

*President Bush visits Argonne  
National Laboratory*



**Senate approves Yucca Mountain resolution**

**Sites win White House environmental awards**

**Safety, health expos reach out to communities**

U.S. Department of Energy



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## On our cover

**P**resident George W. Bush receives a briefing on counterterrorism technologies from Hermann Grunder, Director of the Department of Energy's (DOE) Argonne National Laboratory, during his visit to the facility on July 22, 2002. Listening to the briefing are (right to left) U.S. House Speaker Dennis Hastert; Homeland Security Director Thomas Ridge; Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham; and DOE Office of Science Director Raymond Orbach.

The President's visit included a tour of counterterrorism technologies developed by several DOE national laboratories. The technologies were on display at Argonne's Advanced Photon Source, the world's brightest X-ray source. Following the tour, President Bush spoke to Argonne employees about the importance of new technologies to national security and the proposed Department of Homeland Security. The President's remarks are available on the White House home page at <http://www.whitehouse.gov>.

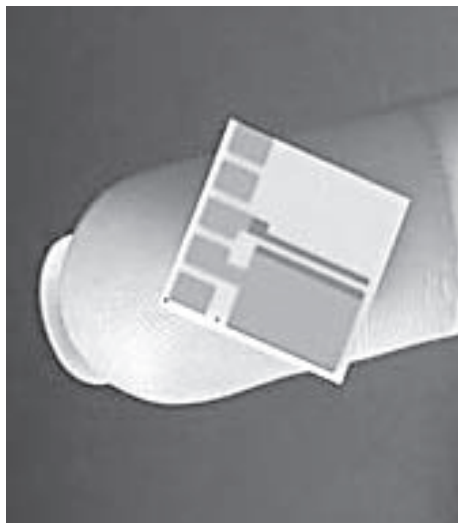
**For more on Argonne technologies adapted for homeland security, see page 3.**

# Argonne Lab adapts technologies for homeland security

Using their expertise in nuclear power, infrastructure technology, and “lab-on-a-chip” sensors, scientists at the Department of Energy’s Argonne National Laboratory are adapting existing technologies to meet homeland security challenges. This work has led to development of a neutron detector, an early warning and crisis-management computer simulator for mass transportation, and sensors for detecting biological and chemical agents.

The Technology Development Division has developed a small, portable detector for finding concealed nuclear weapons. The heart of the device is a one millimeter wafer of gallium arsenide (GaAs), a semiconductor similar to silicon. When coated with boron or lithium, GaAs can detect neutrons, such as those emitted by fissile materials that fuel nuclear weapons. The detector could be used by weapons inspectors to monitor nuclear facilities.

The Program for Response Options and Technology Enhancements for Chemical/Biological Terrorism (PROTECT) combines detection, communication, and quick response to protect subways against chemical



*Laboratories-on-a-chip developed at Argonne National Laboratory can detect chemicals, bacteria, or viruses.*

attacks. The system was developed by the Decision and Information Systems Division and the Department’s Lawrence Livermore and Sandia National Laboratories. PROTECT includes chemical agent detectors, video identification, computer software to simulate the spread of contamination, and wireless communication for emergency responders. PROTECT currently is being

expanded throughout the Washington, D.C., subway system. The Chicago and Boston transit authorities also are interested.

Research conducted by the Energy Systems Division has led to sensors for detecting biological and chemical agents. Biochips developed for DNA sequencing have demonstrated potential use for detecting biological agents. The biochip is a small glass slide with up to 10,000 3-D gel pads that serve as micro test tubes. The pads are loaded with DNA or protein fragments from bacteria, viruses, or chemicals for computer analysis. Thousands of biological reactions can be performed in a couple of seconds. Another sensor developed by the division is a “microelectronic nose” that sniffs out chemical poisons. The ceramic-metallic sensor arrays identify “fingerprints” given off by chemicals in contact with the sensors.

Argonne conducts basic and applied scientific research across a wide spectrum of disciplines. For more information, visit the laboratory’s home page at <http://www.anl.gov/>. ❖

## Yucca Mountain gains Senate approval

On July 9, 2002, the United States Senate approved a resolution to override the State of Nevada’s veto of the Administration’s recommendation that Yucca Mountain be considered for development as the Nation’s permanent high-level nuclear waste repository. The resolution passed the Senate on a voice vote after clearing a procedural hurdle by a vote of 60-39.

Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham praised the Senate for its overwhelming bipartisan support. “After more than 20 years of debate, the Senate has rightfully chosen to allow the process of developing a nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain to proceed to the next step, recognizing that the

independent experts at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission deserve the right to review the 24 years of scientific study of Yucca Mountain and to consider the site for a license,” Secretary Abraham said.

“America’s national, energy, and homeland security, as well as environmental protection is well-served by siting a single nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain. Congress has recognized that the Government has safely transported nuclear waste for more than 30 years and, in doing so, has rejected the transportation scare tactics employed by those opposed to Yucca Mountain.

“Without Yucca Mountain, the nuclear waste simply stays where it

is. However, by moving the process forward, we have the opportunity to dispose of nuclear waste that has piled up at 131 sites in 39 states.

“Moving forward in the process also helps ensure that the clean energy generated by nuclear power will remain an important part of America’s energy mix. We are pleased that the Congress agrees moving forward is the right thing to do, rather than cutting off the process now and leaving nuclear waste for future generations to deal with.”

On July 23, President Bush signed House Joint Resolution 87 allowing for the next step in establishing the nuclear waste repository. ❖

# KC Plant displays technologies for Secretary

Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham visited and toured the Department of Energy's (DOE) Kansas City Plant on July 1, 2002. Secretary Abraham saw microminiature technologies that enhance weapons surety and safety, reservoirs that provide support for limited life components, trailers equipped to securely transport components throughout the DOE complex, and a flexible manufacturing system where components are produced faster and more reliably than ever.

The Kansas City Plant is a National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) facility. Its primary mission is to assemble and manufacture a wide array of nonnuclear mechanical, electronic, and engineered material components for national defense systems.

The Secretary said that he was aware of the Plant's immense technological capabilities and its reputation for providing intricate top-quality products to the nuclear weapons complex on time and on budget, but seeing the inner workings of the facility for himself provided confirmation. Throughout his visit, Secretary Abraham took the opportunity to meet associates and thank them personally for their efforts.

