



*Carbon Sequestration
Leadership Forum meets*

Natural Gas Summit addresses short-term supply concerns

U.S. signs energy agreements with Brazil, Romania

Pantex Plant security team tops competition

U.S. Department of Energy



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Inside

4

Problems, solutions, and actions to ease short-term natural gas supply constraints were topics of discussion at the National Petroleum Council's Natural Gas Summit in Washington, D.C., on June 26, 2003.

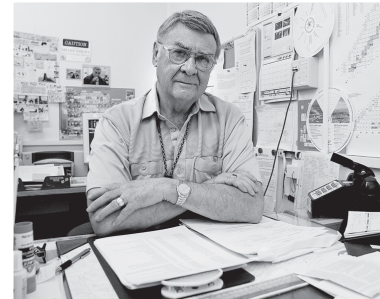


The Department of Energy's Argonne National Laboratory played an important role in the recent nationwide "Top Officials 2" emergency exercise.

5

8

In honor of his 50 years of service, the Department of Energy's Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory celebrated "Ben Hunter Day" on June 2, 2003.



On our cover

Energy Ministers and their representatives from around the globe joined Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham (far right) and Under Secretary of State for Global Affairs Paula Dobriansky (second from right) in Tysons Corner, Va., June 23-25, 2003, for the inaugural meeting of the Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum. The Forum is an international climate change initiative designed to improve carbon capture and storage technologies through coordinated research and development with international partners and private industry. During the meeting, an international charter was signed supporting the Forum and setting the framework for international cooperation in research and development.

For more on the historic meeting, see page 5. ♦

Secretary addresses European Union hydrogen conference, signs fuel cell agreement

Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham delivered a keynote address to the European Commission's (EC) Conference of the High Level Group on Hydrogen and Fuel Cell (HLG-HFC) technologies in Brussels, Belgium, on June 16, 2003. He noted the emphasis that both the United States and the EC have placed on their respective hydrogen initiatives and their mutual cooperation and achievements in the area.

The HLG-HFC, composed of EC automobile and transport companies, utilities, research institutes, and policy makers, was established by the European Commission in 2002 to advance the development of the hydrogen economy. In the United States, President Bush established the Hydrogen Fuel Initiative to concurrently develop a hydrogen infrastructure and hydrogen fuel cell-powered vehicles, and introduced the FreedomCAR program to develop automotive systems fueled by hydrogen.

"Like many of the nations represented here, the United States has

made hydrogen research and development a top priority," Secretary Abraham said. "We are so committed that over the next five years the Department of Energy will invest \$1.7 billion in research and development of hydrogen vehicles and hydrogen infrastructure technologies."

"Hydrogen can be produced using renewable, fossil, and nuclear energy," Secretary Abraham noted. "We are looking at all of these options. But we intend that all our hydrogen will eventually be produced using emissions-free technologies. In our most recent budget, we propose spending roughly 50 percent on hydrogen production from renewable resources. And working together with international partners, we can leverage scarce resources and advance the schedule for research, development, and deployment of hydrogen production, storage, transport, and end-use technologies."

Secretary Abraham called on the EC and its member countries to participate in a Ministerial-level

conference later this year to formally establish the International Partnership for the Hydrogen Economy. "Such a partnership would provide the best mechanism to efficiently organize, evaluate, and coordinate multinational research and development programs that advance the transition to a global hydrogen economy," he said.

During the conference, Secretary Abraham and European Union (EU) Commissioner for Research Philippe Busquin signed the Fuel Cell Annex, the first addition to the U.S.-EU Non-Nuclear Energy Cooperation Agreement that the two signed in May 2001. The annex lays out the framework within which the two entities will collaborate on hydrogen research and will help both the U.S. and the EC leverage their approaches to achieving advances towards a hydrogen-based economy.

Secretary Abraham's speech to the EC hydrogen conference is available at <http://www.energy.gov>, click on "Press Room," click on "Speeches." ❖

U.S., Brazil formalize energy partnership

U.S. President George W. Bush and Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva met on June 20, 2003, and agreed to launch a broad, bilateral energy partnership. In support of the partnership, the United States and Brazil formalized the international energy cooperation with the signing of two agreements the same day.

U.S. Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham and Brazilian Mines and Energy Minister Dilma Rousseff, pictured at right, signed a Memorandum of Understanding formally initiating energy cooperation. "This partnership will strengthen bilateral cooperation on energy modernization and new technologies for both countries, promoting economic growth and energy security," Secretary Abraham said.

The following projects are part of the energy partnership:

- initiation of talks to collaborate on

hydrogen and fuel cells, with Brazil becoming the first Latin American country to join the proposed International Partnership for the Hydrogen Economy;

- beginning of negotiations by Brazil to become a charter member of the Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum;
- bilateral cooperation on electricity regulation and offshore safety; and
- cooperation on development of clean energy technologies.

Secretary Abraham and Brazilian Minister of Science and Technology Roberto Amaral signed the U.S.-Brazil International Nuclear Energy Research Initiative (I-NERI). The I-NERI agreement will foster collaborative research and development on advanced nuclear technology that will improve cost



performance, enhance safety, and increase proliferation resistance of future nuclear energy systems. Also, both countries will cooperate on advanced technologies for nuclear power and the Generation IV power effort.

Secretary Abraham will travel to Brazil in December 2003 for an Energy Ministerial Meeting and to formally inaugurate the Energy Working Group. ❖

Natural Gas Summit addresses the short term

At the request of Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham, the National Petroleum Council (NPC) held a Natural Gas Summit on June 26, 2003, in Washington, D.C., to discuss problems and solutions, and identify actions that can be taken immediately to ease short-term natural gas supply constraints. Representatives from consumer groups, industry, and state and local governments were among the participants in open discussion on the issue.

Secretary Abraham delivered the opening remarks. The summit was co-chaired by Under Secretary of Energy Robert Card. Daniel Yergin, President, Cambridge Energy Research Associates, gave a historical perspective on natural gas. Guy Caruso, Administrator, Energy Information Administration, presented the short-term natural gas forecast.

Secretary Abraham noted that natural gas storage is 32 percent below last year's level and 22 percent below the previous five-year average, while demand for natural gas has increased over the last decade at levels difficult to sustain under current supply and production constraints. "But this is not just about low reserves or supply and demand imbalances," the Secretary said. "This is about real people and the real problems they confront when gas prices soar."



Secretary Abraham addresses the Natural Gas Summit. Listening on, at right, is Guy Caruso, Administrator, Energy Information Administration.

"...We must also focus on the smart uses of energy," Secretary Abraham continued. "Increasing our production and storage capacities is important, but we must also focus on using our natural gas resources wisely and to our own best benefit."

