DOE This Month

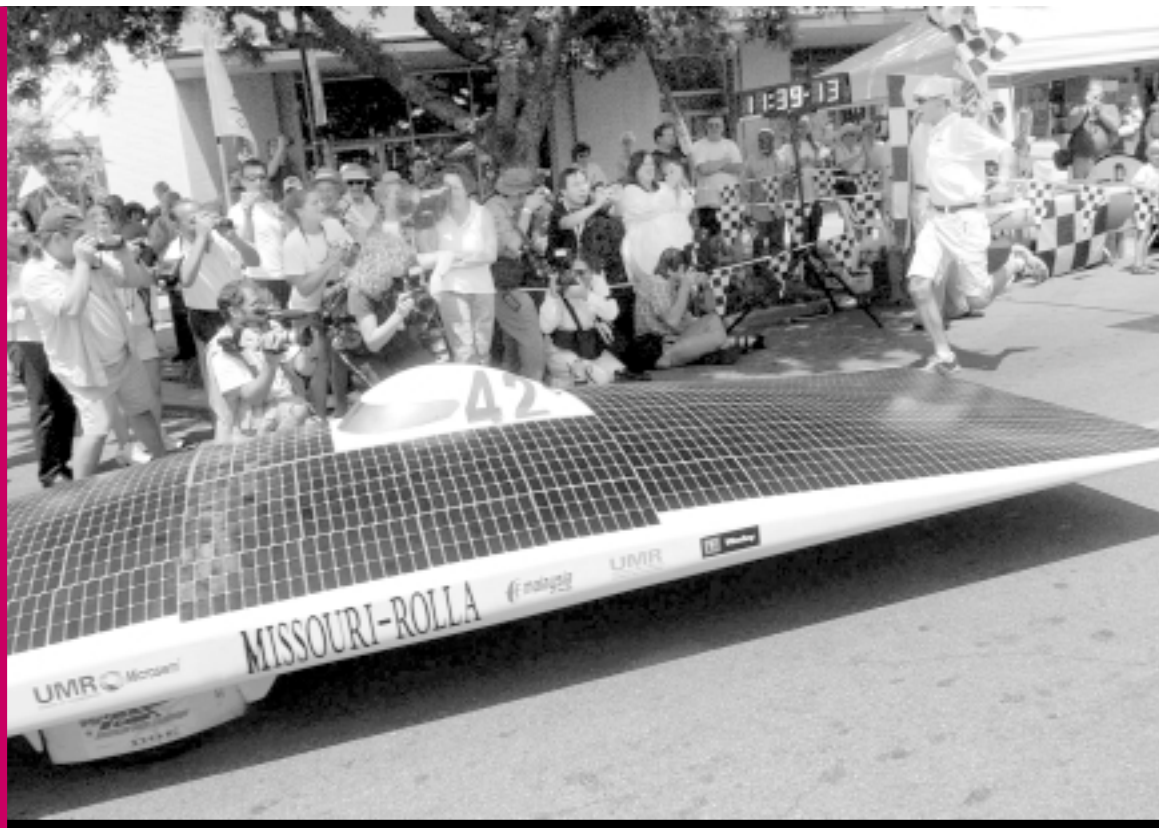
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

AUGUST 2003

Smart Energy public awareness campaign kicks off

DOE breaks ground for Oak Ridge nanoscience center

NREL hosts, cosponsors major student solar, academic competitions



DOE This Month

U.S. Department of Energy

Published monthly in Washington, D.C., by the Department of Energy, Office of Public Affairs, for the information of Department employees and affiliates and available to others by paid subscription.

The Secretary of Energy has determined that this periodical is necessary in the transaction of public business as required by law. Use of funds for printing has been approved by the director of the Office of Management and Budget. The content is reprintable without permission and pictures are available for media reproduction upon request.

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SUBSCRIPTION price for 12 issues is $22 ($27.50 foreign). Send check, or provide VISA or Mastercard number and expiration date, to: Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954. Credit-card orders can be called in 8 a.m.-4 p.m. ET, 202-512-1800, or faxed to 202-512-2250. Cite "DOE This Month (EINS)."

Circulation Office: 202-586-2050

News Office:
DOE This Month
Office of Public Affairs - PA-40
U.S. Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

Internet Mail Address:
doe.thismonth@hq.doe.gov

HQ cc:mail:
THISMONTH,DOE

Deadline for submissions: 15th of every month for the following month.

DOE PA-0026-8
Vol. 26, No. 8

DOE This Month is printed on paper containing at least 50 percent recycled materials.

Inside

On our cover

The Department of Energy's (DOE) National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden, Colo., was the host and cosponsor of two major DOE educational competitions in June and July 2003—the American Solar Challenge for university students and the National Middle School Science Bowl for students in grades six through eight. Both competitions involved the students using their science and mathematics knowledge to design, build, and race solar cars.

In the top photograph, team members run with the first-place University of Missouri-Rolla car as it crosses the finish line of the American Solar Challenge in Claremont, Calif., July 23. The student team completed the 2,300 mile course along historic Route 66 in record time. (Photo by Stefano Paltera/American Solar Challenge)

In the bottom photograph, the competition was just as intense among the middle school students at the model solar car race course at the Colorado School of Mines. The solar car competition and an academic tournament were part of the National Middle School Science Bowl, June 25-28.

For more on the two events, see page 5. ❖

Awareness campaign promotes smart energy use

Practicing smart energy use is the message of a new Department of Energy (DOE) public awareness campaign to educate businesses, homeowners, and consumers on ways they can cut energy bills. The need to communicate energy-saving ideas to the public was a key strategy discussed at the Natural Gas Summit held in Washington, D.C., June 26, 2003, to address short-term natural gas issues (*DOE This Month*, July 2003).

Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham officially kicked off the Smart Energy Campaign on July 9, 2003, at DOE Headquarters, Washington, D.C. Joining him were Mark Hopkins, Acting Co-President, Alliance to Save Energy; Tom Kuhn, President, Edison Electric Institute; Dave Parker, President, American Gas Association; and Alan Richardson, President, American Public Power Association.

At the morning kickoff ceremony, Secretary Abraham unveiled key components of the awareness campaign, including:

- DOE's new website, **http://www.energysavers.gov**, to educate consumers on ways to conserve;
- a series of radio public service announcements, in English and Spanish;
- a bill-stuffing campaign by utility groups;
- a letter to all 50 governors recommending actions states can take to improve the natural gas situation and encouraging them to join the Smart Energy Campaign;
- regional energy and natural gas summits, beginning in Atlanta, Ga., with other cities to be announced; and
- a Smart Energy Tour to spread the message around the country.

Immediately after the campaign kickoff, Secretary Abraham began his Smart Energy Tour with an early afternoon stop at the Long Island City Home Depot in Queens, N.Y. The tour continued on July 10, with stops at the South Philadelphia Home Depot in Pennsylvania; the Columbus, Ohio, Home Depot; and Menards in Milwaukee, Wis. During the coming months, Secretary Abraham and other DOE officials will be traveling across the United States encouraging smart energy use.

Secretary Abraham announces the Smart Energy Campaign. Joining him are (l-r) Mark Hopkins, Alliance to Save Energy; Dave Parker, American Gas Association; Alan Richardson, American Public Power Association; and Tom Kuhn, Edison Electric Institute.