"This facility has been performing work for the Department of Energy for more than 50 years and has compiled an incredible record," Secretary Abraham said during an all-employee broadcast following the tour. "The model this plant works with is turning science into reality and that's clearly what happens here. I knew that before visiting and I know that even more so now. The performance metrics achieved by your facility, while producing 85 percent of the parts for our nuclear weapons stockpile, makes you a model for the complex."

Also on July 1, Secretary Abraham addressed the Kazakhstan Investment Conference in Overland Park, Kan., and announced a new agreement among the United States, the Republic of Kazakhstan, and private U.S. industry. Under the agreement, the ULBA Metallurgical Plant, a former nuclear weapons facility in Kazakhstan that employs at least 150 scientists, engineers and technicians, will expand and upgrade its capacity for commercial production of copper



*Beth Sellers, Director of the NNSA Office of Kansas City Site Operations (far left), watches as Secretary Abraham and Paul Longworth, Senior Policy Advisor to the Secretary (back to camera), learn about some of the Kansas City Plant's capabilities.*

beryllium master alloy, a component in a range of products including small appliances and computers. Brush Wellman, Inc., Cleveland, Ohio, and RWE NUKEM, Inc., Danbury, Conn., will partner with ULBA. The Department's Los Alamos National Laboratory will provide technical assistance and the NNSA will provide expertise and funding under its Russian Transition Initiatives program. ♦

## Heating oil reserve storage sites renewed

The Department of Energy (DOE) has determined that the current storage terminals and operators of the Government's Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve offer the best capability to supply emergency fuel oil to the widest range of customers. The decision was made after evaluating a new round of industry offers. New leases will be signed with Motiva Enterprises LLC, Morgan Stanley Capital Group Inc., and Amerada Hess Corp. to continue stockpiling the two million barrels of heating oil available for New England and surrounding states in the event of winter fuel shortages.

"President Bush made his support for the Home Heating Oil Reserve clear in the National Energy Policy

because of its importance for a region that depends heavily on fuel oil for winter heating," Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham said. "These new leases maintain our capability to provide the widest coverage and fastest response time should we ever need to supply the region's homeowners and businesses with emergency fuel supplies."

The Defense Energy Supply Center was the Department's procurement agent. The Department evaluated five other offers in addition to those that would make available the current terminals. The existing sites continued to offer the best combination of price, multiple transportation modes, delivery rates, and proximity to customers.

The Department originally negotiated one-year leases with the companies in 2000 and subsequently exercised one-year extensions. This time, one-year leases will be signed, with options to extend them for up to four additional years.

Amerada Hess maintains one million barrels of the reserve at Woodbridge, N.J., in the New York Harbor area. Morgan Stanley holds 500,000 barrels at the Williams Energy Services' terminal in New Haven, Conn.; and Motiva, 250,000 barrels each at terminals in New Haven and Providence, R.I.

Additional information on the reserve is available at <http://www.fossil.energy.gov/heatingoil/>. ♦

# ORNL opens 20th national user facility

A facility to test distributed generation energy for building applications recently was designated as the 20th national user facility at the Department of Energy's (DOE) Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL). The Cooling, Heating and Power Integration Laboratory will enable researchers from industries, universities, and other institutions to conduct tests on distributed energy products and systems.

"This user facility is a key asset to DOE's efforts to develop advanced and cost effective distributed generation technologies," said Marilyn Brown, Director of ORNL's Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Program. The laboratory contains a 30 kilowatt micro turbine, heat recovery units, and dehumidifiers to conduct performance and reliability testing of distributed energy sources and projects.

Distributed generation is electricity produced on site using fuel cells,



*Mike Kamitz (right), Deputy Director for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, explains the workings of a piece of equipment to Kurt Schlieter, senior legislative assistant to Congressman Zach Wamp of Tennessee, during a distributed energy resources showcase at ORNL's new user center.*

micro turbines, renewable electric systems and other "prime movers." This type of power generation is creating a new industry of custom-designed programmable features to meet specific energy needs for factories, hospitals, office and commercial

buildings, and other users of distributed power generation.

Distributed energy resources make use of energy normally wasted in the generation of power by combining electricity generation with heating and cooling systems. Integrating building cooling, heating, and electricity systems with on-site or near-site electricity generation could increase energy efficiency by as much as 30 percent, reduce carbon emissions by 45 percent or more, and improve indoor air quality through humidity control.

Seven companies have been selected as industry partners to develop package systems, and some will be the first customers of the Cooling, Heating and Power Integration Laboratory. The companies are Burns and McDonnell, the Gas Technology Institute, NiSource Energy Technologies, Capstone Turbine Corp., Honeywell Laboratories, United Technologies Research Center, and Ingersol Rand. ❖

## A unique natural gas liquefaction facility

A first-of-its-kind, small-scale natural gas liquefaction facility designed by scientists at the Department of Energy's Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL) recently was unveiled by Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), Sacramento, Calif. The pioneering effort also included partners California Energy Commission, Sacramento Air Quality Management District, SoCal Gas Company, and South Coast Air Quality Management District.

"This project is directed at obtaining relief from oil dependence by diversifying our transportation energy supply," said Mike Anderson, DOE-Idaho Energy R&D Project Manager. Liquefied natural gas (LNG) from this plant can be used as a clean, alternative fuel in heavy-duty trucks and transit buses.

INEEL developed the patented technology used in the small-scale liquefier, and PG&E installed the system. "The invention required to make this new liquefier is expected to revolutionize the liquefaction industry," said Bruce Wilding, INEEL Natural Gas Products Program Manager.

The new technology dramatically reduces a liquefied natural gas plant's size and cost. The standard plant costs about \$10 million to build and occupies a five-to-six acre site. When the prototype technology is fully developed, plant construction is expected to be around \$450,000 and only require about 240 square feet of space.

The technology is designed to draw natural gas from an existing



pipeline at a pressure letdown station; liquefy the natural gas; and store it until it is used, trucked away, or reinjected into the pipeline. The small-scale plant is easily transportable.

The plant, shown in an aerial view, is now in a three-to-six month startup and operation testing phase. ❖

# EERE reorganization goes 'outside the box'

A new organization for the Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) was implemented July 1, 2002. Plans to replace the existing organization with a new government business model were announced March 18, 2002, by Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy David Garman at an EERE all-hands meeting.

Going "outside the box," Assistant Secretary Garman instituted a totally new approach to managing a government office. "EERE recently completed a comprehensive 'top to bottom' Strategic Program Review that, especially in light of the President's Management Agenda, convinced me that the old EERE business model had to be replaced," Assistant Secretary Garman said. Ground rules set for building the new organization included no EERE reduction-in-force and union partnership.