Secretary Abraham announced that the Department of Energy (DOE) will undertake an ambitious Natural Gas Data Collection Initiative that will improve the way DOE's Energy Information Administration (EIA) and Office of Fossil Energy gather and disseminate information about the use and origin of U.S. natural gas supplies. EIA also will collect critical information on natural gas imports

monthly instead of quarterly and better regionalize its *Short Term Energy Outlook*. The Department also will chair a series of regional natural gas conferences that will be brainstorming sessions similar to the Natural Gas Summit.

In response to earlier concerns, Secretary Abraham had asked the NPC to conduct a wide-ranging and comprehensive study on natural gas in the United States during the 21st century. That study and the

Council's recommendations are scheduled to be sent to Secretary Abraham later this year.

In closing, Secretary Abraham encouraged participants to participate in the panel discussions and offer additional suggestions and alternatives. The panels were chaired by Kyle McSlarrow, Deputy Secretary of Energy; David Garman, Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy; and Mike Smith, Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy.

Secretary Abraham's remarks are available at <http://www.energy.gov>, click on "Press Room," click on "Speeches." ❖



U.S. Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham (left) and Romanian Minister of Industry and Resources Dan Ioan Popescu exchange greetings at an energy cooperative agreement signing ceremony on June 3, 2003. The agreement was signed in Secretary Abraham's office at Department of Energy Headquarters, Washington, D.C.

The two countries will work together to foster the development of Romania's energy sector. The electricity, gas, and oil sectors have a significant investment potential to the U.S. This collaboration may include, but is not limited to, the exchange of information and consideration of the feasibility of undertaking cooperative activities.

"President Bush's National Energy Policy calls for more international cooperation in the energy sector, including expanding trade and investment opportunities," Secretary

Abraham said. "American investment increases environmental protection and the development of new technologies. Both producers and consumers will benefit from ensuring that the global energy infrastructure is sufficient and flexible to meet growing global demand." ❖

World carbon sequestration leaders meet

Energy Ministers and their representatives from around the globe gathered in Tysons Corner, Va., June 23-25, 2003, for the inaugural meeting of the Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum (CSLF). During the meeting, an international charter was signed supporting the Forum and setting the framework for international cooperation in research and development.

Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham and Under Secretary of State for Global Affairs Paula Dobriansky announced and outlined plans for creating the Forum on Feb. 27, 2003, at Department of Energy (DOE) Headquarters, Washington, D.C. At that time, Secretary Abraham also announced the "FutureGen" initiative, a U.S.-led public-private-international effort to construct the world's first

fossil fuel, pollution-free power plant. (*DOE This Month*, March 2003)

Secretary Abraham (pictured at right) signed the charter on behalf of the United States. Under Secretary of State Dobriansky (standing) joined Secretary Abraham at the Forum and for the signing ceremony. "Because sequestration may ultimately prove to be an essential element in limiting global carbon emissions, we must have a global effort devoted to marshalling the talents and resources from around the world," Secretary Abraham said. The global partners include Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Norway, the Russian Federation, South Africa,



the United Kingdom, and the European Commission. The CSLF members are given rights to participate in the FutureGen project.

Additional information on the Forum and carbon sequestration is available at <http://www.energy.gov>, click on "Press Room," and at <http://www.fe.doe.gov>. ❖

Argonne hosts 'TopOff 2' emergency exercise

The Department of Energy's (DOE) Argonne National Laboratory (ANL) hosted emergency management officials from Federal, state, and local agencies during the "Top Officials 2" (TopOff 2) nationwide emergency exercise, May 12-16, 2003. The Argonne site was used during the exercise because of its security as a Federal facility and its distance from downtown Chicago, Ill., which was part of the exercise. One Argonne building was designated as the Federal, state, and local Joint Operations Center (JOC).

TopOff 2 began in Washington State with a simulated "dirty bomb," which went off just south of downtown Seattle. Next was a simulated biological attack on the Chicago area. Fictitious terrorists released a simulated plague, helping officials see how well the Chicago area could handle a response to a biological attack.

Secretary of Homeland Security Tom Ridge and Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich took part in TopOff 2 and visited Argonne for interviews and a TopOff 2 media briefing. Media briefings were conducted through VNN (Virtual News



L-r, Marvin Gunn, DOE Chicago Operations Office Manager, and Hermann Grunder, ANL Director, accompany Secretary of Homeland Security Tom Ridge during the TopOff 2 exercise.

Network), a mock cable news broadcast set up for the exercise.

ANL Emergency Management Officer Gary Winner said the emergency response at Argonne went well. While the JOC dealt with the "big picture," DOE and ANL emergency response personnel tested their capabilities to respond to the simulated plague. The objectives were to protect site personnel, to safely and quickly shut down all

Argonne facilities, and to support the JOC. The laboratory simulated sending employees, vendors, students, and contractors offsite; assisted employees on travel; protected emergency personnel and their families from medical conditions related to the simulated plague; and demonstrated a capability to enforce SECON-1 security actions.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the State of Illinois were involved at

the JOC for the entire exercise. Participants arrived on site via helicopter, specialized trucks, vans, and other vehicles. More than 500 Federal, state, and local participants visited the Argonne site.

"DOE and senior laboratory management said that Argonne's response teams performed well and took the actions necessary to protect the people and the site in case of an emergency," Winner said. ❖

DOE to open new Kentucky cleanup office

The Department of Energy is taking steps to improve its environmental cleanup activities at the large gaseous diffusion plants in Portsmouth, Ohio, and Paducah, Ky., by opening a new office in Lexington, Ky. The office is being established to specifically implement cleanup of the sites.

"We are taking this action to improve efficiency within the environmental cleanup program by eliminating two layers of management and increasing accountability of our field management," Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management Jessie Roberson said. "The new office will

also provide a single source of leadership for these important cleanup activities in Ohio and Kentucky."

The Lexington office is scheduled to be fully operational by this fall. William Murphie has been named to head the office and will serve as the manager for both sites. A smaller staff of employees will be located at Paducah and Portsmouth for oversight of technical operations with direct reporting by the new manager to the Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management.

The Department will conduct a competitive procurement for new

contracts at both the Paducah and Portsmouth sites. Current contracts expiring in September 2003 will receive a six-month extension. The contracts will be terminated upon expiration of the extension.

Two contracts will be awarded at each site for cleanup and remediation, as well as for infrastructure and maintenance activities. The Department plans to publish a sources-sought notice in Federal Business Opportunities regarding the new contract opportunities and expects contract awards early next year. ❖

Fossil Energy awards – a success story

Since 1995, the Office of Environment, Security, Safety and Health (FE-7) in the Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Fossil Energy (FE) has sponsored FE's Environment, Security, Safety and Health (ESS&H) Achievement Award. The honor recognizes and provides a monetary award to FE individuals or teams who have significantly improved the efficiency, reduced the cost, or improved the quality of FE's Headquarters and/or field ESS&H programs.