On July 18, Secretary Abraham participated in the first regional natural gas forum at the Southface Energy Institute in Atlanta. Secretary Abraham told attendees that natural gas demand is expected to grow some 50 percent by 2030 and that many changes are needed if supplies are to remain adequate and prices, affordable. Following the Secretary's remarks, Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy David Garman moderated two open discussion sessions among consumer, business, utility, and government representatives. The forum was hosted by DOE's Atlanta Regional Office.

Additional regional natural gas forums were held August 14 in St. Paul, Minn.; August 19, Phoenix, Ariz; and August 21, Manchester, N.H. DOE officials attending, respectively, were Assistant Secretary Garman, Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy Mike Smith, and Assistant Secretary for Policy and International Affairs Vicky Bailey.

Additional information on the Smart Energy Campaign and energy saving tips are available at the website listed above or at **http://www.energy.gov**, click on "Press Room." ❖

Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham visited the Department of Energy's (DOE) National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) on July 1, 2003. Following a tour of energy-efficient products, Secretary Abraham brought the smart energy message to Colorado consumers and previewed DOE's new energy savers website during a media availability at the laboratory's Thermal Test Facility. In front of a solar demonstration house are (l-r) U.S. Representative Bob Beauprez of Colorado, Secretary Abraham, and Richard Truly, Director, NREL.

Secretary Abraham noted advances made by DOE's renewable and energy efficiency technology research are readily available to the public. The solar house showcases different ways homeowners can save or use energy more efficiently. Features include low-e coated windows, good insulation and weatherstripping, energy-efficient lighting, concrete mass for heat storage, daylighting using clerestory (high-level) windows, and roof-integrated solar-electric systems. ❖

Secretary tours Cove Point LNG terminal

As part of his efforts to examine both long- and short-term solutions to the growing demand for natural gas, Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham toured the Cove Point Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminal, located along the Chesapeake Bay in Calvert County, Maryland, on July 21, 2003. Cove Point will be the nation's fourth and largest LNG terminal when it becomes fully operational later this year.

"The Energy Department just completed a Natural Gas Summit last month (June 26) in which we discussed the lack of LNG terminals in the U.S.," Secretary Abraham said at a ceremony marking the reopening of Cove Point. "I think Cove Point will become a major player in expanding our access to this vital energy resource and in increasing our energy security. I have also called for a Global LNG Summit later this year to provide another forum through which we can examine additional options to increase our liquefied natural gas supplies. These actions, along with smart uses of energy, will mean we can better meet our energy needs."

The Natural Gas Summit focused on actions to address short-term constraints to natural gas storage and supply, while the Global LNG Summit will address more long-term issues involving LNG markets. The LNG industry in the United States until recently has occupied a small niche in the domestic natural gas market, but LNG imports are expected to help fill a growing gap between domestic gas production and consumption.

LNG relies on ship-borne delivery, which makes it an attractive natural gas source for coastal markets. Currently, there are three active LNG import terminals in the continental United States—located in Everett, Mass. (Boston Harbor); Lake Charles, La., and Elba Island, Ga.

The Cove Point terminal received a "commissioning load" of LNG on July 25 to reactivate the pipes that carry the extremely cold LNG from the offshore pier a mile out in the Chesapeake Bay to the storage facility on land. Dominion Power, owner of the Cove Point facility, expects the first full load of LNG to arrive by mid-September, with shipments gradually increasing after that time. ❖

Secretary Abraham (right) and Thomas Capps, Chairman and CEO, Dominion Power discuss natural gas while touring the Cove Point LNG terminal in Maryland on July 21, 2003.

DOE breaks ground for first nanoscience center

On July 18, 2003, Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham visited the Department of Energy's (DOE) Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) in Tennessee and participated in the groundbreaking ceremony for the Center for Nanophase Materials Sciences (CNMS). Joining Secretary Abraham for the ceremony were U.S. Senator Lamar Alexander; Dr. Raymond L. Orbach, Director, DOE Office of Science; Dr. William Madia, then Director, ORNL; Dr. Carl Kohrt, President, Battelle; Dr. John Shumaker, President, University of Tennessee; and Gerald Boyd, Manager, DOE Oak Ridge Operations Office.

"Nanoscale research will, in many respects, represent the new building blocks for new technologies and applications across the science and industry spectrum. Understanding the properties of materials on the tiniest scale will have an impact on everything from medicine to manufacturing," Secretary Abraham said.

The $65 million, 80,000-square-foot CNMS will be a world-class, one-of-a-kind facility for the fabrication and characterization of materials on the nanoscale. The ORNL facility is the first of five DOE Office of Science Nanoscale Science Research Centers to be built. The centers, part of the Department's contribution to the National Nanoscience Initiative, will form an integrated, national network of highly collaborative and multidisciplinary user research facilities. The other centers will be located at DOE's Argonne, Brookhaven, Lawrence Berkeley, and Sandia/Los Alamos National Laboratories.

The CNMS will be built adjacent to the Spallation Neutron Source, which is currently under construction at ORNL. This close proximity will provide researchers ready access to the world's most powerful neutron source for samples analysis and characterization of nanoscale research.

Completion of construction and initial operation of the CNMS is scheduled for spring 2004. All equipment and research technology is scheduled to be installed and operational by September 2006. ❖

Breaking ground for the ORNL nanoscience center are (l-r) DOE Office of Science Director Dr. Raymond Orbach, Senator Lamar Alexander, Secretary Abraham, and ORNL Director William Madia.

Record set in U.S. solar car challenge

The University of Missouri-Rolla won a highly competitive 2003 American Solar Challenge, crossing the finish line in Claremont, Calif., at 11:39 a.m., July 23, 2003, using only the energy of the sun. The student team set a record for U.S. solar car racing by completing 2,300 miles in a cumulative time of 51 hours, 47 minutes, 39 seconds, for an average speed of 43.3 miles per hour (mph). The time bettered the 2001 American Solar Car Challenge record by more than four hours.

"Congratulations to the University of Missouri-Rolla on their victory in this very demanding race," Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham said. "The students who competed are our future scientists and engineers. Their willingness to take on this challenge and their outstanding performance should give us all comfort that our future will be in good hands."

The University of Minnesota placed second in the Challenge with a time of 56:36:31. The University of Waterloo from Canada placed third with a time of 58:11:20.

Third-place University of Waterloo duels with traffic on Interstate 40 West toward Flagstaff, Ariz., on Day 8 of the American Solar Challenge. (Photo by Stefano Paltera/American Solar Challenge)

The American Solar Challenge, the longest solar car race in the world, began at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago, Ill., on July 13. The race course followed Route 66 through Illinois, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California.

Qualifying events and safety checks were held the week prior to the race start at Northwestern University outside Chicago and at MGA Research Track, Burlington, Wis. A total of 20 out of 30 registered teams qualified for the race.

The American Solar Challenge is sponsored by the Department of Energy and its National Renewable Energy Laboratory, BP Solar, and EDS. Additional information on this biennial educational event, including daily race results and photographs, is available at **http://www.americansolarchallenge.org**. ❖

Middle school science students face off

Sixteen teams of some of the brightest sixth through eighth grade students from across the United States tested their mental agility and beginning technical skills in the Department of Energy's (DOE) National Middle School Science Bowl, June 25-28, 2003. The teams, all winners of regional contests, built and raced solar-powered model cars and competed in rapid-fire question-and-answer sessions to test their knowledge of science and mathematics.

After a day of round-robin matches, the College Station Middle School team from Texas, sponsored by Texas A&M University, emerged victorious in the academic competition. Placing second was the team from Roosevelt Middle School, River Forest, Ill., sponsored by DOE's Argonne National Laboratory. Third place went to Albuquerque Academy of New Mexico, sponsored by the Department's Sandia National Laboratories.