The old business model was based on five "market" sectors—power, industry, transportation, buildings, and Federal facilities—and their 17 offices. This "stovepipe" culture included business management processes and systems that fragmented EERE corporate business management and created layers on

top of programs that resulted in inefficiencies and often made it difficult to find the 31 programs to ensure accountability.

The new business model emphasizes 11 programs as the means by which EERE accomplishes its mission and centralizes business administration functions into one organization focused on supporting the programs. Overlapping functions are eliminated, layers between Program Managers and "top management" are reduced, and authority and accountability of the Program Managers will be increased. The 11 programs are solar; wind and hydropower; geothermal; distributed energy and electricity reliability; biomass; industrial technologies; FreedomCAR and vehicle technologies; hydrogen, fuel cells, and infrastructure; building technologies; weatherization and intergovernmental; and Federal energy management.

The new business model creates the following organizations:

- a Deputy Assistant Secretary for Technology Development to manage the 11 Headquarters program offices and the six EERE Regional Offices;
- a Deputy Assistant Secretary for Business Administration to manage

three Headquarters offices—Program Execution Support; Planning, Budget Formulation and Analysis; and Information and Business Management Systems—and the Golden Field Office;

- a Board of Directors chaired by the Assistant Secretary; and
- an Office of Communications and Outreach.

A unique aspect of the new organization is the creation of a Board of Directors. The Board will provide expert advice and counsel to the Assistant Secretary on all EERE issues and activities; direct EERE corporate policy, strategy, and budget development; advise the Assistant Secretary on all energy-related U.S. and international technical, economic, and policy issues; represent EERE to stakeholders and others in an "outreach" capacity; and provide advice to ensure senior technical and peer review of EERE programs.

EERE has redesigned its home page, <http://www.eren.doe.gov>, to match the new organization. Specific information on the new business model and an organization chart are available at <http://www.eren.doe.gov/eere/organization.html>. ❖

## Office of Science to realign organization

In a major step toward implementing key aspects of President Bush's Management Agenda, the Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Science (SC) is undertaking a major restructuring of its Headquarters and field organization. The goals of the restructuring are to reduce management layers, streamline decision-making processes, clarify lines of authority, make more efficient use of resources, and reshape and rebuild the SC work force.

"DOE research programs face many challenges, including continued pressure on scarce resources," Office of Science Director Raymond Orbach told employees when he announced the reorganization at Argonne National Laboratory on July 22, 2002. "For the Office of Science to continue

to deliver top quality science to the Nation, we must become 'best in class' in our management operations as well."

Key features of the restructuring include eliminating a major management level between the Director of Science and the Site Office Managers at SC laboratories and minimizing the number of layers within levels throughout SC. The Project Plan calls for transforming the Chicago and Oak Ridge Operations Offices and elements at SC headquarters into support centers with redefined roles. An SC Site Office will be established at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory.

The restructuring will take place over a two-year period. The project will be conducted in three phases,

with transition to full operations scheduled for completion by Dec. 31, 2004.

Edward Cumeisty, Deputy Manager, Oak Ridge Operations Office, will head the SC Restructuring Project team of Headquarters and field employees. Development of a web-based management system to implement improved, reengineered processes will help SC minimize the need for relocations. Based on the Administration's proposed budget, SC will carry out the Restructuring Project without a reduction in force during Fiscal Year 2003.

Additional information on the SC Restructuring Project and the Project Plan are available at <http://www.screstruct.doe.gov>. ❖

# Safety and Health Expositions

## Department sites reach out to communities

Throughout the year, Department of Energy (DOE) sites conduct safety and health expositions, fairs, school assemblies, and contests as a means of public outreach and teaching. Many of these activities are coordinated in association with DOE's Voluntary Protection Program (DOE-VPP), which encourages sites to seek innovative ways to perform public outreach and enhance safety awareness. The program is managed by the Department's Office of Environment, Safety and Health. Over the last year, several DOE-VPP participants planned and coordinated events.

### Hanford Site

The eighth annual Hanford Health and Safety Exposition (Expo) was held at the Trade, Recreation and Agricultural Center, in Pasco, Wash., April 30-May 2, 2002. With more than 33,000 attendees, this exposition—the largest event held within the DOE complex—provided a forum for companies, vendors, government agencies, and public safety organizations to demonstrate health and safety practices or roles.

More than 238 booths were set up to highlight subjects ranging from electrical to nuclear safety. The exposition also featured health displays on various topics. At the Hanford Environmental Health Foundation exhibit, visitors made their own stress relief tools from balloons and sand. Throughout the Expo, some visitors roamed clad in disposable "clean suits" like those worn by front-line Hanford Site workers.

One of the highlights of the Expo was the Vehicle Accident Demonstration. A head-on crash provided an opportunity for firefighters, police and other emergency response personnel to demonstrate how they manage such an event. Spectators sat transfixed as victims stumbled from their vehicles or were cut from the



*The Hanford Expo Vehicle Accident Demonstration shows emergency response in action.*

wreckage, treated, and transported away in ambulances or a helicopter. This year, State Farm Insurance® and the Seattle Mariners organization contributed \$50,000 to produce a digital movie on CD-ROM of the Vehicle Accident Demonstration to use in Washington State's public school driver education classes. The CD-ROM may be distributed to public schools nationally.

The Expo also presented an opportunity for the Hanford Site and the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) to showcase their safety cultures. Beverly Cook, DOE Assistant Secretary for Environment, Safety and Health, presented commemorative Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) flags to the Richland Operations Office (RL), Fluor Hanford, Inc., and PNNL.

Within the Department, VPP Star status denotes an organization has adopted and implemented industry-approved safety programs. Richland Operations' safety programs have gained respect from other DOE sites and the private sector. RL and Hanford Site employees provide safety mentoring, including the sharing of ideas with safety officials throughout the complex and providing assistance to other sites in the process of setting up safety expositions of their own. Recently, safety program employees advised retail giant Wal-Mart on improving safety. Previously, they mentored the Naval Shipyard in Bremerton, Wash., and the U.S. Forest Service in Oregon. Of the 19 sites in the DOE complex to earn VPP Star recognition, the Richland Operations Office and its contractor organizations have earned six of them.