The award also serves as a way of communicating accomplishments and best practices among FE sites to avoid duplication of effort and share solu-

tions to common problems. Award-winning projects have focused on a variety of areas, including computer-based employee training, behavior-based safety programs, pollution prevention initiatives, and innovative security preparedness and response programs. Since the award program's inception, nominated projects have represented a cost savings to FE of more than \$40 million; and FE accident rates are at historic lows.

The award program has become a successful tool in the effort to promote efficient, safe, and healthful working conditions for FE employees. Key implementation elements

of the award process include creation of comprehensive evaluation criteria, formation of an impartial selection committee, submission of brief written nominations followed by presentations by each sponsor, and senior management recognition of all participants.

FE-7 would like to share the award process with other DOE organizations. For more information on creating a program, contact Craig Zamuda or Connie Lorenz at 202-586-6400. FE's 2003 award process currently is underway; nomination packages are available at <http://esh.fe.doe.gov>. ❖

New PNNL tool to aid groundwater cleanup

There are more than 700 waste sites at the Department of Energy's Hanford Site in Washington with the potential to release contaminants to the soil and groundwater. Understanding which waste sites have the most significant impact and the cumulative effect of all the waste sites is important as options are investigated for cleanup and closure of Hanford.

Now, a comprehensive new tool developed by researchers at the Department's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) could provide some of the critical information needed to make key cleanup

decisions. The System Assessment Capability, or SAC, is an integrated system of computer models and databases that predicts the movement and fate of contaminants through the vadose zone, the groundwater, and to the Columbia River. SAC also assesses the impact of contaminants on human health, animals, and the environment.

Instead of showing each waste site in isolation, as has been done in the past, SAC shows each site in context. "It looks at all the waste sites at Hanford in relationship to each other and how they contribute to future impact," said Bob Bryce, SAC project

manager for PNNL. "Using SAC, we can see which waste sites are making the greatest contribution to future impact and clean them up first."

Scientists have tested the validity of SAC by comparing SAC results to known plume migrations at the Hanford Site over time. Researchers are preparing to conduct a composite analysis of the future impacts of remaining waste at Hanford. The results of this study will be considered as future waste disposal decisions are made at the site.

Business inquiries on SAC may be directed to Kathryn Lang, PNNL, 509-375-3837. ❖

Security forces compete, train, test skills

From June 2-5, 2003, 23 veteran special response teams tested their strategic skills in the "Coyote Canyon Challenge," the Department of Energy's (DOE) 2003 Security Police Officer Training Competition (SPOTC). The event was held at the DOE Nonproliferation and National Security Institute's (NNSI) Central Training Academy on Kirtland Air Force Base, Albuquerque, N.M. This year marked the 31st anniversary of the training competition.



BWXT Pantex team members David Aud, Joe Hardin, Chris Jenkins, Joe Martinez, Jeremy McCoid, and Steven Zuniga display the Secretary's Trophy.

Fifteen teams from DOE sites; five teams from U.S. state, county, and municipal law enforcement agencies; two U.S. military units; and a team of constables from the United Kingdom's Atomic Energy Authority Commission had the opportunity to pit their skills and training against those of their counterparts. A roster of 138 security police officers competed the entire week in New Mexico's high desert weather, firing more than 51,000 rounds of ammunition. The 2003 competition emphasized the integrated and practical use of the "Battle Rifle" instead of only firing handguns, as was the case in previous competitions.

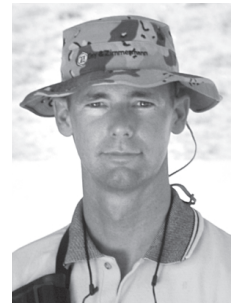
The security team from the Department's Pantex Plant received the Secretary's Trophy as the site with the best overall representation in the 2003 SPOTC. Scott White of the Hanford Patrol team was named Security Police Officer of the Year. The DOE Headquarters team finished in third place overall in only their second year of participation in the competition.

"This year's Challenge was particularly important," Arthur Flynn,

NNSI Director, told the competitors. "As a nation, we are engaged in a war on terrorism. Energy Secretary Abraham has made a commitment to the President that DOE resources will support this fight. Realize that every Department employee and contractor is a part of that."

The Security Police Officer Training Competition was established in 1972 to foster excellence and professionalism among the physical security forces of DOE and its predecessor agencies. The competition tests physical conditioning, deadly-force-related decision-making under stress, employment of tactics, and knowledge of DOE security policies. SPOTC is open only to DOE employees, contractors, and affiliated officers who are members of bona fide armed security forces.

SPOTC 2004 will be held at the Department's Savannah River Site in South Carolina. ❖



Scott White

Los Alamos renews focus on waste disposal

A project team has been created within the Risk Reduction and Environmental Stewardship (RRES) Division of the Department of Energy's (DOE) Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) to dispose of existing and to-be-generated transuranic (TRU) wastes by September 2010. The project requires the processing, characterization, certification, and/or shipment of an estimated 11,000 cubic meters of waste, the equivalent of 53,000 standard 55-gallon drums.

While LANL was the first DOE site to ship wastes to the Department's Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) in March 1999, its efforts to process and characterize TRU wastes encountered serious difficulties. During the four-year period of Fiscal Years 1999 through 2002, the project was able to

ship just 229 drums of waste to WIPP. During this same period, other Department sites were successfully moving thousands of drums annually to the disposal facility.

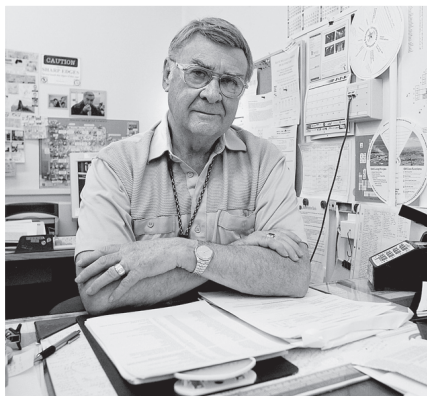
To work through the problems, LANL made several management and process changes. In April 2002, the project was moved into the new RRES Division. The Division made changes to both the management and structure of the project. The first necessary change was the introduction of a production culture. The second change was tuning existing processes to achieve more productivity by making procedural and other changes.

Those changes have begun to bear fruit. Productivity has increased by approximately a factor of 20. In March and April 2003 alone, 264

drums of waste were shipped to WIPP, more than in the preceding four years combined. Similar results have been achieved for the steps leading up to waste characterization and shipment. For example, 1,300 drums have been analyzed for headspace gas content in the first seven months of this fiscal year, versus just 760 the preceding four years. The beginning of success has improved worker morale, increased ideas and suggestions for improvements, and formed a positive work atmosphere.

In order to achieve project completion by 2010, plans have been formulated to increase production by another factor of seven. A production goal of 5,000 drums shipped to WIPP during Fiscal Year 2004 is viewed as achievable. ❖

Idaho lab employee celebrates 50 years service



June 2, 2003, was “Ben Hunter Day” at the Department of Energy’s (DOE) Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL), in honor of his 50 years of service. Hunter said he reported to work in 1953 just two days after graduating from college because “I needed a paycheck so I could get married.”