The Andrew Jackson Middle School team from Titusville, Fla., sponsored by the Florida Solar Energy Center, took home the first place trophy for the fastest car powered by sunlight. Second place went to the team from Inza R. Wood Middle School, Wilsonville, Ore., sponsored by DOE's Bonneville Power Administration. Placing third was Bell/North Middle Schools, Golden, Colo., sponsored by the Department's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL).

The team from College Station Middle School displays its award. L-r, are Dr. John Trefny, President, Colorado School of Mines; coach Caroline Jones; students Sean Lau, Alex Liu, Brian Liu, and Becca Yasskin; Jodi Theut, General Motors; and Dr. Peter Faletra, DOE Office of Science.

The National Middle School Science Bowl is sponsored by DOE's Office of Science and General Motors. The competition was hosted by NREL at the Colorado School of Mines. First, second, and third place winners of both the academic and solar car competition received team trophies for their schools. Each student on each winning team received a $100, $75, or $50 gift certificate from Discovery.com. Additional information is available at **http://www.scied.science.doe.gov/nmsb**. ❖

Human resources efforts earn recognition

At the recent Department of Energy's (DOE) Fiscal Year (FY) 2003 Human Resource Forum and Training Symposium, several awards were presented by Claudia Cross, DOE Chief Human Capital Officer, to employees and organizations. The awards recognized achievements and work on projects that resulted in significant accomplishment in the areas of human capital management and in the advancement of one or more areas of the President's Management Agenda.

Michael Watkins, Human Capital Management Advisor, Western Area Power Administration (WAPA), received the Career Achievement in Human Resources (CAHR) Award in appreciation of his over 39 years of dedicated Federal service. Watkins' peers and supervisors consistently recognize him as someone always willing to participate in developing new initiatives to advance the capabilities of human resources management systems and procedures.

Six employee teams and offices were presented the HEROS Award. The 2003 winners and their accomplishments are:

- **DOE "Recruit America" Campaign Team**, for planning and implementing a campaign that introduced DOE to thousands of Hispanic high school and college students during a compressed recruiting blitz spanning two months. The team was led by Jeffrey Vargas, Office of Human Resources Management, Office of Management, Budget and Evaluation (ME), and Karen Lerma, Albuquerque Service Center, National Nuclear Security Administration.
- **DOE Accelerated Human Capital Management Initiatives Team**, for planning, designing, developing, and piloting a new web-based skills assessment tool; identifying DOE common core competencies; developing a new approach to corporate career and leadership development; designing and developing a succession planning model; and developing a new corporate supervisory/management training curriculum. The team was led by Dottie Van Steinburg, Human Resources Management, ME.
- **Human Resources Division, Oak Ridge Operations Office**, for developing the Off-Campus Work Study Program to meet the diverse staffing needs of the office while providing support to two local community colleges—Pellissippi State Community College and Roane State Community College.
- **Capital Management Team, WAPA**, for developing and implementing Western's Human Capital Management Plan, which defines strategies to assess, formulate, and implement key human capital initiatives. The plan has generated significant interest within and outside DOE and the Federal Government. The team leader is Michael Watkins, WAPA.
- **Human Capital Management and Development Division, Savannah River Operations Office**, for strategically integrating and aligning its Human Capital Management System into the Savannah River mission objectives and senior management's strategic and operational activities.
- **Richland Operations Office**, for developing its Human Capital Initiative Strategic Planning Model which provides a graphical representation of the approach for identifying, developing, and implementing strategic human capital options that are in alignment with the desired future culture of site closure. ❖

Employees named service medal finalists

Two Department of Energy employees are among 28 finalists for the 2003 Service to America Medals, a national awards program that honors the achievements of career Federal employees. The "SAMMIES" were established in 2002 by the Partnership for Public Service—a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to recruiting and retaining excellence in the Federal workforce—and the Atlantic Media Company, publisher of *The Atlantic Monthly*, *National Journal*, and *Government Executive* magazines.

Deborah Monette, Assistant Manager for National Security, Nevada Operations Office, National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), is a finalist for the Homeland Security Medal. Monette is recognized for playing an instrumental role in the stewardship of the nation's nuclear weapons stockpile and emergency response programs and for spearheading critical counterterrorism initiatives. Her accomplishments include leading NNSA's analysis of the potential for a nuclear terrorist attack on U.S. interests and organizing the creation of the National Center for Combating Terrorism at the Nevada Test Site.

Riaz Awan, Energy Attaché-Kiev, Ukraine; Office of International Operations, Office of Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation, NNSA, is a finalist in the National Security and International Affairs category. Awan oversees initiatives that have significantly improved nuclear safety and enhanced the security of nuclear facilities in Ukraine, including permanent closure of the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant. His responsibilities include helping to coordinate construction of a new shelter over the destroyed Chernobyl reactor and advising Ukrainian authorities to ensure terrorists and rogue states cannot access nuclear materials.

The award winners, selected from the finalists, will be announced this fall and honored at an awards dinner Oct. 15, 2003, in Washington, D.C. Additional information on the Service to America Medals is available at **http://www.govexec.com/pps**. ❖

MPC&A program completes major milestone

The Office of International Material Protection and Cooperation (MPC&A) in the Department of Energy's (DOE) National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) is working to reduce the threat to our country's national security posed by the vast quantities of poorly secured Russian fissile material and warheads. The MPC&A program seeks to prevent the theft and diversion of Russian nuclear weapons and nuclear weapons-usable material by consolidating, securing, and reducing the stocks of weapons grade fissile material. This includes installing improved nuclear security systems that employ modern technology and strict material control and accounting procedures.

In June 2003, the MPC&A program saw the completion of a major milestone. The Scientific Production Association Luch in Poldolsk, Russia, finished the installation of comprehensive upgrades and commissioned its new material protection, control and accounting system, which was installed by DOE in cooperation with the Russian Federation Ministry of Atomic Energy (MinAtom). This was the first time that MPC&A upgrades were commissioned at a large Russian civilian nuclear facility. Under Secretary for Nuclear Security and NNSA Administrator Linton Brooks attended the commissioning ceremony.

The Luch facility produces specialized fuels and reprocesses various products, materials, and scrap—both clean and contaminated—containing uranium of different enrichment. The material includes highly enriched uranium fuel elements and assemblies accumulated at different MinAtom sites for over 40 years.

To better protect this material, it was necessary to upgrade the existing MPC&A systems. The upgrades include consolidating over 40 percent of the nuclear materials from several onsite locations in a Central Storage Facility and installing new access control systems that include guard posts equipped with portals and hand-held monitors to detect unauthorized transfer of nuclear material.

The program at Luch now is transitioning to the sustainability phase of U.S.-Russian cooperation. U.S. and Russian project teams will work to ensure that Luch can address and support key operational elements needed to sustain the MPC&A system, such as implementing site-wide procedures, performing preventative maintenance and repairs to the system, site training, performance testing, and monitoring. ❖

Petroleum Reserves staff on detail in Iraq

Five employees of the Department of Energy's (DOE) Petroleum Reserves currently are serving details in the Middle East in support of the Iraq Reconstruction and Humanitarian Assistance effort. Three are from the Naval Petroleum Reserves: Clarke Turner and Mike Taylor, Casper, Wyo., and Gary Holcomb, Bakersfield, Calif. Two staff members are from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve: David Callahan and Julio Maldonado, New Orleans, La.