*Beverly Cook, Assistant Secretary for Environment, Safety and Health (right), talks with exhibitors at the Hanford Expo.*

(See **EXPOSITIONS**, pg. 8)

## EXPOSITIONS

(Continued from pg. 7)

As a result of the exhibits displayed at the Hanford Expo, Virginia Gutierrez, YMCA Child Care Coordinator of the Greater Tri-Cities, requested Richland Operations sites to provide outreach activities at the YMCA's summer programs. These programs for children, ages five to 12 years, are held Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.



*Hanford Site Voluntary Protection Program award winners are recognized at an Expo Ceremony.*

Children especially love the interactive activities, said Guterrez. Guest speakers are invited to share their knowledge and experiences at the following locations: Emerson Elementary School, Pasco; Chief Joseph Middle School, Richland; Canyon View, Southgate, and Vista Elementary Schools in Kennewick; and the Kennewick Housing Authority Office. This is one outreach activity that makes the children aware of their community.

## Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory

In previous years, the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL) sponsored a safety exposition at a local shopping mall. Because of the large



*Students stop, drop, and roll in a fire safety exercise conducted by INEEL.*

number of students in attendance at previous safety expos, INEEL staff decided to take this year's program directly to local schools as part of the continuous effort to improve outreach to the local community.

During April and May 2002, the "On the Road" safety program was given at eight local schools. The assemblies were presented at Burton, Falls Valley, Mackey, Moreland, Sunnyside, and Stuart Elementary Schools; Hope Lutheran School; and Taylorview Junior High School. The presentations focused on six safety topics—water safety, fire safety, personal protective equipment for kids, safety colors and signs, emergency preparedness, and firearms safety. The topics were selected to help schools meet many of the State of Idaho Board of Education requirements.

INEEL was awarded Star status in the DOE Voluntary Protection Program in May 2001. Bechtel BWXT, Idaho operates the laboratory for the Department.

## West Valley Demonstration Project

The West Valley (New York) Demonstration Project Safety Success Team conducted its eighth annual Safety and Health Fair on June 26, 2002. More than 300 project employees attended this year's fair.

Exhibitors provided visual displays with information on topics such as ergonomics, drug awareness, and off-the-job safety. Employees also had the opportunity



*A New York police officer prepares for the WVDP Safety and Health Fair.*

to attend various safety talks held in the site conference area throughout the event. Presentations included "Home Safety," by Compliance Management Inc.; "Self Defense," by the University of Buffalo Police; "Down Wires and the Hazards of Electricity," by electricity provider Niagara Mohawk; and "Highway Safety," by the Millgrove Volunteer Fire Department.

The 41 Fair exhibitors included on-site organizations, as well as safety and health-related external organizations, such as the New York State Police, Cattaraugus

(See **EXPOSITIONS**, pg. 9)



## EXPOSITIONS

(Continued from pg. 8)

County Emergency Services, Mercy Flight, Wal-Mart Vision, Curves for Women, DARE Program, and Mothers Against Drunk Driving. Other exhibitors included DOE's Voluntary Protection Program, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and the American Society of Safety Engineers.

The event closed with an especially enjoyable presentation, "Laugh Harder and Live Longer; Put a Little Humor in Your Life," presented by Professor Bruce Baum, of the University of Buffalo. His talk emphasized the need for humor to reduce the unhealthy effects of stress in our daily lives.

## Savannah River Site

Over 500 Savannah River Site (SRS) employees recently went back to campus at the University of South Carolina, in Aiken, to participate in the 2002 SRS Safety Conference, June 19-20. The conference was designed to reinforce good safety habits on and off the job. This year's theme, "Safety U 2002," focused on continuing safety education and gave employees an opportunity to participate in breakout sessions to renew their safety commitment.

For the seventh year, an annual safety open house for the community was held in conjunction with the conference for site employees, featuring over 70 informational exhibits ranging from infant and child safety to fire safety—all designed to enhance safety education. About 1,000 community members and Site employees came out to learn more about safety.



*A young motocross rider learns how to use the proper protective gear at the Savannah River safety open house.*

Off-the-job safety information was presented in a "kid-friendly" format with games and other interactive exhibits to promote early safety education for area youth, as well as adults. Safety favorites such as Smokey Bear, the site's Voluntary Protection Program Mascot Top Dog, and SRS emergency vehicles and personnel were also on

hand to greet the kids. Since 1996, Savannah River has invited the public to learn more about the safety

culture on site and browse exhibits featuring some of the latest technology used in the world of safety.

As a separate outreach effort, 40 local students were honored at the Savannah River Site's 15th annual Safety Art Contest banquet on May 10, 2002. An evening of fun included a visit from the Site's safety mascot Top Dog.

The Safety Art Contest promoted safety among children and was open to students from kindergarten through high school. Over 50,000 entries were received and judged on the students' interpretations of safe practices while at home, school, or play. First place winners received \$70; second place, \$40; third place, \$30; and honorable mention, \$20. The winning artwork was displayed at the 2002 SRS Safety Conference.

## Wackenhut Services, Inc., Nevada

The third annual Integrated Safety Management (ISM) Day and Health Fair for the National Nuclear Security Administration, Nevada Operations (NNSA/NV) family was held at the North Las Vegas facility on October 17, 2001.

The opening ceremony included special recognition of Wackenhut Services, Inc., Nevada (WSI-NV) employees for their accomplishment in achieving DOE Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) Star status in 2001. WSI-NV is the first company in Nevada to be awarded this honor for its outstanding safety and health program.

ISM Day activities began with opening remarks from senior managers of NNSA/NV and its contractors. Wackenhut's participation included a booth decorated with a NASCAR Pit Crew theme, incorporating aspects of Integrated Safety Management and the Voluntary Protection Program. The WSI-NV booth presented driver safety topics, such as dangers of driving on under-inflated tires, driver fatigue, and defensive driving.

Participants were required to complete a driver safety quiz based on ISM functions to be eligible for prize giveaways. The driver safety theme was chosen to help WSI-NV celebrate reaching a milestone in its safe driving campaign: one million miles driven by employees without a recordable vehicle accident. ❖



*Wackenhut Services Inc., Nevada stresses the importance of driver safety at ISM Day.*

# Sites win White House environmental awards

Four Department of Energy (DOE) projects are recipients of the 2002 White House "Closing the Circle" Awards. The awards, presented at a June 11, 2002, White House ceremony, recognize employees of Federal facilities for making significant contributions to the environment during Fiscal Year 2001. A total of 26 awards were presented to civilian Federal and military organizations.