With a bachelor’s degree in chemistry, Hunter’s first job was as a junior chemist in the analytical chemistry laboratory at the Idaho Chemical Processing Plant (ICPP), where he was involved in reprocessing spent nuclear fuel to recover uranium. “What a privilege it was to work on such an important mission,” he said. “It was one of the most exciting times in my long history working at the INEEL.”

Over five decades, Hunter has worked on a number of projects and assignments, including 34 years as supervisor of radiochemistry at ICPP. He currently is on the administrative staff in the Analytical Laboratories Department at the Idaho Nuclear Technology and Engineering Center (formerly the ICPP). ❖

Savannah River praised for quick tritium facility work



Dr. Everet Beckner, Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs in the Department of Energy’s (DOE) National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), visited DOE’s Savannah River Site in June 2003. He toured the Site and congratulated more than 200 Savannah River craftsmen and other personnel for fabricating and installing the internals of the first two glove boxes of the Site’s new Tritium Extraction Facility (TEF) three months ahead of schedule and 15 percent under budget. In the photograph, a Savannah River Site welder shows Dr. Beckner (far right) how he sets up his work.

TEF is part of NNSA’s Commercial Light Water Reactor Program for manufacturing tritium, which has not been produced in the U.S. since 1988. This fall, Tritium Producing Burnable Absorber Rods will be loaded into a Tennessee Valley Authority nuclear power plant. After the normal fuel cycle is complete, the rods will be transported to Savannah River, where the tritium will be extracted. The TEF is more than 50 percent complete and scheduled to begin normal operations in 2007. ❖

Lipsky named Facility Representative of the Year



Jerold D. Lipsky, a Facility Representative at the Department of Energy’s (DOE) Los Alamos Site Office in New Mexico is the 2002 DOE Facility Representative of the Year. Lipsky was recognized for his superior leadership and thorough knowledge of operations and safety standards while a Facility Representative at Los Alamos National Laboratory’s Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Facility and TA-55 Plutonium Facility. He was selected from 15 nominees out of over 200 Facility Representatives across the DOE complex.

Pictured, front row, l-r, are nominees Scott Nicholson, Savannah River Operations Office; Deanna McCranie, Rocky Flats Field Office; winner Jerry Lipsky; and nominees Jody Pugh, Pantex Site Office; Jaime San Mateo, Livermore Site Office; and Will Ortiz, Sandia Site Office. Second row, l-r, are nominees Ted Hinkel, Y-12 Site Office; Dennis Armstrong, Nevada Site Office; Ben Harp, Office of River Protection; Jim Wolski, Idaho Operations Office, Kerry Grooms, Argonne Area Office; Doug Reed, Oak Ridge Operations Office; and Jim Spets, Richland Operations Office. ❖

Chattanooga physician educators visit Oak Ridge lab

Thirteen doctors and faculty members of the Chattanooga (Tenn.) Clinical Education Center of the University of Tennessee College of Medicine recently visited the Department of Energy's Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL). They received a full-day tour and briefing on how technologies under development can benefit the medical field.

A highlight of the visit was a stop at the Spallation Neutron Source (SNS), which is the world's largest science construction project. At right, Frank Kornagay (center), briefs the doctors on the facility. When completed in 2006, the SNS will provide a facility for the 21st century research of neutron science, which was pioneered at ORNL during the 1940's at the Graphite Reactor and continues today at the High-Flux Isotope Reactor. Some SNS research is expected to result in medical applications.

In addition to the SNS tour, the group also heard several presentations about medical-related research at ORNL, the laboratory's mission, the High-Temperature Materials Laboratory, and genomics research initiatives. ❖



Children of Y-12 employees gain a new perspective

Most Department of Energy (DOE) facilities nationwide sponsored activities for this year's "Bring Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day" in April. More than 60 children and grandchildren of employees of BWXT Y-12 and the National Nuclear Security Administration's (NNSA) Y-12 Site Office took part in a program at the Y-12 National Security Complex in Oak Ridge, Tenn.

For Jared Smith (right), son of Rosanne Smith, Y-12 Technology Development, it was an eye-opening experience at the glove box exhibit. "The Y-12 Complex is so huge! I never realized how much equipment is used and how many facilities they have," he said.

Dennis Ruddy, BWXT Y-12 President and General Manager, and Bill Brumley, NNSA Y-12 Site Manager, welcomed the children. The theme of the day was "A New Generation at Work." The children heard career presentations, toured portions of the Y-12 Site, and participated in demonstrations and activities at Y-12 and the American Museum of Science and Energy. ❖



Boston Regional Office 'a best workplace for commuters'

In celebration of National Transportation Week, May 11-17, 2003, the U.S. Department of Transportation and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recognized the Department of Energy's (DOE) Boston Regional Office as "A Best Workplace for Commuters." The office was recognized for its efforts to increase mass transit by commuters, its commitment to commuter benefits, and achievement of the Commuter Choice Leadership Initiative's National Standard of Excellence.

A total of 33 New England area companies and organizations received the award. DOE's Boston Regional Office was one of three Federal agencies in New England to be honored. Office Director Hugh Saussy accepted the award at the May 13 recognition ceremony in Boston, Mass.

At right, Saussy proudly displays the Commuter Choice Employer Award. Deputy Regional Director Christine Reinfelds displays some of the major commuter benefits offered and well used by Boston Regional Office staff. ❖



INEEL postdoctoral fellow helping solve chemical 'mystery'

Researchers at the Department of Energy's Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL) are seeking much deeper knowledge as they strive to make gasoline production "greener and cleaner." Helping them is Argentinian chemical engineer Lucia Petkovic, Ph.D., one of INEEL's newest postdoctoral fellows.

Petkovic is working with Dan Ginosar, Ph.D., and other INEEL scientists to understand the chemical reaction of the laboratory-developed technology that uses a solid acid catalyst, rather than a dangerous liquid acid, to produce gasoline from petroleum products. Ginosar heads INEEL's Supercritical Fluids Group.

Oil refineries use liquid acids as catalysts to produce isooctane, the eight-carbon chain that enhances the "octane" number on the gas pump. The acids can be dangerous to

handle and, because they are so concentrated, can do environmental harm if spilled.

INEEL scientists developed a method that uses a much safer solid acid catalyst. The catalyst works well, but, over time, the catalyst surface can "gum up" with unwanted byproducts. A supercritical fluid—a gas which becomes a fluid under pressure—can restore the catalyst activity. The new catalyst regeneration process showed great potential, but a deeper understanding of the regeneration chemistry was necessary for development of a safer petroleum refining process.

Seeking research support on the project, Ginosar contacted more than 50 university chemistry and chemical engineering departments across the nation through INEEL's postdoctoral fellowship program. Petkovic, who earned her doctorate in chemical

engineering from the University of Nebraska and had returned to Argentina and university teaching, submitted her résumé. "Nearly a dozen résumés were received (from the search) and Lucia clearly stood out," said Ginosar.