The employees, all volunteers for this project, are serving in Iraq in various support positions related to restoration of Iraq's oil industry. They were deemed to be uniquely qualified due to their oil field management, operations, maintenance, oil storage, and crude oil logistics experiences. The four-to-six-month deployments began in April and May, with an option to extend up to one year.

Turner, Director, Office of Naval Petroleum and Oil Shale Reserves in Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming, is the Oil Ministry Advisory Team Leader for DOE and has been in the Pentagon, Kuwait, or Iraq since the end of October 2002. "I was sitting at home on vacation with my folks when I received a call from DOE Headquarters," says Turner. "I was requested to submit a résumé in one hour by e-mail for the Deputy Secretary and the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy to review."

Clarke Turner (center) shares the thumbs up sign with Iraqi children.

Three days later, Turner arrived at the Pentagon. The exact nature of his work has varied, but initially there were three responsibilities. First, the task force researched and framed policy issues for the principals on restoring the oil and gas infrastructure for the Iraqi people. Then, the task force helped the Department of Defense develop a plan to protect the Iraqi oil and gas infrastructure and restore it as quickly as possible in the event of war. Turner's final action was to serve as the Secretary's team leader on the Office of Reconstruction and Humanitarian Assistance to execute the plan. "Our work was to establish the Iraq Oil Ministry and to assist them to reconstruct their oil, gas, refining and distribution infrastructure," Turner notes.

Turner says that the highlight of his assignment has been working with the Iraqi people. "They are a very industrious and proud people, and I have learned to respect them immensely."

Turner has many memorable moments, but the top of the list is the day his group drove into Southern Iraq four days after the war began and seeing all the people waving and kids giving the thumbs up sign with big smiles on their faces. According to Turner, "It confirmed that what we were doing was the right thing." ❖

Summer Sunday tours a hit at Brookhaven Lab

This summer, Sunday tours of the Department of Energy's Brookhaven National Laboratory for the general public have featured exciting interactive exhibits and an inside look at a different laboratory facility each week, including the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider. The annual tours, which run for about seven consecutive weeks in July and August, have been popular with both children and adults since they began in 1976. Admission is free and no reservations are needed; but to be admitted on site, all visitors age 16 and over must bring photo identification.

A highlight of each Sunday's tour is the "Whiz Bang Science Show." Everyone enjoys the lively interactive demonstrations of basic scientific principles. How does a "Bernoulli blower" float a beach ball in the air? What's a corrugaphone and how does sound travel through it? At left, Jessica Cohen and Chris Ryon conjure up a genie to grant three wishes of the audience. These are just a few of the intriguing items covered in the show. ❖

Hanford testing cast stone technology for waste treatment

Cast stone is a new waste treatment method being tested by the Department of Energy's Hanford Site. The method would mix selected Hanford tank waste with additives to cast a stone-like material in retrievable containers for disposal. Initial testing is being conducted with non-radioactive simulated waste, which will be followed by testing with actual tank waste. In the photograph, Billie Mauss, Office of River Protection (left), and Rick Raymond, CH2M HILL Hanford Group, examine a cast stone sample created during the recent testing.

"Previously, this method has been referred to as containerized grout," said Roy Schepens, Manager, Office of River Protection, "but calling it cast stone more accurately describes the material's properties."

The containerized cast-stone method is one of three supplemental treatment technologies Hanford is investigating to treat low-level or low-level mixed tank waste for disposal on or off the Hanford Site. The potential treatment method would accelerate Hanford tank cleanup by reducing the amount of waste requiring glassification in the Waste Treatment Plant. ❖

Pacific Northwest conference touts power of hydrogen

On June 16, 2003, the Department of Energy's (DOE) Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) and the Northwest Energy Technology Collaborative sponsored a Northwest Hydrogen and Transportation Conference in Seattle, Wash. The conference was designed for city and state energy and transportation officials, utility officials, energy professionals, vehicle manufacturers, energy technology developers and suppliers, and government and private research organizations.

Washington State Governor Gary Locke and Northwest stakeholders presented a visionary overview of a future hydrogen economy that targets the convergence of Northwest power producers and transportation. The conference also included several hydrogen-related technology overview sessions.

In the photograph, Steve Chalk, Manager, DOE Hydrogen, Fuel Cells and Infrastructure Program, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (left), speaks to Governor Locke outside an urban transit bus on display at the conference. The bus is powered by a liquid-fueled Proton Exchange Membrane Fuel Cell. ❖

Pantex Plant opens analytical chemistry laboratory

A 10-year project is now complete with the cutting of the ribbon for the new analytical chemistry laboratory at the Department of Energy's Pantex Plant, a National Nuclear Security Administration facility. "The laboratory is open for business, and it is ready to support the Pantex mission," said Applied Technology Scientist Paul Johnson.

Designed and equipped to perform a variety of analytical services, the laboratory will provide facilities for analytical chemistry support for weapons programs, Plant activities, and environmental samples. The 8,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility is the second piece of Pantex Plant's modernization plan for high explosives facilities, says Dom Palamara, Manager, Applied Technology Division. Other upgrades for the Plant are planned.

Cutting the ribbon to open the laboratory are (l-r, foreground) Don White, Deputy Manager, Pantex Site Office; Lib Davis, President, Metal Trades Council; Paul Johnson; and Mike Mallory, BWXT Pantex President and General Manager. ❖

Fernald disposes of low-level legacy waste

Cleanup workers at the Department of Energy's (DOE) Fernald Closure Project in Ohio recently completed the disposition of containerized low-level legacy waste generated during the site's former uranium processing operations. During the production mission and subsequent development of cleanup remedies for the Site's waste streams, the drums were placed in temporary storage. DOE and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency set a goal to complete disposition of the waste by May 29, 2003.

More than 48,000 cubic feet of waste were transferred to Fernald's Waste Pits Remedial Action Project for disposal at Envirocare of Utah; 98,000 cubic feet, shipped to DOE's Nevada Test Site; and 27,000 cubic feet, transferred for burial in the On-Site Disposal Facility, under construction at Fernald. Decontamination and demolition of the 12-acre concrete pad used for interim storage was completed in June. In the photograph, Jerry Rikaf (left) and Jeff Loer, Fluor Fernald, wait to secure the final two drums of legacy waste in a semi-trailer destined for Nevada Test Site. ❖

Increased loading means fewer waste canisters at SRS

The Department of Energy's Savannah River Site (SRS) has increased the amount of waste contained in each canister produced at its Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF). Increasing the "waste loading" means an overall reduction of as much as 1,000 canisters over the remaining life of the facility, resulting in savings of as much as $1 billion in repository costs and a shorter overall program, says Jeff Barnes, DWPF facility manager.