Sandia National Laboratories' Green Purchasing Team received an award in the "Affirmative Procurement" category for pursuing contracts dedicated to ensuring that all purchases meet or exceed Federal requirements and guidelines for environmentally preferable purchasing. The first three dedicated contracts were designed to encourage the purchase of recycled products, saving Sandia \$72,000 and increasing the total dollars spent on recycled products from \$223,000 to \$1,000,000.

The Hanford Site Pollution Prevention Team was recognized in the "Education and Outreach" category. DOE Hanford's Pollution Prevention Program Office, the Cities of Richland and West Richland, the Washington State University Master Gardeners, Home Depot, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory



*The award ceremony for Pacific Northwest National Laboratory's (PNNL) Closing the Circle Award. L-r are Jessie Roberson, Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management; John Howard, Jr., White House Task Force for Waste Prevention and Recycling; Larry Maples and Glenn Thornton, PNNL; and Terri Aldridge, Richland Operations Office.*

(PNNL), Bechtel Hanford, Fluor Hanford, and former Fluor Hanford subcontractor DynCorp Tri-Cities are educating the Hanford Site and local communities about how to reduce energy consumption, minimize waste generation, and take advantage of recycling options. This outreach program successfully saved some local organizations and schools approximately \$3,000,000.

An award in the "Recycling" category was presented to the Actinide

Process Chemistry Group at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) for devising the Nitric Acid Recovery System to eliminate acid waste at LANL's plutonium facility. A common chemical process is purifying plutonium by dissolving it in nitric acid. LANL needed to drastically reduce the waste stream from the dissolution process. The Nitric Acid Recovery System almost eliminates nitrates in the waste stream and reduces the nitric acid used in processing operations to about 20 percent of the historic usage. The wastewater stream is now 99.98 percent pure water with no measurable plutonium.

The PNNL Green Custodial Products Team received an award in the "Environmental

Preferability" category for establishing a process to purchase custodial products considered risk free to workers and the environment. The "green" products eliminate many additional costs in the areas of chemical management, training, and hazard mitigation. PNNL is sharing its work in this area with other DOE sites and organizations. For more information, visit <http://www.pnl.gov/esp/greenguide/custodialproducts/>. ❖

## Summit promotes 'green' power in Southeast

The Department of Energy's (DOE) Atlanta Regional Office (ARO) is moving aggressively to create opportunities and incentives for utilities in 11 states in the southeastern United States to produce "green" power. Green power is electricity generated from renewable energy resources, such as wind, solar, and biomass.

A recent Green Power Summit hosted by ARO brought together for the first time about 200 green power

advocates, including developers, producers, service providers, and marketers. The summit was held at North Carolina State University's McKimmon Center in Raleigh. Co-sponsors of the event included the North Carolina State Energy Office and the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy (SACE)

The summit's prevailing theme was that "partnerships and information sharing" are necessary for success and to hasten the growth of

green power in the Southeast. Most southeastern states are going through the green pricing accreditation process, and it was useful to those states to hear from stakeholders in other states that have been successful in establishing accreditation criteria. DOE speakers included David McAndrew, Federal Energy Management Program, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, and Blair Sweezy, National Renewable Energy Laboratory. ❖

# Research DIGEST

The Department of Energy (DOE) has selected 187 small businesses in 32 states to receive \$25 million in grants under Phase I of the **Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)** and **Small Business Technology Transfer** programs. Some 249 projects in 45 technical topic areas will be funded at an average of \$99,000. The projects range from the development of an automated system that tells homeowners when their air conditioning systems are operating inefficiently to the development of a

portable instrument to quickly identify biological warfare agents. The companies may apply for Phase II grants in Fiscal Year 2003 for up to \$750,000 to continue the research and development effort. Also, 100 projects from last fiscal year's SBIR Phase I winners will receive Phase II funding this fiscal year. The 84 companies receiving continuation grants are located in 22 states; the grants total \$72 million and average \$712,000 each for a period of two years. A list of the awards is available at [http://](http://sbir.er.doe.gov/sbir)

[sbir.er.doe.gov/sbir](http://sbir.er.doe.gov/sbir) under Awards and Abstracts.



A team of computer scientists working with cell biologists at the Department of Energy's **Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory** (LBNL) has created BioSig, a web-based bioinformatic system that links collections of microscope images to a wide variety of quantitative experimental data. The new program can be used by multiple researchers to answer questions and test hypotheses about protein expression, cell morphology, and cellular organization in tissues and cell cultures. Mary Helen Barcellos-Hoff of LBNL's Life Sciences Division and Bahram Parvin of the National Energy Research Scientific Computing Center are coprincipal investigators of the BioSig system. They describe BioSig in the July 2002 issue of *Computer* magazine, published by the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers. (Paul Preuss, 510-486-6249)



A new message-passing library that makes it possible to extract optimum performance from both workstation and personal computer clusters, as well as from large massively parallel supercomputers, has been developed by researchers at the Department of Energy's **Ames Laboratory**. The new library, called MP\_Lite, supports and enhances the basic capabilities that most software programs require to communicate between computers. Although MP\_Lite could be scaled up easily, its objective is not to provide all the capabilities of the full message-passing interface (MPI) standard. David Turner, principal Ames Laboratory investigator working on the MP\_Lite project, says the MP\_Lite library is smaller and much easier to work with than full MPI libraries. (Saren Johnston, 515-294-3474) ❖



In late June 2002, Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham addressed the 73rd Annual League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) National Conference in Houston, Texas. During the conference, Secretary Abraham met with the Department of Energy (DOE) National Hispanic Employment Program Advisory Council. Left to right are Jeffrey Vargas, National Hispanic Employment Program Manager, Office of Management, Budget and Evaluation; Joseph V. Martinez, Office of Science; Doris Davis, Savannah River Operations Office (SR); Elaine Jimenez, Nevada Operations Office; Yvette Collazo, Council Chair, Chicago Operations Office (CH); Ray Wilson, SR; Secretary Abraham; Roberto Gonzalez, SR; Maria Morales, CH; Paul Hernandez, Richland Operations Office; Ron Berry, Ohio Field Office; Greg Magallanez, Strategic Petroleum Reserve; and Don Garcia, Albuquerque Operations Office. For more information about DOE's Hispanic Employment Program, visit <http://www.nhepmac.org>. ❖

# Small business conference a major success

The Department of Energy's (DOE) Third Annual Small Business Conference, held in Orlando, Fla., May 19-22, 2002, has been declared a huge success. The conference was sponsored by the Department's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, Office of Economic Impact and Diversity (ED), and co-hosted by DOE's Oak Ridge Operations Office and UT Battelle.