Petkovic has been at INEEL just a few months, and already she likes it. Her challenge is pure science—to explain exactly how molecular interactions cleanse the catalytic medium. As part of a project team of INEEL chemists, chemical engineers, and chemical technicians, and with access to world-class scientific equipment and software, she is optimistic about the chances of solving the catalyst "mystery."

"We're hoping Lucia will have a good experience," Ginosar said. "We want her to have an opportunity to learn, to publish, and to be fruitful for the INEEL technical community." ♦

Research DIGEST

Gammasphere, a nuclear physics instrument now at the Department of Energy's **Argonne National Laboratory**, plays a supporting role in the new science-fiction movie "The Hulk." In the movie, Gammasphere bombards a scientist with radiation in a catastrophic accident, transforming him into a powerful green juggernaut. During the movie's filming, Gammasphere was located at the Department's **Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory**, which plays the part of the Berkeley Institute for Nuclear Studies in the movie. In reality, Gammasphere is a mild-mannered instrument for detecting, not producing, gamma rays. It is the world's most sensitive gamma-ray "microscope," used to study the atomic nucleus. The 10-foot-tall, 14-ton device is a silvery machined aluminum sphere about seven feet in diameter, pierced by 110 holes. Yard-long gamma-ray detectors fit through the

holes with their plunted tips converging near the center of the sphere. Gammasphere is funded by the Department's Office of Science. (Donna Jones Pelkie, 630-252-5501)



The Department of Energy's **Oak Ridge National Laboratory** (ORNL) and Cray Inc. are taking a major step toward investigating computer architectures for scientific discovery through the new Cray X1 supercomputer at ORNL's Center for Computational Sciences. ORNL and Cray will evaluate the processors, memory, and scalability of the X1 system's architecture and software environment to determine its effectiveness for solving important and challenging scientific problems in such areas as climate, biology, nanoscale materials, fusion, and astrophysics. The Cray X1 is the first U.S. computer to offer vector processing and massively parallel processing

capabilities in a single architecture. The system should be fully deployed at ORNL by the end of September 2003. (Frank Juan, 865-576-0885)



Scientists at the Department of Energy's **Brookhaven National Laboratory**, in collaboration with researchers at Rush Medical College, have demonstrated the effectiveness of a novel x-ray imaging technology to visualize soft tissues of the human foot that are not visible with conventional x-rays. The technique, called Diffraction Enhanced Imaging (DEI), provides all of the information imparted by conventional x-rays as well as detailed information on soft tissues previously accessible only with additional scanning methods such as ultrasound or magnetic resonance imaging. The study appears in the May 2003 issue of the *Journal of Anatomy*. (Karen McNulty Walsh, 631-344-8350) ♦

Working Capital Fund holds customer expos

The Department of Energy's (DOE) Working Capital Fund held two Expos on June 4, 2003, at the Headquarters Forrestal Building, and June 11, at the Germantown Headquarters complex. The themes of the Expos were "Learn How to Make Your Job Easier" and "We're Customer Focused." Several hundred employees visited the Expos and heard presentations and saw demonstrations of different products and services offered by the Fund business lines.

The Working Capital Fund is a management tool for improving the financing and delivery of a range of common administrative services. At Headquarters, if your lights come on when you flip the switch, if your phone works, and if you use a walk-up copier, you are already a customer of the Fund.

The Expos offered current and future customers the opportunity to learn new ways to use the Fund to further their mission goals and expedite delivery of desired goods and services. Each presentation included a handout

with product and service descriptions and contact phone numbers and e-mail addresses for the respective business manager and key employees.

Fund services featured at the Expos included Office Supplies, Printing and Graphics, Mail Services, Telephones, Information Technology, Payroll Processing, Contract Closeout, the Energy On-Line Learning Center, Copying Management Support including Document Imaging, CHRIS, and Building Occupancy. Other service providers at the Expos included Asset Management, Conferencing, Distribution, Warehouse Management, Safety and Health, and the EXCITE services offered by the Office of the Chief Information Officer.

When compared with comparable pre-Fund services, the Working Capital Fund has saved the



Staff of the Office of Administrative Management and Support (ME-42) discuss the office's Fund services with DOE employees at the Germantown Headquarters complex. In the foreground, at right, are Mary Anderson, Director, and Ralph Freedman.

Department \$100 million in 1996 dollars over the last seven years. This is a combination of good business management and the cost effective decision-making of program customers. For more information, contact the Office of Working Capital Fund (ME-15), 202-586-5923. ❖

Savannah River salutes Asian/Pacific Americans

On May 6, 2003, the Department of Energy's (DOE) Savannah River Site celebrated Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month with a visit from Dr. Eugene Trinh, a former astronaut and current National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) manager. Trinh, an experienced diversity speaker, has traveled to several states in support of workforce diversity. The Department's employees in Albuquerque, N.M., heard Trinh's presentation in a joint DOE/Department of Defense program on May 8.

At Savannah River, Trinh's speech, "Three Perspectives from a Space Program Participant," stressed the importance of recognizing and appreciating diversity in all communications and interactions among scientists, engineers, program managers, financial and risk analysts, and legal, political, and marketing experts when undertaking challenging endeavors,

such as space operation. Following Trinh's talk, a reception was hosted by the Savannah River Chapter of Federally Employed Women.

The event was a coordinated effort of several local organizations, including the Hawaiian Asian American Pacific Islander (HAAPI) Special Emphasis Program; Blacks in Government; Federally Employed Women; Federal Women's Program; Hispanic Employment Program; Westinghouse Savannah River Company (WSRC); Wackenhut Services, Inc.; USDA-Forest Service; and the Fort Gordon Color Guard. The celebration was well-attended and included participation of Savannah River Federal and contractor senior management officials.



A plaque of appreciation was presented to Trinh. At the presentation ceremony are (l-r) Marvin Garcia, HAAPI Champion, DOE-Savannah River (SR); Tam Tran, HAAPI Program Manager, DOE-SR; Ray Wilson, EEO and Diversity Manager, DOE-SR; Dr. Eugene Trinh; Bob Pedde, President, WSRC; and Jeff Allison, Manager, DOE-SR. ❖

NIF Project sets laser performance records, recognized for worker safety

A world record for laser performance recently was set by the National Ignition Facility (NIF) at the Department of Energy's Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL). The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) project produced 10.4 kilojoules (kJ) of ultraviolet laser light in a single laser beamline. In recent weeks, NIF laser scientists also have used the first four NIF beamlines to set records for infrared and green single beam laser energies with 21 kJ and 11 kJ of energy delivered, respectively.

"NIF continues surpassing expectations and is now breaking world records. It is well on its way to becoming one of the jewels of NNSA and the nuclear weapons complex," NNSA Administrator Linton Brooks said.