The DWPF has produced 1,300 canisters since it began operations, with 4,000 canisters remaining to be processed under the original waste plan. High-level waste from Savannah River tanks is mixed with a sand-like substance, called frit, and melted to produce glass. Three years of research to determine the best frit for the facility resulted in increasing the waste loading so that the mixture will consist of more waste and less frit. What once could be put into five canisters can now be put into four. At right is the DWPF canister storage area. ❖

Research DIGEST

The Department of Energy's **Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory** (LLNL), a National Nuclear Security Administration facility, has signed a licensing agreement with ORTEC Products, a business unit of AMETEK Inc., to commercialize the RadScout radiation detector and analyzer. ORTEC will incorporate the technology in its next generation of advanced portable nuclear detection systems. RadScout was developed within LLNL's nuclear weapons division for emergency first responders and inspection personnel. Weighing about 20 pounds, RadScout features a miniaturized refrigeration system cooling to -280ºF that eliminates liquid nitrogen cooling for the device's special germanium crystal. RadScout measures neutrons and gamma rays emitted by radioactive materials, and then analyzes them to identify the sources. (Lynda Seaver, 925-423-3103)

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In a different approach to creating white light, researchers at the Department of Energy's **Sandia National Laboratories** have developed the first solid-state white light-emitting device using quantum dots. The use of quantum dots as light-emitting phosphors may represent a major future application in nanotechnology. The approach is based on encapsulating semiconductor quantum dots—nanoparticles approximately one billionth of a meter in size—and engineering their surfaces so they efficiently emit visible light when excited by near-ultraviolet (UV) light-emitting diodes (LEDs). The quantum dots strongly absorb light in the near UV range and re-emit visible light that has its color determined by both their size and surface chemistry. (Chris Miller, 505-844-5550)

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The State of Illinois has signed a grant providing $17 million in funding toward construction of the Center for Nanoscale Materials (CNM) at the Department of Energy's (DOE) **Argonne National Laboratory**. The payment is part of $36 million that Illinois has pledged for construction of the center; DOE has pledged a like sum. One of five centers for nanoscale research being built at DOE national laboratories, the CNM will abut the Advanced Photon Source near a specially designed hard Xray nanoprobe beamline that will permit scientists to study structures as small as 30 nanometers in size, using advanced diffraction, spectroscopy, and imaging techniques. Construction is expected to begin in early spring 2004 and to be completed in winter 2005-2006. The center is expected to begin operations in 2007. (Donna Jones Pelkie, 630-252-5501)

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Two unique devices developed at the Department of Energy's **Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory** will make seismic surveying easier and less expensive, and improve image resolution. One device is an impulsive unit that ignites a gas to create subsurface disturbances for seismic imaging. The other is a newly designed downhole (below ground) geophone to detect subsurface motion. The impulsive unit helps seismologists identify geologies where oil or natural gas might exist. The geophone is a suite of modules that can be employed more quickly and easily than current modules that must be mechanically attached to the walls of a borehole to detect seismic transmissions. One model is a non-clamping design that is water coupled; a second is a quick-clamp-and-release design. (John Walsh, 208-526-8646) ❖

NEW Publications

Office of Inspector General (IG) reports: ***Management of Sensitive Equipment at Selected Locations*** (DOE/IG-0606); ***Plutonium-238 Production*** (DOE/IG-0607); ***The Department of Energy's Spent Nuclear Fuel Canisters and Transportation Casks*** (DOE/IG-0608); ***Utility System Leases at the East Tennessee Technology Park*** (DOE/IG-0609); ***Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Communications*** (DOE/IG-0610); ***Waste Reduction Plans for the Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory*** (DOE/IG-0611); ***Disposal of the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site's Low-Level Mixed Waste*** (DOE/IG-0612). 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**.

The ***Fernald Closure Project 2002 Site Environmental Report*** provides stakeholders with results from Fernald's 2002 environmental monitoring programs, along with a summary of the Department of Energy's (DOE) progress toward final remediation of the site under the 2006 closure plan. Also included is a summary of Fernald's compliance with the various environmental regulations, compliance agreements and DOE policies that govern site activities. The report is available on the Internet at **http://www.fernald.gov/Cleanup/Environmental_Monitoring/EnvMon.htm**. For more information, contact Gary Stegner at 513-648-3153 or gary.stegner@fernald.gov. ❖

Student's history sparks research interest

Tanisa Kirkland, a graduate student working on her Master of Science degree in Environmental Science at Florida A&M University (FAMU) is spending six months on an educational fellowship conducting research in the Life Sciences Division at the Department of Energy's (DOE) Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL). Kirkland's research topic includes evaluating genetic and nutritional control of obesity and type II diabetes. She studies mice that are obese and evaluates their genetic makeup and environmental factors to determine risk and observe development of diabetes.

Kirkland's interest in environmental science was sparked when her grandfather died of prostate cancer related to pesticide use when he was a farmer. She worked on an Environmental Protection Agency study linking lung and prostate cancer in African-American men to a certain region of the country. Her grandfather and his siblings were part of that study. Kirkland's focus shifted when both her grandmother and mother were diagnosed with diabetes. She wants to know what factors cause some people to get diabetes and some to live their entire lives never developing the disease. Kirkland wonders if she also is at risk and what she can do about it.

According to Dr. Larry Robinson, Director, Environmental Sciences Institute, FAMU, the project Kirkland is working on strongly parallels the institute's interest in helping to reveal the intricacies of environmentally induced threats to human health. This project should form the foundation for future research collaborations among ORNL scientists and FAMU faculty and students.

Kirkland will receive her master's degree in late 2003. She plans to continue her research in environmental and genetic studies while completing her Ph.D. at FAMU.

Kirkland received her educational fellowship through DOE's Office of Biological and Environmental Research Minority Institutions Student Research Participation Program, administered through the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE). For more information on this and other educational programs, visit the ORISE website at **http://www.orau.gov/orise/Educ.htm**. ❖

INCITE program to allocate computing resources

Proposals are now being accepted for a new Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Science program to support innovative, large-scale computational science projects. The program, entitled "Innovative and Novel Computational Impact on Theory and Experiment" (INCITE) will award a total of 4.5 million supercomputer processor hours and 100 trillion bytes of data storage at the National Energy Research Scientific Computing (NERSC) Center at DOE's Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

The program seeks computationally intensive large-scale research projects that can make high-impact scientific advances through the use of a substantial allocation of computer time and data storage at NERSC. Ten percent of NERSC's IBM supercomputer—now at 10 Teraflop/s—will be made available for grand challenge calculations.

"We will open NERSC's computational facilities to everyone," Dr. Raymond Orbach, Director, DOE Office of Science, said. "Ten percent of NERSC's capability will be available to the entire world. Prospective users will not have to have a DOE contract, or grant, or connection. The applications will be peer reviewed, and will be judged solely on their scientific merit. It may be the case that teams rather than individuals will be involved. It even is possible that one research proposal will be so compelling that the entire 10 percent of NERSC will be allocated to that one research question."

Successful INCITE proposals will describe high-impact scientific research and will be peer reviewed both in the area of research and also for general scientific review comparing them with proposals in other disciplines. Applicants must present evidence that they can effectively use a major fraction of the 6,656 processors of the IBM SP supercomputer at NERSC, which is the most powerful computer for unclassified research in the United States. Applicant codes must be demonstrably ready to run in a massively parallel manner on that computer.

Proposals will be accepted only electronically, following instructions found in the Call for Proposals at **http://hpcf.nersc.gov/accounts/allocations/incite.html**. Proposals will be accepted until 5 p.m. PDT, Sept. 21, 2003. Awards are expected to be announced by Oct. 31, 2003. Access to the NERSC facilities for the awardees will be established immediately and remain in effect until Oct. 31, 2004. ❖

Savannah River accelerates shipments to WIPP

Shipments of transuranic (TRU) waste from the Department of Energy's (DOE) Savannah River Site (SRS) in South Carolina to DOE's Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) in New Mexico have increased from one per month two years ago to 16 per month. This means that all currently stored TRU waste is expected to be disposed of at WIPP 20 years ahead of the originally planned completion date of 2034, at a savings of approximately $700 million. There are plans to increase the rate of waste shipments even more by this fall.