For the first time, DOE partnered with other Federal agencies to maximize the opportunities available to small businesses. Agency partners included the Departments of Agriculture, Defense, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, the Interior, State, Transportation, and Treasury; the Department of the Army; the Environmental Protection Agency; the Small Business Administration; and the General Services Administration.

The conference theme, "Roadmap to Government Contracting: Equipping You for the Journey," reflected the effort to bring the government agencies together. The concept was well received, and program officials hope to continue the effort in future years. The conference included several panels; workshops; a variety of speakers; and 61 exhibit booths featuring DOE program and field offices, management and operating

contractors, and most of the partnering agencies.

Under Secretary Robert Card gave the keynote address at the Secretarial Small Business Awards luncheon on May 20 and, along with ED Director Theresa Alvillar-Speake, presented the awards for excellence in providing small business opportunities during Fiscal Year 2001. The winners:

- **Program Office of the Year:** Office of Nonproliferation and National Security, NNSA
- **Head of Contracting Activity of the Year:** Golden Field Office
- **Management and Operating Contractor of the Year:** BWXT of Ohio, Inc.
- **Small Business Subcategory Awards:** Bechtel BWXT, Idaho, L.L.C.; Lockheed-Martin-KAPL, Inc.; Oak Ridge Operations Office; Oak Ridge Associated Universities; the Office of Security and Emergency Operations, DOE Headquarters; Rocky Flats Field Office; Southwestern Power Administration; Strategic Petroleum Reserve; University of Tennessee/Battelle; West Valley Nuclear Services Company, L.L.C.; Western Area



*Between sessions at the Small Business Conference are (l-r) Nickolas Demer, Procurement Analyst, Office of Economic Impact and Diversity (ED); Theresa Alvillar-Speake, Director, ED; Under Secretary Robert Card; and Yosef Patel, Deputy Director, ED.*

Power Administration; and Westinghouse Savannah River

- **Mentor-Protégé:** BWXT Y12, L.L.C. – Mentor; Tennessee State University – Protégé
- **Special Emphasis:** Albuquerque Operations Office; Los Alamos National Laboratory; Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility/Southeastern Universities Research Association
- **Small Business of the Year:** Technology and Managerial Services (TMS), Inc. ❖

## COMING Events



The first-ever Solar Decathlon, a competition among university teams to design and build energy-efficient, solar-powered homes, is coming to Washington, D.C., **Sept. 26-Oct. 5, 2002**. The houses will be set up in a "village" on the National Mall, between the National Air and Space Museum and the National Gallery of Art, beginning Sept. 19. The event is open to the public and exhibits explaining the features of each house will be available.

Fourteen university teams have entered the contest. Each roughly 500-square-foot house will be judged on 10 criteria to determine which one most efficiently employs solar energy for heating, cooling, hot water, lighting, appliances, computers, and charging an electric car. A jury of world-renowned architects will evaluate the attractiveness, livability, and effectiveness of each home's design. To win, a team must blend aesthetics and modern conveniences with maximum energy production and optimal efficiency.

The Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy is the primary sponsor of the competition. Other sponsors include the Department's National Renewable Energy Laboratory; BP America, Inc.; The Home Depot; EDS; and the American Institute of Architects.

For more information, visit <http://www.solardecathlon.org>. ❖

# Students get a glimpse of Savannah River life

The alligator's eyes glow eerily through the darkness as the pursuer's light sweeps the shoreline. The hunter moves silently and cautiously into position to snare the creature. Swiftly he reaches into the dark waters and snatches the gator with his bare hands. While this sounds like the escapades of Animal Planet's crocodile hunter Steve Irwin, the adventurer actually was student Jonathan Beall from Boulder High School in Colorado.

Boulder High School was the second place winner in the Department of Energy's (DOE) National Science Bowl®, held May 3-6, 2002, in Washington, D.C. The second, third, and fourth place winning teams each attended a one-week science research trip to a DOE facility in New York, South Carolina, or Wyoming.

Beall and team members David Kamin, Yiming Wang, and Gwen

Woods and assistant coach Sheryl Freeman spent a "Wet, Wild and Wonderful" week at the Department's Savannah River Site and in the South Carolina Lowcountry. The group climbed trees to inspect cockaded woodpecker nests, discovered how nuclear waste is converted into glass, guided robots, went kayaking, delved into the world of counterterrorism with Wackenhut, and explored the splendor of the South.

Team captain Kamin thought a better description of the week would have been "Fun in the Sun." "I had a great time at the Savannah River Site," he said. "Nowhere else in the world can you tour radioactive waste facilities, wake up baby red cockaded woodpeckers, and catch alligators all in one day."

Oh, by the way, Beall is now known as "Gator Boy" to his hosts and team members. ❖



*Gwen Woods, Boulder High School, uncovers a trap used in Savannah River Ecology Laboratory's wetlands studies. Woods plans to study math and environmental engineering in college.*



Theresa Bergsman (left), of the Environmental Technology Directorate at the Department of Energy's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), explains the conversion of biomass-derived products to chemicals, which substitutes renewable, agriculturally derived products for petroleum in the manufacture of industrial products, to Washington Governor Gary Locke. PNNL Director Lura Powell looks on at right. Governor Locke recently spent a day at PNNL and received a tour of the facilities and briefings on current programs and activities. ❖

## NEW ON THE *Internet*

### **NNSA lessons learned**

The NNSA Lessons Learned Portal, <http://www.lessons-learned.net>, is a customer-specified portfolio, e-mail-push, web-based system designed to facilitate the sharing of lessons learned information. The portal provides an easy mechanism for communicating experiences and the resulting lessons learned across functional areas. It is specifically designed to meet the needs of users who wish to control the volume and content of lessons learned data received by allowing them to create an initial profile of their specific data type needs and interests. The system will automatically send an e-mail to the user with Internet links when lessons learned match the user-established profile. Current customers of the portal include National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) Headquarters and field Federal employees.

