future project opportunities. Remote Handled Transuranic waste processing operations began on May 14, 2009, when the first Hot Fuel

*(Continued on page 11)*

**EM Jobs Saved and Created**

State	Number of Lives Touched (Headcount)		
	Saved	Created	Total
California	21	5	26
Idaho	240	228	468
Illinois	4	20	24
Kentucky	0	17	17
New Mexico	16	97	113
Nevada	21	5	26
New York	47	116	163
Ohio	8	48	56
South Carolina	798	707	1,505
Tennessee	83	434	517
Utah	22	58	80
Washington	285	1,424	1,709
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,545</b>	<b>3,159</b>	<b>4,704</b>

## ARRA Update

(Continued from page 10)

Examination Facility (HFEF-5) canister was lowered into a shielded cell at DOE's Idaho Site. The outer and inner canister lids were removed, and the contents were repackaged into two 55-gallon drums for future characterization, transport, and disposal. This remote handled, multi-phased operation is another example of the Recovery Act cleanup work happening across the site and across the country.

Starting this month, some 100 additional HFEF-5 canisters will be transported from the Idaho Site's Materials and Fuels Complex to INTEC for storage and processing. All 130 canisters will be repacked into drums for shipment to WIPP. The project has generated roughly 20 new hourly operator positions.

### Savannah River

Job fairs held recently in Allendale, Barnwell and Aiken, S.C., attracted hundreds of people interested in working at the Savannah River Site (SRS). Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SNRS), DOE's management and operating contractor at SRS, has hired over 400 new employees since April with Recovery Act funding.

The SRS Recovery Act Project will decommission surplus nuclear reactor facilities, accelerate transuranic waste disposition, remediate soil and groundwater, and complete area closures. SRS will receive over \$1.6 billion in funding over a 30-month period and plans on using these funds to hire numerous new employees and buy a wide range of materials and services.

## Stimulus Funds Allocated, Obligated and Spent

Site	State	Spend Plan	Allocated to Sites	Obligated to Contracts	Spent to Date
Argonne National Laboratory	IL	\$98,500,000	\$35,000,000	\$35,000,000	\$482,356
Brookhaven National Laboratory	NY	\$42,355,000	\$42,355,000	\$34,000,000	\$5,580,604
ETEC	CA	\$54,175,000	\$54,175,000	\$54,175,000	\$0
Hanford (Office of River Protection)	WA	\$326,035,000	\$326,035,000	\$231,120,000	\$10,112,990
Hanford (Richland)	WA	\$1,634,500,000	\$1,634,500,000	\$1,271,002,257	\$58,217,964
Idaho	ID	\$467,875,000	\$467,875,000	\$373,514,000	\$40,201,796
Los Alamos National Laboratory	NM	\$211,775,000	\$211,775,000	\$126,360,000	\$65,453
Moab	UT	\$108,350,000	\$108,350,000	\$83,000,000	\$0
Mound	OH	\$19,700,000	\$19,700,000	\$0	\$0
Nevada Test Site	NV	\$44,325,000	\$44,325,000	\$27,038,000	\$2,932,871
Oak Ridge	TN	\$755,110,000	\$755,110,000	\$428,920,200	\$14,946,962
Paducah	KY	\$78,800,000	\$78,800,000	\$30,420,000	\$334,279
Portsmouth	OH	\$118,200,000	\$118,200,000	\$58,600,000	\$76,215
SLAC	CA	\$7,925,000	\$7,925,000	\$7,925,000	\$0
SPRU	NY	\$31,775,000	\$31,775,000	\$25,000,000	\$82,718
Savannah River Site	SC	\$1,615,400,000	\$1,615,400,000	\$1,277,997,002	\$91,537,892
WIPP	NM	\$172,375,000	\$172,175,000	\$137,704,000	\$7,673,486
West Valley	NY	\$73,875,000	\$73,875,000	\$56,000,000	\$2,394,309
Title X Uranium/Thorium Reimbursement Program	Multiple States	\$68,950,000	\$68,950,000	\$14,181,497	\$14,181,497
OMB Q4 Unallocated	TBD	\$40,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Management & Oversight	Multiple States	\$30,000,000	\$30,000,000	\$4,181,576	\$413,516
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$6,000,000,000</b>	<b>\$5,896,300,000</b>	<b>\$4,276,138,532</b>	<b>\$249,234,908</b>

## DOE Officials Visit Hanford Site

(Continued from page 3)

Washington State are proposing changes to the 1989 Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) to establish a new, realistic but aggressive schedule for completing waste retrieval from all single-shell storage tanks by 2040, and treating all of the tank waste by 2047.

The consent decree and modifications to the Tri-Party Agreement will be subject to public comment periods before they are finalized.

In addition, DOE and the State of Oregon agreed on a consent decree that recognizes Oregon's interest in the cleanup effort and provides Oregon the right to receive copies of certain reports and notices

that DOE must file under the consent decree with Washington State; the right to participate as an observer in joint three-year reviews; and prior notice of any motion by DOE filed with the court to modify the consent decree with Washington or invoke judicial dispute resolution proceedings. The TPA would extend the current schedule for completing retrieval of waste from single-shell tanks from 2018 to 2040, and

completing treatment of all tank waste from 2028 to 2047. With a goal of accelerating the completion dates, the proposed agreement adds a process for reviewing the final completion dates every six years. Each six-year review will determine whether the completion dates can be accelerated.

As a result of the negotiations and settlement, DOE will also issue an upcoming draft environmental impact

statement that will include a preferred alternative of not importing certain off-site radioactive, mixed radioactive and hazardous waste to Hanford at least until the WTP is operational. Once the draft environmental impact statement has been issued, the state and DOE will move to enter the consent decree with the federal court and will also finalize the TPA modifications.



From left, Washington State Governor Chris Gregoire, Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski, Secretary Chu, acting U.S. Assistant Attorney General John Cruden, Washington State Attorney General Rob McKenna, and Under Secretary Kristina Johnson.

Under the agreement, DOE will also prepare a lifecycle analysis of all Hanford cleanup costs to meet legally mandated timelines for cleanup. The Tri-Party Agreement agencies also finalized and signed changes in the agreement that establish new milestones for cleaning up contaminated groundwater under the Hanford Site to ensure protection of the Columbia River.

## Senate Confirms Warren “Pete” Miller As Assistant Secretary For Nuclear Energy

On August 4 the Senate confirmed Warren “Pete” Miller as Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy (NE). Miller was also nominated as director of the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management. These two offices had previously been staffed by separate officials.

As Assistant Secretary for NE Miller will be responsible for the development of advanced reactor technologies and advanced reprocessing technology. The Senate did not confirm Miller as Director of OCRWM. If confirmed as Director Miller would be responsible for managing the country's commercial spent fuel and defense high level waste including the Yucca Mountain Project.

Miller is one of the last DOE political appointees to be confirmed by the Senate. Now that Miller is in place as Assistant Secretary, NE will be able to move forward with its policies and programs that have been on hold in the absence of new leadership.

## Upcoming Events

- **Oct 13-16**—Weapons Complex Monitor Waste Management and Cleanup Decisionmakers' Forum, Jacksonville, FL
- **October 20-23**—Intergovernmental Meeting with DOE, ECA, NGA, NAAG, ECOS, STGWG, and NCSL
- **November 2-5**—National Nuclear Fuel Cycle Summer 2009
- **Winter**—ECA Nuclear Workforce Peer Exchange (TBD)

### Energy Communities Alliance (ECA) Bulletin

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