The accelerated shipping allows Savannah River to play a major role in helping to clean up and shut down DOE's Mound site in Ohio. Before Mound can be closed, it must remove its inventory of approximately 300 cubic meters of TRU waste, but it lacks facilities to prepare the waste for WIPP. Rather than duplicate the capabilities already in place at Savannah River, and delay the closure, Mound is sending its waste to SRS for interim storage and preparation for shipment to WIPP, saving taxpayers millions of dollars.

Under an agreement, Savannah River ships twice the volume of waste to WIPP that is received from Mound, so that SRS continues to decrease its inventory. By mid-May 2003, Savannah River had completed enough shipments to WIPP to allow receipt of the entire TRU inventory from Mound. The final waste from Mound is scheduled to be received in September 2003. ❖

Pit 9 demo facility construction completed

Construction of the glovebox excavator method facility that will be used to demonstrate retrieval of buried waste at the Department of Energy's (DOE) Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL) has been completed ahead of schedule. This paves the way for retrieval of waste from Pit 9 to start six months early.

The retrieval facility is unique in that all operations are done with a backhoe that is enclosed within the airtight facility. Specially designed gloveboxes will be used to separate and sort the waste.

Workers will use the facility to retrieve, characterize, and package for shipment between 75 and 125 cubic yards of material from the disposal pit. Information gathered during the demonstrations will be used to help determine a remediation strategy for the entire 97-acre Subsurface Disposal Area at the Radioactive Waste Management Complex.

The Subsurface Disposal Area contains pits and trenches, including Pit 9, where mixed transuranic and low-level waste was buried between 1954 and 1970. Much of the transuranic waste buried at INEEL consists of contaminated clothing and equipment shipped to INEEL primarily from the Rocky Flats Plant in Colorado.

An agreement among DOE, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the State of Idaho requires the demonstration of waste excavation from Pit 9 to start by March 31, 2004. The current plan is to start excavating waste this fall. ❖

E-print Network expands research exchange

The Office of Scientific and Technical Information (OSTI) in the Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Science has launched E-print Network: Research Communications for Scientists and Engineers. E-print Network, **http://www.osti.gov/eprints**, is a new gateway to hundreds of thousands of worldwide e-prints in basic and applied sciences, including physics, chemistry, life sciences, materials science, information technologies, energy research, and other disciplines of interest to the DOE community. The network is the expanded and improved version of the former PrePRINT Network.

The scope includes not only traditional preprints, but also scholarly papers, technical communications, conference publications, and other scientific and technical documents circulated informally among colleagues in the scientific disciplines. The E-print Network identifies thousands of islands of information and integrates them into a vast network of electronic scientific and technical information. By eliminating the need to either locate e-print sites through Web searching or search specialized databases one at a time, researchers can find more information while saving time.

A set of specialized tools and services facilitate the use and exchange of information. The search engine is customized to provide Deep Web searching across multiple, selected databases, or across the PDF documents on thousands of websites, or a combination of both. The returned results can include links to the e-print documents as well as separate links to the Web pages of the respective authors. In addition to searching by subject-specific discipline, users can also browse over 10,000 websites organized by subject. To facilitate scholarly communication and expand access to additional scientific information, the E-print Network provides extensive browsing of the home pages of research societies or researchers. Users may also keep up with new information in their field of interest by using Alert Services to establish searches that return periodic e-mail alerts about newly added e-prints.

For more information, contact Dr. Walter Warnick, Director, OSTI; phone: 865-576-1189 or 301-903-7996; e-mail: WarnickW@osti.gov. ❖

NEW ON THE Internet

New look for DOE home page

The Department of Energy (DOE) has examined the way it communicates over the Internet and redesigned its home page, **http://www.energy.gov**. A thorough evaluation of how users look for information was conducted and a new architecture was built based on information that can be found on the DOE site. While the navigation is now topic based, those familiar with the program and staff office structure can find offices easily by clicking on "Offices and Facilities" near the top of the page. Resource sections are included for those seeking to do business with DOE, teachers and students, researchers, and consumers. The popular "Kids Zone" section has been expanded. Click on "Press Room" for Headquarters and field news, speeches, testimonies, and easier access to *DOE This Month* under "DOE in the News." Explore the new site and send any comments to the web team through the Web Site Feedback form.

Value management centers

The Office of Engineering and Construction Management in the Office of Management, Budget, and Evaluation (ME-90) has developed two websites to share value management information among Department of Energy locations. The Value Management Information Center, **http://www.value-engineering.doe.gov**, and the Earned Value Management Information Center, **http://www.evms.doe.gov**, were created to assist the value and project management communities in sharing relevant information, discussing issues, learning more about value methodology and management activities, and sharing lessons-learned. The Value Method is a systematic, organized way to develop and compare alternatives to get the job done with the greatest value. Earned Value Management is a systematic approach to the integration and measurement of cost, schedule, and technical accomplishments on a project or task. ❖

Landmine detector adapted to pinpoint natural gas pipelines

At a field test earlier this year sponsored by the Department of Energy (DOE), CyTerra Corporation demonstrated a new, lightweight, handheld detector that can pinpoint the exact location of both metallic and plastic underground pipes—even those buried 10 feet deep. Such pipes are commonly used to deliver natural gas to millions of homes and businesses.

"We are extremely interested in finding additional methods that can be used to speed delivery and boost safety elements in our natural gas R&D projects," Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham said. "CyTerra's innovation offers a means to achieve both goals."

CyTerra, headquartered in Waltham, Mass., developed the detector with funding from DOE's natural gas research program. Termed LULU—for Low-Cost Utility Location Unit—the technology is an adaptation of the company's Hand-Held Stand-Off Mine Detection System, which is being developed to assist the U.S. Army locate anti-tank and anti-personnel mines.

Like its military version, the LULU detector technology relies on ground penetrating radar. To make it suitable for pipeline detection, CyTerra engineers altered the frequency band and antenna size of the system to increase the depth detection range from shallow mine depths of inches up to 10 feet for pipeline detection. When the radar passes over a buried pipeline, signal-processing techniques provide real-time output by producing a series of beeps to alert an operator.

A key advantage of the technology is its capability to discriminate between metal and plastic pipes. Current commercial detection methods rely on magnetic devices and cannot detect plastic pipelines. Increasingly, newer gas distribution pipes are being constructed of plastic and ceramic materials. In fact, the Gas Technology Institute estimates that 72 percent of all 3-inch-diameter natural gas distribution pipes in the United States are plastic.

The CyTerra project is sponsored by the Natural Gas Delivery Reliability Program within DOE's Office of Fossil Energy and is managed by DOE's National Energy Technology Laboratory. ❖

SNS safety milestone celebrated

Workers at the Spallation Neutron Source (SNS) construction site in Oak Ridge, Tenn., received a barbeque lunch on June 18, 2003, in honor of their achievement of 2,000,000 work hours without a lost workday incident. The SNS is the largest current construction project of the Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Science.

The lunch gave prime contractor Knight/Jacobs Joint Venture a chance to thank members of the Knoxville Building and Construction Trades Council, UT-Battelle, the subcontractors, and the suppliers for their tremendous commitment to safety over the length of the project, which currently is at the peak of activity. A number of officials commended the dedication to safety exhibited at SNS. Speakers included Gerald Boyd, Manager, DOE Oak Ridge Operations Office; Bill Madia, then Director, Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL); Thom Mason, Director, SNS Project; and Ed Sullivan, President, Building and Construction Trades Department, AFL-CIO.