NIF's football stadium-sized building will house 192 laser beams delivering ultraviolet laser light equivalent to 1.8 megaJoules (mJ) to millimeter-sized targets. The tremendous energy can be used to produce conditions similar to those occurring in stars and in exploding nuclear weapons.

In the coming year, NIF project personnel will use these first laser

beams to characterize NIF's performance and to begin basic and applied science experiments. Experimental capabilities will grow as additional laser beams are activated, culminating in the completion of all 192 laser beams in 2008. When fully activated, NIF will provide 50 times more energy than any other laser system and will be a cornerstone of NNSA's Stockpile Stewardship Program without underground nuclear testing. NIF also will benefit basic science and fusion energy research.

The construction of NIF has involved an extensive collaborative effort among national laboratories, industry, and union craft labor trades. The project recently was honored with two national awards for safety excellence.

Jacobs Constructors, responsible for installing NIF's laser beam path infrastructure, received a "Construction Industry Safety Excellence Award" for the outstanding safety record achieved by its crew of workers. The award, presented by Construction Users Roundtable, is based on a project's duration, manhours, and number of injuries.

The National Safety Council's "Perfect Year" award honored NIF for achieving 1,403,873 employee hours without occupational injury or illness involving days away from work in calendar year 2002. This is the second consecutive year the NIF project has received this award.

Over the past two years, NIF workers have completed more than 3.1 million employee hours without a lost workday due to injury. The project's "total recordable rate," which measures recordable injuries per 100 workers per year, stands at 0.8 for the calendar year, a significant improvement over last year's rate of 1.4. The national average is considerably higher at 8.8.

Arnie Clobes, NIF's site safety manager said this achievement puts the project "in the world class safety category." He added that Jacobs Constructors and LLNL merged the best of their safety programs and combined their procedures in a continuous safety improvement process. "Our mission is to ensure that people go home safe at the end of each day," Clobes said. ♦

NEW ON THE Internet

Buildings technology site

A significant number of U.S. homeowners, developers, communities, manufacturers, and businesses are adopting energy-efficient practices and investing in energy-efficient solutions. To provide these sectors with up-to-date information and help in making wise decisions, the Buildings Technology Program (EE-2J) in the Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) has launched a new website, <http://www.buildings.gov>. Instant Internet access is provided to

a variety of topics—research and development, codes and standards, energy efficiency tips, information on designing and constructing a new building or renovating an existing structure, and much more. Questions on the new website may be directed to Sam Johnson, EE-2J, 202-586-0854.

Sci/tech award winners

Two Department of Energy web sites were among 50 winners of *Scientific American* magazine's Sci/Tech Web Awards 2003. The Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory's

(Fermilab) "Inquiring Minds," <http://www.fnal.gov/pub/inquiring/>, explores physics at Fermilab and includes links to Virtual Ask-A-Scientist and other features. Los Alamos National Laboratory's "Mega-Mathematics" site, <http://www.c3.lanl.gov/mega-math/>, involves a lot of reading and is full of mind-benders that children and adults with competitive natures will enjoy. Features include "Welcome to the Hotel Infinity" and "Unraveling the Mathematics of Knots." ♦

Education NOTES

Two school teams tied for first place in an interactive-exhibit design contest sponsored by the Department of Energy's **Argonne National Laboratory**. Maine East High School, Park Ridge, Ill., and Delphi Community High School, Delphi, Ind., took the top honors. The students designed exhibits that demonstrate the scientific principles of synchrotron X-ray science. Their designs will be used for the fabrication of public exhibits at the laboratory's Advanced Photon Source.



Physicists at the Department of Energy's **Oak Ridge National Laboratory** (ORNL) are helping a group of University of Tennessee (UT) physics students build cosmic ray detectors that will be placed at Knoxville area high schools by late summer or early fall. ORNL is providing surplus equipment for the 110 by 20 inch detectors. Data collected from

each location will be transmitted to a central computer center at the UT Physics Department that will determine the initial energy of the cosmic ray. "This gives our department a chance to work with the local high schools and for UT's physics students to work with high school students interested in a physics-related career," said Soren Sorensen, Head of the UT Department of Physics and Astronomy and ORNL researcher.



A computer team from Albuquerque Academy won the 13th annual New Mexico Adventures in Supercomputing Challenge sponsored by and held recently at the Department of Energy's **Los Alamos National Laboratory**. The four students each took home a \$1,000 Savings Bond for their project, "Encryption Through Three-Dimensional Separation and Recombination of Data." The goals of the Challenge

are to increase knowledge of science and computing; expose students and teachers to computers and applied mathematics; and instill enthusiasm for science in secondary students, their families, and communities.



Proposals from seven U.S. universities with world-class expertise in the field of **high temperature superconductivity (HTS) research** have been selected to augment the Department of Energy's existing efforts in developing HTS electric wires. After award completion, the universities will share \$1,000,000 in funding for the first increment of the multi-year cooperative agreements. The universities are: Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of Wisconsin at Madison, University of Missouri at Rolla, Stanford University, University of California at Santa Barbara, University of Houston, and University at Albany (SUNY). ❖

Fernald hosts final public tour of site

The Department of Energy (DOE) and Fluor Fernald hosted its final public tour of the Fernald Closure Project (FCP) in Ohio on June 10, 2003. Nearly 600 interested neighbors, stakeholders, regulators, and former employees boarded buses to get one last glimpse of Fernald before it reaches safe closure in 2006.

The former Feed Materials Production Center was the first link in a chain of government facilities that manufactured the atomic bomb. During the Cold War years, workers were responsible for producing high-purity uranium for the nation's nuclear weapons complex. The site's mission shifted from uranium production to environmental restoration in the late 1980's. Building demolition began about 10 years later. Today, there is not much left of the former uranium production facility.

"I was a part of history and that's a good feeling," said Jim Anness, a

former 30-year Fernald worker. "Driving around here, all the memories came back and it almost felt like yesterday. I worked in every building, on every roof, and in every hole."

"Many good people have worked at this site through the years," said DOE-FCP Acting Director Glenn Griffiths, who spent the evening grilling franks for the crowd and chatting with attendees. "This event is a great way to showcase our cleanup efforts and thank the folks who have been a part of Fernald's past, present, and future."

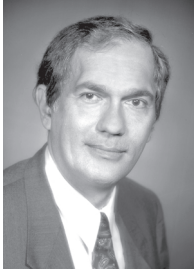


Nearly 600 people gathered for Fernald's last public tour.

Late this summer, crews will complete demolition of the last four production complexes and bring down the west water tower that was a site icon for more than 50 years. Restoration activities will create undeveloped green space that will become habitats for many native plants and animals. ❖

People IN ENERGY

Robert A. Bari, a senior physicist at the Department of Energy's Brookhaven National Laboratory, is the recipient of the 2003 American Nuclear Society "Tommy" Thompson Award for his "outstanding contributions to the field of nuclear installation safety...and direction to key elements of the world of nuclear safety activities." The award was established in 1980 in memory of Theos J. Thompson, a pioneer who defined world reactor safety.



Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham has named **Kenneth Rapuano** to be Deputy Under Secretary of Energy for Counterterrorism. He will report to Linton Brooks, Under Secretary for Nuclear Security and Administrator, National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA). Rapuano will coordinate counterterrorism policy in NNSA and for the Department of Energy (DOE). He also will be DOE's senior point of contact with the Department of Homeland Security. Rapuano, who has more than 18 years of national security experience, most recently was Secretary Abraham's senior policy advisor for national security.

Michael Hubbard recently joined the Department of Energy's Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education as a group manager for its Science and Engineering Education Program. His responsibilities include overseeing the recruitment, selection, placement, and daily operations of science education programs. Hubbard also is responsible for activities involving Historically Black Colleges and Universities and other minority educational institutions.



Four scientists in the Physics Department at the Department of Energy's

Brookhaven National Laboratory have been named Fellows of the American Physical Society: **Gerry Bunce** was recognized for his work in spin physics and leadership in the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider spin program; **Alexei Tselik**, for his seminal contributions in the field of quantum magnetism; **John Hill**, for his x-ray scattering studies of cuprate, manganite, and other correlated electronic systems; and **Craig Woody**, for his expertise in the performance and characterization of scintillating crystals.

Dr. Stephen D. Cramer, a chemical engineer at the Department of Energy's Albany Research Center in Oregon, recently was inducted as a Fellow in the National Association of Corrosion Engineers. The award recognizes distinguished contributions in the field of corrosion and its prevention. Cramer has 40 years Federal Government experience working on corrosion and its effects on the U.S. transportation, energy, and environmental infrastructure. He has authored over 100 publications in this field of research and holds two patents.



Neutrino physicist **Tom Bowles** of the Physics Division at the Department of Energy's Los Alamos National Laboratory has received the M. A. Markov Prize, the top scientific award presented by the Russian Academy of Sciences' Institute for Nuclear Research. Bowles is only the second non-Russian to receive such an award from any Academy of Sciences institute. He was recognized as a co-principal investigator of the Russian-American gallium solar neutrino experiment, commonly called SAGE. Sharing the prize with Bowles are Vladimir Gavrinn and Vadim Kuzmin, both from the Institute.

Julia Phillips, Director, Physical and Chemical Sciences Center, and **Pace VanDevender**, Executive Staff Director,

of the Department of Energy's Sandia National Laboratories, have been elected Fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Phillips was cited "for seminal research on growth and properties of magnetic, superconducting, and optical thin films"; VanDevender, for his "leadership in directing the planning and construction of the Pulsed Power Facility."

Stephen McCracken has been named to the position of Assistant Manager for Environmental Management at the Department of Energy's (DOE) Oak Ridge Operations Office. Most recently, McCracken served as Director of the Department's Fernald Closure Project in Ohio. He has previously held several DOE leadership positions, including Project Manager for the Weldon Spring Site Remedial Action Project in St. Charles, Mo., and Acting Director, Office of Site Operations, Office of Environmental Management, at DOE Headquarters.

Dale Knutson has been named Director of the Rare Isotope Accelerator (RIA) planning project at the Department of Energy's (DOE) Argonne National Laboratory. Most recently, Knutson was the technical group and laboratory manager for radiochemical science and engineering at the Department's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. Research at the extremes of nuclear physics will be the RIA mission; planning is in the early stages.

Sergei Kalinin, a Wigner Fellow and researcher in the Condensed Matter Sciences Section of the Metals and Ceramics Division at the Department of Energy's Oak Ridge National Laboratory, has received the Ross Coffin Purdy Award from the American Ceramic Society for his contributions to technical literature in his field.



Kalinin has authored more than 40 scientific papers and four book chapters. ❖

Milestones

YEARS OF SERVICE

July 2003

Headquarters

Chief Information Officer - Robin L.S. Schlegel (30 years). **EIA** - Nancy L. Leach (35), James G. Hewlett (30), Louis Schloss (25). **Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy** - David J. Waltzman (35), Thomas J. Heavey (30). **Environment, Safety & Health** - Debra A. James (30), Marjorie A. Lentzen (30). **Environmental Management** - James G. Cruickshank (30), John E. Scora (30), Barry A. Smith (30), Monica A. Michewicz (25), Charles S. O'Dell (25).

FERC - David L. Simon (40), John E. Moriarty (35), Dennis H. Melvin (30), Edward M. Meyers (30), Lorena D. Finger (25). **Fossil Energy** - Allyson C. Reilly (30). **General Counsel** - Linda D. Anderson (30). **Inspector General** - Walter E. Warren (30). **Management, Budget & Evaluation** - Willie Mae Ingram (35), Bruce W. Murray (35), Yolonda S. Pajot (35), Faye V. Zimmerman (35), Karen M. Deitrick (30), Rozelle L. Watts (30), Thomas W. Robinson (25), Janet L. Thomas (25).

NNSA - Sandra L. Haller (35), R. Eileen Rice (35), Patricia Dedik (30), Howard D. Hibbits, Jr. (30). **Nuclear Energy** - Lloyd W. Edgerly (25). **Radioactive Waste** - Timothy C. Gunter (25), Joe C. Price (25). **Science** - Laura M. Scott (35), Larry S. James (30), Michael F. Teresinski (30), Caryle B. Miller (25). **Security** - Betty E. Colson (40), Linda D. Brightwell (35), Barbara J. Smith (30), James A. Stone (30), Stephanie S. Grimes (25).

Field

Bonneville Power - Orion L. Albro (40), Clifford C. Perigo (40), Douglas A. Wilson (40), Kenneth J. Brown (35), L. Daniel Glass (35), Catherine L. Hanks (35), Ronald K. Rodewald (35), Robert A. Barnes (30), Betty A. Brooks (30), Clifford W. Carpenter (30), Stuart H. Clarke, Jr. (30), Charles D. Craig (30), Renee M. Ferrera (30), Nancy J. Hagen (30), William D. Holeman (30), Michael C. Johns (30), Melody J. Meier-Michelson (30), Jane L. O'Leary-Brattebo (30), Kevin A. Prickett (30), Robert D. Rasmussen (30), Roger D. Blizzard (25), Mary R. Brown (25), Joseph F. Cade (25), Bruce S. Dowling (25), Brian E. Emery (25), Janet R. Klippstein (25), Miguel A. Montero (25), James P. Platt (25), Ronald L. Schmid (25), Harvey L. Schowe (25), Bernie L. Tumlinson (25), Arnold L. Wagner (25).