### **A new season of 'wonder'**

Did you ever wonder about the secrets inside living cells or the mysterious chemistry of the sea? These are just two of the brand new science questions and personal profiles now on the "Did You Ever Wonder?" feature on the home page of the Department of Energy's Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL). The program was such a hit in its first year that the laboratory decided to renew it for a second season. For those who have not visited the site, last year's questions still are posted. Check it out by clicking on "Did You Ever Wonder" on LBNL's home page, <http://www.lbl.gov>, or go straight to the site at <http://www.lbl.gov/wonder>. ❖

# People IN/ENERGY

**Roy Schepens** became the new manager of the Department of Energy's Office of River Protection in Richland, Wash., on June 24, 2002, succeeding **Harry Boston**, who accepted a position in private industry. He will oversee the River Protection Project, which will retrieve and treat Hanford's highly radioactive waste stored in aging underground tanks near the Columbia River. Most recently, Schepens was Assistant Manager for High-Level Waste and Materials and Facilities Stabilization at the Department's Savannah River Site.



On July 8, 2002, at the recommendation of Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham, President Bush designated **Ambassador Linton Brooks** as Acting Administrator of the Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), replacing **General John Gordon**, who has joined the National Security Council. Brooks currently is NNSA's Deputy Administrator for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation.

"Linton has done an excellent job managing our nonproliferation agenda...I know that he will bring steady leadership to NNSA," Secretary Abraham said.

On July 1, 2002, Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management Jessie Roberson designated **Jeffrey M. Allison** as Acting Manager of the Department of Energy's Savannah River Operations Office. Most recently, Allison served as Assistant Manager for Health, Safety and Technical Support at Savannah River. He previously held several senior level positions at Savannah River, including Acting Assistant Manager for High-Level Waste.

Researchers **Virginia Dale**, **Al Geist**, and **Richard Haire** of the Department of Energy's Oak Ridge National Laboratory have been named corporate fellows by UT-Battelle, the managing contractor for the laboratory. Corporate fellow appointments are made on a limited basis to recognize "exceptionally gifted individuals throughout the organization for their outstanding technical achievements in science or engineering." The appointments bring the number of active corporate fellows to 27.

Thermal fluid physicist **Donald McEligot** of the Department of Energy's Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL) has been named Distinguished Scientist/Engineer of the Year by the Idaho Academy of Science. McEligot, an international leader in heat transfer research for over 20 years, was named an INEEL Fellow in 2000. He is best known for his pioneering experiments and numerical analyses of strongly heated gases in tubes and pipes.

**Yongjae Lee**, a postdoctoral fellow in the Physics Department at the Department of Energy's Brookhaven National Laboratory is the winner of the 2002 Alvin Van Valkenburg Award for his work on a newly discovered class of materials that expand under pressure. The award is given every two years in the name of the renowned physicist, and co-inventor of the diamond anvil cell, to honor a young scientist. Lee received the honor in June at the biannual Gordon Conference on Research at High Pressure. ❖



## NEW Publications

**Annual Report of Waste Generation and Pollution Prevention Progress 2001** (DOE/EM-0630) presents and analyzes Department of Energy (DOE) complex-wide waste generation and pollution prevention activities at 44 reporting sites, from calendar year 1993 through fiscal year 2001. Fiscal year 2001 progress toward achieving the Secretary of Energy's 2005 Pollution Prevention Goals also is reported. The report is available at <http://epic.er.doe.gov/epic>, select "Annual P2 Report" under the topic areas. Printed copies are available from the Center for Environmental Management Information, 1-800-736-3282. For questions,

contact Mike Sweitzer, DOE Albuquerque, 505-845-4347.

Office of Inspector General (IG) reports: **Semiannual Report to Congress** (DOE/IG-0024); **Closure of the Fernald Environmental Management Project** (DOE/IG-0555); **Nuclear Materials Accounting Systems Modernization Initiative** (DOE/IG-0556); **Cost Sharing at the Ashtabula Environmental Management Project** (DOE/IG-0558); **Privatization of Safety Management Services at the Savannah River Site** (DOE/IG-0559); **The Department of Energy's Tritium Extraction**

**Facility** (DOE/IG-0560); **Environmental Management Performance Measures** (DOE/IG-0561). The reports are available from the U.S. Department of Energy, IG Reports Request Line, 202-586-2744, or at <http://www.ig.doe.gov/>. ❖

### CORRECTION

The name of the condition the young transplant recipient has developed is incorrect in the "Unsung Heroes" article, page 10, June 2002 *DOE This Month*. The correct term is "graft-versus-host disease." ❖

# Milestones

## YEARS OF SERVICE

August 2002

### Headquarters

**Chief Information Officer** - Clifford E. Hoyt (30 years). **Congressional & Intergovernmental** - Kathleen K. Peery (30). **Economic Impact & Diversity** - Kay F. Gunn (30), Molverlynn S. Hull (30). **EIA** - Larry J. Alverson (35), Carol J. Jones (35), Raymond L. Boyer (30), Renee H. Miller (30), Leigh Carleton (25).

**Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy** - Nancy L. Mays (35), Richard C. Michaud (35), Carole S. Gates (30), Raymond J. Lasala (30), Michael J. Mc Cabe (30), Kenneth M. Friedman (25). **Envir. Management** - Thomas T. Evans (30). **Envir., Safety & Health** - Sharon A. Root (30), Frank W. Reimann (25).

**FERC** - Constantine G. Tjoumas (35), Gerald M. Briscoe (25), Sharron T. Davis (25), James P. Feeney, Jr. (25), Linda M. Ferguson (25), Michael Goldenberg (25), Jack O. Kendall (25), Christopher A. John (25), Natalie L. Moore (25), John C. Peuser (25), Tamrah A. Semega (25), Robert W. Shaffer (25), Jacob Silverman (25), Lillian D. Wilson (25).

**General Counsel** - Katharine R. Dickerson (40), James B. McRae (25). **Hearings & Appeals** - Thomas O. Mann (30). **Inspector General** - Brenda J. Carson (30), William S. Maharay (25). **Management, Budget & Evaluation** - William C. Talbot (35), Frances R. Melillo (30), Patricia C. Sigur (25).

**NNSA** - Ward Sigmond (35), Kenneth E. Sanders (30), James C. Baldree (25). **Nuclear Energy** - Earl J. Wahlquist (40), William J. Colsh (30), John J. McClure (25). **Radioactive Waste** - Michael D. Valentine (30). **Science** - Doris A. Martin (35). **Security** - Ronald L. Shores (35), David W. Crawford (25).

### Field

**Albany Research Center** - Stephen D. Cramer (40). **Albuquerque** - Harold F. Klaus, Jr. (25). **Albuquerque/NNSA** - Ronald F. Short (40), George N. Pappas (35), Albert U. Sanchez (35), H. Franklin Gregory, Jr. (30), James F. Nicholas (30), Janet D. Anaya (25), Darwin D. Cross (25), Diana S. Eddy (25), Jo L. Loftis (25), Frank H. Sprague (25). **Chicago** - Peter R. Waldman (25).