Earlier that day, officials of DOE, ORNL, and the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) dedicated a new TVA 161-kV substation at the SNS site. The substation will deliver 50 megawatts of power to the facility, which when complete will more than double the amount of energy currently used at ORNL. DOE will operate the switch house and main power transformers while TVA operates and maintains the 161-kV switchyard. The cooperation between TVA and DOE will help power the Spallation Neutron Source when it is complete in 2006. ❖

People IN ENERGY

The University of California Board of Regents has named retired Vice Admiral **George P. "Pete" Nanos**, as Director of the Department of Energy's Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). Nanos has served as the laboratory's Interim Director since Jan. 6, 2003. Prior to becoming Interim Director, he was Principal Deputy Associate Director for LANL's Threat Reduction Directorate. Nanos is the former commander of the Naval Sea Systems Command and of the Navy's strategic nuclear program.

John Kotek has been named Deputy Manager of the Department of Energy's (DOE) Idaho Operations Office. Kotek has over 14 years engineering experience in nuclear reactor development and management of Federal research programs, as a senior manager at DOE's Argonne National Laboratory since 1999 and, previously, as a Federal employee. Kotek served in a number of senior positions in DOE's nuclear energy program, including Associate Director for Technology.

M. Diana Webb has been appointed Director of the Policy Office at the Department of Energy's Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). The new office will streamline and consolidate LANL policy functions to align with corporate strategies and mission objectives. Webb, previously with the Operations Directorate Office, led a multidisciplinary task force to plan the new office structure. The office will report to **Judith Kaye**, Executive Chief of Staff to LANL Director Pete Nanos.

Senior physicist **William Willis** of the Department of Energy's Brookhaven National Laboratory is the recipient of the American Physical Society's 2003 W.K.H. Panofsky Prize in Experimental Particle Physics. The prize consists of $5,000 and an award citation recognizing Willis for his role in the "development and exploitation of innovative techniques now widely adopted in particle physics, including liquid argon calorimetry, electron identification by detection of transition radiation, and hyperon beams."

Raymond Kenneth Neff is the new Chief Information Officer at the Department of Energy's Los Alamos National Laboratory. Most recently, Neff was Chief Information Officer at the U.S. Naval War College. Previously, he was Vice President for Information Services and Chief Information Officer at Case Western Reserve University.

Dr. Jeff Wadsworth has been selected by UT-Battelle as the new Director of the Department of Energy's (DOE) Oak Ridge National Laboratory, effective Aug. 1, 2003. Most recently, Wadsworth was a senior executive at Battelle where he focused on DOE science programs, technology transfer, and homeland security. Previously, he served as Deputy Director for Science and Technology and Associate Director for Chemistry and Materials Science at DOE's Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

Michael C. Kane has been named Associate Administrator for Management and Administration in the Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA). Kane held the position in an acting capacity since April 2003 and previously was Deputy Administrator for Management and Administration. Before joining NNSA in 2001, Kane held several key management positions within DOE, including Director, Office of Special Projects.

John B. Bell and **Phillip Colella**, applied mathematicians at the Department of Energy's Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, are co-recipients of the 2003 SIAM/ACM Prize in Computational Science and Engineering. The prize, awarded by the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM) and the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), recognizes Bell, Colella, and their research groups for algorithms developed to study complex problems arising in fluid mechanics and computational physics.

James Tarpinian is the new Assistant Director for Environment, Safety, Health and Quality (ESH&Q) at the Department of Energy's Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL). The ESH&Q Directorate is responsible for environmental protection, occupational safety and health, and quality services at BNL and for many of the laboratory's management and oversight systems. Tarpinian joined Bechtel in 1980 and served in several capacities, including manager of safety and health for Bechtel Hanford, Inc.

Three researchers at the Department of Energy's Oak Ridge National Laboratory have been named UT-Battelle Corporate Fellows for their significant contributions over many years and peer recognition in the United States and other countries. The honorees are **Gene Ice**, Metals and Ceramics Division; **Ben Larson**, Condensed Matter Sciences Division; and **Kenneth Tobin**, Engineering Science and Technology Division.

Ramanujam (Raj) Sekar, Manager of the Engine and Emissions Research Group in the Transportation Technology R&D Center at the Department of Energy's Argonne National Laboratory, has been elected a Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. ❖

Milestones

YEARS OF SERVICE

August 2003

Headquarters

Chief Information Officer – William G. Sylvester (30 years), Freddie J. Fleming (25). **Congressional & Intergovernmental** – Maria A. Northington (35), Alan E. Knight (30). **EIA** – Luther L. Smith (40), Colleen C. Blessing (30), Eugene J. Reiser (30), Michael J. Grillot (25). **Economic Impact & Diversity** – Yvonne Campbell (30). **Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy** – Peter R. Goldman (35), Gregory M. Reamy (35), Wilfred L. Prue (30). **Environmental Management** – Vickie A. Barden (30), Ross E. Bradley II (30), David J. Davis (25), Timothy C. Harms (25), Lyle E. Harris (25).

Environment, Safety & Health – Janet L. Stubblefield (30), Dennis J. Kubicki (25). **FERC** – Bonnie J. Brooks (35), Steven L. Canter (35), Ellen Brown (30), Christopher J. Bublitz (30), Robert J. Cupina (30), James O. Hunter, Jr. (30), Marie Boyce (25), Gloria E. Cloteykine (25), Barbara A. Connors (25), Richard W. Foley (25), Edward G. Gingold (25), Jennifer L. Kerrigan (25), Roger P. Morie (25), William E. Murrell (25), Michael A. Oliva (25), Anita D. Washington (25), Henry Y. Woo (25).

General Counsel – L. Dow Davis IV (35), Marsha M. McQueen (35). **Inspector General** – Diane S. Taylor (30), Arlene M. Acton (25), Patricia D. Warren (25). **Management, Budget & Evaluation** – Kenneth C. Baker (35), Patricia H. Lach (35), Susan L. Champion (30), Lelia W. Leverette (30), Phyllis P. Morgan (30), Sandra K. Flint (25), Richard Loyd (25), Veronica Majors (25), Deborah L. Pearce (25).

NNSA – Mary B. Jackson (35), Owen B. Johnson (35), Judith W. Simon (35), Kenneth M. Bromberg (30), Lydia M. Montoya (30), Ernest L. Garcia (25), Edward L. Thornberg (25). **Nuclear Energy** – Roberta A. Royer (30). **Policy & International** – Carol L. Moten (30). **Public Affairs** – L. Hope Williams (25). **Radioactive Waste** – Alma M. Romero (30). **Science** – Vesta G. Flynn (25), Sat P. Goel (25). **Security** – Alvin L. Richardson (40), Joan G. Hawthorne (30). **Worker & Community Transition** – Robert D. Baney (30).

Field

Albany Research Center – Glen F. Soltau (25). **Carlsbad** – Marc A. Italiano (25). **Chicago** – John P. Kennedy (40), Joseph A. Dasilva (30), Eric M. Simpson (25). **Idaho** – Michael K. Tucker (35), Elizabeth M. Bowhan (30). **Livermore Site/NNSA** – Robert J. Walsh (25). **NETL** – Larry W. Kisner (35), Donna J. Jaskolka (30), Kerry D. Witte (30), Linda L. Brandon (25), Kent H. Casleton (25), Dona G. Sheehan (25).