Chicago - Harlow D. Troutman (40), Thomas J. Balamut (35), Gregory E. Pitonak (25), Anibal L. Taboas (25). **Golden** - Thomas A. Kelly (30). **Idaho** - Raymond V. Furstenuau (25), Carol A. Hathaway (25), James E. Werner (25). **Kansas City Site/NNSA** - Gerald M. Jones (35). **Los Alamos Site/NNSA** - Joseph C. Vozella (25). **NETL** - John T. Hoffman (35), Kenneth E. Markel, Jr. (35), Louis L. McGee (35), Leon R. Falbo (30), Richard P. Noceti (30), Mark R. Cerullo (25), Madhav R. Ghate (25).

NNSA Service Center - Madonna J. Tilman (35), Eusebio M. Espinosa (30), Elena M. Gutierrez (25), Robert L. Meyers (25). **Oak Ridge** - Deborah N. Booher (30), Barbara A. Brower (30), Jerry L. Harness (25), Tyrone Harris (25), David G. Page (25). **Pantex Site/NNSA** - Roger L. Moore (30). **Richland** - Raymond J. Myjak (40), Deborah J. Williams (25). **Rocky Flats** - Mary M. Lynch (30), Glenn M. Doyle (25).

Savannah River - Terry O. Frizzell (30), Henry T. Harris (30), Thomas E. Reynolds (30), Larry A. Hinson (25), Gregory V. Johnson (25). **Schenectady Naval Reactors/NNSA** - Philip E. Salm (35), Michael P. Benintende (30). **Southeastern Power** - Joel W. Seymour (45). **Western Area Power** - Stephen G. Champ (30), Danilo P. Torres (30), Brent A. Vossler (30), Charles N. Weaver (30), Carol A. Milbrandt (25), Miles M. Pudwill (25), Gregory J. Whitelaw (25).

RETIREMENTS

May 2003

Headquarters

EIA - Ingrid Springer (28 years), Velma R. Washington (35). **Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy** - Kathleen M. Pierce (26). **Envir., Safety & Health** - Raymond P. Berube (34), Lorine E. Cambridge (31), Charles W. Devereux (39), Glenn R. Florczak (31), Geoffrey J. Judge (29), Dennis J. Lubow (34), Edward N. Patigalia (38), Harold T. Peterson, Jr. (36), Kathleen I. Taimi (25). **Fossil Energy** - Gail W. Stern (29). **Inspector General** - Barbara Chism (34). **NNSA** - Terry L. Moist (24). **Radioactive Waste** - Donald G. Horton (22).

Field

Bonneville Power - Bruce E. Mackay (36), Dennis L. Hoxworth (30), Ronald F. Stark (36), Stanley R. Steward (24), Douglas B. Stronach (31). **NETL** - Michael P. Nolan (31). **Pittsburgh Naval Reactors/NNSA** - Elva J. Peterson (18).

Richland - Joyce L. Josephson (12). **Southwestern Power** - George C. Grisaffe (37), Pauletta Johnson (32).

June 2003

Headquarters

Management, Budget & Evaluation - Roy Chavez (34), Lee B. Taylor (24).

Field

Idaho - Cooper H. Wayman (28). **Oak Ridge** - Robert D. Folker (22). **Savannah River** - Elaine B. Johnson (29). **Southwestern Power** - Norman G. Culver (32). **Western Area Power** - Lawrence L. Mediger (32), Joann M. Wagner (25). ❖

NEW Publications

Office of Inspector General (IG) reports: **Semiannual Report to Congress, October 1, 2002 - March 31, 2003** (DOE/IG-0028); **Dual Axis Radiographic Hydrodynamic Test Facility** (DOE/IG-0599); **Oversight Funds Provided to Local Governments in the State of Nevada** (DOE/IG-0600); **Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory's Strategic Initiative Fund** (DOE/IG-0601); **Management of the Department's Protective Forces** (DOE/IG-0602); **International Materials Protection, Control and Accountability Nonproliferation Initiative** (DOE/IG-0603); **Inspection of Savannah River Operations Office Management of Emergency Response and Law Enforcement-Related Grants** (DOE/IG-0604); **National Nuclear Security Administration's Ability to Meet the Aircraft Requirements of the Joint Technical Operations Team** (DOE/IG-0605). 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/>. ❖

Yucca Mountain Project wins national R&D award

The National Energy Resources Organization (NERO) has awarded its 2003 Research and Development Award to the Department of Energy's (DOE) Yucca Mountain Project. The Project was cited for its scientific reports documenting the evaluation of Yucca Mountain as a potential site for a proposed repository for spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste.

At the recent NERO Annual Awards Dinner in Washington, D.C., the Yucca Mountain Project was recognized for the research and development that led to scientific information published by DOE in 2001 and 2002. NERO officials noted that this scientific evaluation summarized "nearly 20 years of world-class scientific and technology study at the Nevada site, while capturing the latest scientific advances and recent repository design changes."

"We are very pleased to receive this prestigious award," said Margaret Chu, Director, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management. "This award recognizes the hard work that went into preparing the scientific information leading to the designation of Yucca Mountain as a proposed site for the development of a repository."

The Department's National Renewable Energy Laboratory and Spectrolab received the NERO award in 2002.

July 2003

AROUND DOE

Employees recognized for volunteer service

The Department of Energy (DOE) has recognized 331 Headquarters and field employees for giving 25 hours or more to volunteer activities within the past year. A total of 115 Headquarters employees received award certificates at a ceremony on May 7, 2003. Field sites have held or will be holding recognition events for their employees.

Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham launched the Secretary of Energy Community Service Program on April 19, 2002. The program encourages employee involvement in their communities and participation in volunteer activities. The Office of Economic Impact and Diversity administers the program for the Department.

A complete list of award winners and more information on the community service program is available at <http://diversity.doe.gov/>, click on "Secretary of Energy Community Service Awards Program."

Solar cars to 'get their kicks' on Route 66

The price of gasoline won't be a worry for the drivers of 30 solar-powered cars as they trek across the country this summer. The teams from universities, companies, and organizations around the world are competing in American Solar Challenge, the longest solar car race in the world at 2,300 miles. The race is sponsored by the Department of Energy and its National Renewable Energy Laboratory.

The event will start July 13 at the Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago, Ill., and finish 10 days later in Claremont, Calif. The race will follow Route 66 as much as possible, with checkpoints in Springfield, Ill.; Rolla and Joplin, Mo.; Edmond and Sayre, Okla.; Amarillo, Texas; Tucumcari, Albuquerque, and Gallup, N.M.; Flagstaff and Kingman, Ariz.; and Barstow, Calif. The winner will be the car with the best cumulative time.

This is the second American Solar Challenge. In the 2001 race, the University of Michigan's "M-Pulse" crossed the finish line first, completing the trip in 56 hours, 10 minutes, 46 seconds, with an average speed of 40 miles per hour. Improvements in solar cells and batteries could mean an even faster race this year. For a list of participants and more race information, visit <http://www.formulasun.org>. ❖

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

Official Business