**Bonneville Power** - Donald L. Gold (35), Larry R. Kays (35), Gerald D. Meaney (35), Marvin M. Rickett (35), Lawrence P. Walsh (35), Leslie T. Currier (30), Mary A. Dalen (30), John W. Jeanes (30), Lyle B. Klein (30), Charles M. Markee (30), Beverly H. Martin (30), Ronald G. Starkey (30), Joseph P. Sullivan (30), Stephen D. Vickers (30), Dima V. Craig (25), Robert E. Karp (25), James F. Keaveny (25), Francis R. Miller (25), Thomas R. Murphy (25), James B. Pratt (25), Harold Spraggins (25).

**Idaho** - Marshall C. Garr (35), Bradley G. Bauer (30), Dennis R. Bell (30), Trudy A. Harmel (30), David W. Desautel (25). **NETL** - Joseph R. D'Este (30), Angelo D. De Galbo (30), James W. Huemmerich (30), Paul C. Rohar (25). **Nevada/NNSA** - Stewart A. Thomas (25), Barbara Yoerg (25). **Oak Ridge** - J. Dale Jackson (30), Cheryl E. Estes (25), Thomas H. Wynn (25).

**Oakland/NNSA** - Frank A. Porto (30). **Ohio** - Ruby I. Clark (40), Kenneth W. Briggs (30), William I. Winn (25). **Pittsburgh Naval Reactors/NNSA** - Erich C. Sill (30). **Richland** - Anthony E. Lorenz (30), Karen K. Fick (25). **Rocky Flats** - Stephen J. Bolling (35), Paul P. Langley (30). **Savannah River** - Randall C. Cline (30), William G. Erickson (30), Ronald D. Jernigan (30), Roger D. Rollins (30).

**Schenectady Naval Reactors/NNSA** - Gerald W. Twardowski (25).

**Southwestern Power** - Leona M. Hale (30). **Western Area Power** - John A. Brown (35), Catherine J. Smart (30), James E. Waddell (30), Paul K. Yazzie (30), Robert C. Fullerton (25), Norine F. Larson (25), Theodore J. Miller (25), Harrison G. Pease (25).

## RETIREMENTS

June 2002

### Headquarters

**EIA** - Sandra R. Smith (27 years). **Envir., Safety & Health** - R. Thomas Bell III (13). **Fossil Energy** - Robert S. Kripowicz (29). **General Counsel** - Daniel C. Crook (23). **NNSA** - John M. Rooney (30), Robert E. Waldron (33).

### Field

**Bonneville Power** - Darlene A. Freestad (15), H. Kenneth Westby (40). **Chicago** - Carol A. Morrison (29). **Western Area Power** - Howard R. Schumacher (16), Eulace M. Thomas (21), Brian C. Whitney (30).

July 2002

### Headquarters

**Envir. Management** - C. Diana Krop (16). **Envir., Safety & Health** - Carl A. Caves (33). **General Counsel** - Patti J. Lomax (30), James K. White (30). **Inspector General** - Joseph M. Connor (30), Howard C. Melton (40). **NNSA** - Stephen E. Herrick (20).

### Field

**Albuquerque/NNSA** - Peter M. Wanco (27), Vincent J. Zebrowski (27). **Bonneville Power** - Douglas M. Holland (6), Gary M. Ihle (35), Larry R. Kays (34). **NETL** - Richard A. Johnson (13). **Nevada** - Peter G. Mueller (27). **Richland** - Roger A. Jacob, Sr., (15). ❖

## Savannah River cleanup to accelerate to 2025

A Letter of Intent has been signed to enter into an agreement to accelerate cleanup of the Department of Energy's (DOE) Savannah River Site to the year 2025. This action follows a series of meetings among DOE, Environmental Protection Agency, and State of South Carolina officials.

The agreement was reached under the Department's Environmental Management Accelerated Cleanup Program. The program's goal is to streamline operations by working with states and regulators to clearly target and reduce the greatest health and environmental cleanup risks at the country's Cold War nuclear weapons production facilities. "Working with the states and other regulatory agencies, DOE is proposing a new way of doing business, leading to greater accountability, responsibility, and opportunities for both the Department and the states," Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham said.

The Department is setting aside \$216 million for Savannah River Site under the Accelerated Cleanup Reform Account. With the accelerated cleanup plans for other DOE sites (*DOE This Month*, July 2002), the Savannah River agreement brings the total to \$975 million dedicated to cleanup reform. Additional details on the agreement are available at <http://www.energy.gov/HQPress/releases02/julpr/pr02143.htm>.

August 2002

# AROUND DOE

## Iowa utility earns NREL Rappaport Award

The Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) has awarded its 2002 Paul Rappaport Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Award to Waverly Light and Power, the municipal utility for Waverly, Iowa. The utility has helped lead the way for wind energy development across the Midwest.

Waverly began its wind program in 1991 at a time when the city faced an energy supply crisis. In 1993 it installed the first utility-scale wind turbine in Iowa. Since then, Iowa has installed 350 wind turbines, producing more than 500 megawatts of electricity. The state ranks third behind California and Texas in wind energy development.

The Rappaport Award, inaugurated this year by NREL in celebration of its 25th anniversary, is named for Dr. Paul Rappaport, NREL's founding director.

## DOE, utilities partner on nuclear plant siting

Three U.S. electric utilities have been selected by the Department of Energy (DOE) to participate in joint government/industry projects to evaluate and obtain Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) approval for possible new nuclear power plant sites. These projects will be the first major elements of the Department's Nuclear Power 2010 initiative.

The Department will partner with Dominion Energy, Entergy, and Exelon to submit formal applications to demonstrate NRC's Early Site Permit (ESP) process. The utilities will seek ESP approvals to locate new, safe advanced technology nuclear plants at sites they own that currently host commercial nuclear power plants. The utilities expect to submit applications by fall 2003, for NRC approval by mid-decade. DOE will share the cost of permit application expenses; the estimated cost-share over four years is about \$17 million. Each utility will provide at least 50 percent of the funding.

NRC established the ESP process in 1989 for utilities to complete the site evaluation element of the nuclear power plant licensing process before deciding to build a plant. Once issued, the ESP is valid for up to 20 years and can be used in conjunction with a Design Certification to seek a Construction and Operating License. ♦

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United States  
Department of Energy (PA-40)  
Washington, DC 20585

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Official Business