NNSA Service Center – Lyle D. Russell (35), Elizabeth J. Clute (30), Linda M. Kriesel (30), Thomas S. O'Dwyer (30), Theresa M. Sullivan (30), William C. White (30), Kim L. Delman (25). **Oak Ridge** – Jack L. Howard (35), Clifford S. Hsieh (35), Everett J. Patrick (35), Philip S. Barker (25), Randall M. Devault (25), Mark S. Robinson (25). **Ohio** – Dewain V. Eckman (35). **Pantex Site/NNSA** – Ronnie L. Pierce (25).

Pittsburgh Naval Reactors/NNSA – Sean P. Malone (25). **Rocky Flats** – Gina M. Dan (25). **Savannah River** – W. Frank Wright (30). **Southwestern Power** – Colin E. Kelley (35), Joseph P. Hopkins (30), Dallas W. Cooper (25). **Western Area Power** – Daniel D. Olson (40), Clark E. Ledoux (35), Irvel N. Morford (30), Dale H. Strege (30), Richard L. Francher (25), Katherine P. Welch (25). **Y-12 Site/NNSA** – David L. Wall (25).

Bonneville Power – Parthenia R. Tarver (40), Donald J. Basaraba (35), Thomas C. Deklyen (35), Donald J. Fay (35), Michael R. Federovitch (35), Derrol J. Johns (35), Carl F. Martin (35), Vernon L. Shipe, Jr. (35), James R. Smith (35), Robert L. Waite (35), Donald G. Blondin (30), John A. Bullinger (30), Janice I. Lane (30), Gerald E. Lee (30), Charles E. Pursiful (30), Cheryl L. Russell (30), Beverly J. Warren (30), Robert A. Ackerman III (25), Rumiko N. Blanc (25), John J. Grover (25), John T. Rhew (25), Susan T. Walker (25), Vickie F. Wood (25).

RETIREMENTS

June 2003

Headquarters

Policy & International Affairs – Paul F. Carrier (30 years), Sandra N. Jackson (34). **NNSA** – Jimmie P. Mulkey (26), Gregory P. Rudy (25). **Science** – Helen M. Allen (22), Mary E. Beasley (33), Janice M. Blanton (18), Kathleen B. Chambers (36), Julia H. Daniel (35), Sue J. Davis (30), Betsy P. Goodman (28), Nancy E. Hardin (34), Rita H. Hohenbrink (31), Russell A. Morel (32), Robert C. Morgan (25), Robert W. Rutkowski (32), Chalmers Wilson III (30), Robert M. Woods, Jr. (32), Anne M. Zerega (32).

Field

Bonneville Power – Arthur A. Baribeault (37), Stephen D. Dunne (30), Robert E. Fleischmann (35), William J. Jackson, Jr. (33), Gary W. Kydland (41), Dale R. Stelzer (36). **Chicago** – Carolyn R. Henke (15). **Idaho** – S. Wanda Butt (21), Judy L. Hastings (32), Neil M. Rice (32). **Nevada Site/NNSA** – Leonard J. Owens (20). **Oak Ridge** – Otis J. Lee (21). **Western Area Power** – Wanda G. Hampton (11), Carl A. Nyquist (21).

July 2003

Headquarters

EIA – Kendrick E. Brown, Jr. (36), Derriel B. Cato (31). **Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy** – Margaret M. Ryan (28). **Environmental Management** – Carl W. Guidice (40), Rashalee S. Levine (17). **NNSA** – William J. Christensen (34). **Office of the Secretary** – Beverley D. Stevenson (5). **Policy & International Affairs** – Joan D. Bell (24), Barbara M. Bishop (39). **Science** – Jeanne M. Beall (32), Robert E. Berger (29), Charles W. Billups (37), Stephen G. Buswell (31), Roberta E. Cunningham (34), Sheila R. Frizzell (26), Benny Goodman (32), Ronald H. McKnight (27), Diane M. Pero (29), Myrna J. Vallette (26). **Security** – Ronald L. Shores (35).

Field

Bonneville Power – Clifford J. Carroll (37), Robert H. Dickhoff (30). **Chicago** – Thomas J. Balamut (34). **Golden** – Carol A. Cassel (23), Russell Eaton III (38). **NETL** – Fred R. Vinton (31). **Nevada Site/NNSA** – Susan A. Stickel (20). **Oak Ridge** – Darlene A. Cooper (29), Veronica S. Dillon (24), Iris S. Housley (26), Sylvia J. Wolfe (25). **Strategic Petroleum Reserve** – Patricia R. Johnson (28), Mary C. Landry (29), Linda M. Loiacano (33), Judith A. Thompson (36). **Western Area Power** – Donald E. Colis (33), John A. Ragan (31), Thomas E. Wood (36). ❖

CORRECTION

The name of Tom Bowles, Los Alamos National Laboratory, was incomplete in "People In Energy," page 14, July 2003 *DOE This Month* printed version. ❖

August 2003

AROUND DOE

KC Plant shares safety strategies with companies

Since 1996, the Department of Energy's (DOE) Kansas City Plant, a National Nuclear Security Administration facility, has enjoyed Star status in the Voluntary Protection Program (VPP), an honor bestowed by DOE on its sites for ensuring a safe and healthful workplace. Recently, Plant employees increased their involvement with the VPP mentoring program, helping other DOE sites and private sector companies achieve certification.

A workshop was conducted for organizations from Missouri, Kansas, and Nebraska. Participating groups included the City of Lee's Summit, Mo., Hallmark Cards, Williams Foods, and Sherwin-Williams. The workshop highlighted the importance of VPP in the workplace and illustrated the Plant's success with the program. The Plant also mentors DOE's Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education in Tennessee.

Scott White, Manager of Environmental Safety and Health, Kansas City Plant, notes that the program is mutually beneficial to the mentor. "By being a mentor, we are given the opportunity to see what other sites are doing and compare those activities to our own program," White says. Retaining the VPP Star is a year-round task, and continuous self-assessments and employee communications are a necessity.

DOE, EPA, state agree on accelerated SRS cleanup

On July 9, 2003, the Department of Energy (DOE)–Savannah River Manager, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)–Region 4 Administrator, and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control Deputy Commissioner signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to accelerate cleanup at DOE's Savannah River Site for completion by 2025. The MOA builds upon a Letter of Support signed by DOE, EPA, and South Carolina officials on May 22, 2003.

The MOA establishes innovative approaches to accelerate cleanup and reduce risk at the Site. It also provides for the preparation of a Comprehensive Accelerated Cleanup Plan that will synchronize environmental cleanup and facility decommissioning to support the sequential deletion of large areas of the Site from the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act National Priorities List.

DOE to assist Alaska with Arctic tundra study

With assistance from the Department of Energy (DOE), the State of Alaska will conduct the first scientifically based study to determine when oil companies can transport equipment over the Arctic tundra without damaging the fragile ecosystem. DOE will provide $270,000 for the study. Another $70,000 in funding and technical services is being provided by Total Elf Fina, Anadarko Petroleum, ConocoPhillips, and Yale University under an agreement the organizations have with the Alaska Department of Natural Resources.

The new ecological model will be a major improvement over the current ad-hoc standard established more than 30 years ago without the benefit of systematic scientific analysis. The standard now limits oil exploration and ice road construction to time periods when there is a minimum of 12 inches of frozen ground and six inches of snow cover over the tundra.

The scientific study will build on a previous effort by the Alaska Department of Natural Resources to determine if seismic exploration could take place outside the current standards without disturbing the tundra. That phase of the effort was completed last year. The new tundra study will be conducted during the fall and winter of 2003 and the summer of 2004. ❖

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

Official Business