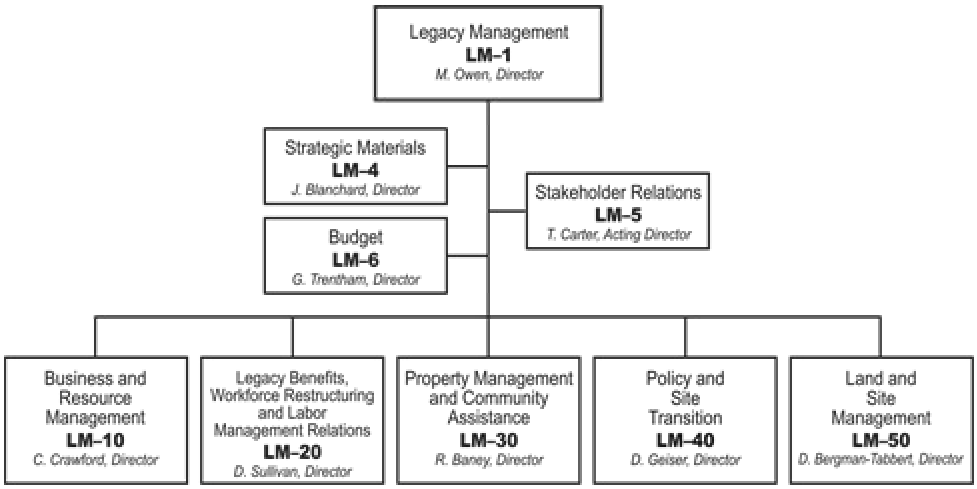
PROGRAM UPDATE

Office of Legacy Management
United States Department of Energy
January - June 2004

Welcome to the January – June 2004 issue of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Legacy Management (LM) Program Update. This publication is designed to provide a status of activities from various offices within LM. DOE established LM effective December 2003 to allow for optimum management of DOE's legacy responsibilities. The mission of LM is to effectively and efficiently manage the environmental and human legacy issues related to the U.S. Government's Cold War nuclear weapons program for current and future generations. Below is an organization chart for LM.



In this issue of the Program Update, we are highlighting work being performed in the Office of Strategic Materials (LM-4); Operation Grants awarded to community reuse organizations that are part of LM-30, Office of Property Management and Community Assistance; development of fact sheets on various policy and transition topics; and ongoing transition efforts for several DOE sites that will be closing and the responsibilities for long-term management that will be transferring to LM under the Office of Policy and Site Transition (LM-40).

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STRATEGIC MATERIALS

The Office of Strategic Materials (OSM) continues to work closely with Savannah River Site (SRS) and Oak Ridge Operations (ORO), in Tennessee, with regard to the disposition of strategic materials.

At the request of LM, the Office of Environment, Safety and Health has made the decision that the shipment of contaminated palladium catalyst from SRS, to be used in the decontamination of heavy water, is not subject to DOE Order 5400, which restricts the transport of volumetrically contaminated metals. The catalyst to be used in the decontamination of heavy water is exempt because it is not scrap or waste and will not be released to the environment. Approximately one 55-gallon drum of contaminated heavy water will be shipped by SRS to Houston, Texas, along with the palladium catalyst. A demonstration project will be conducted, using proprietary technology, to determine the feasibility of removing contaminants from heavy water. Should that demonstration project be successful, consideration will be given to exploring the feasibility of decontaminating approximately 1,600 metric tons of heavy water and placing it on the market for sale under the Pilot Project Program approved by Congress in Fiscal Year (FY) 1998. The proceeds from the sale would be used to decommission and decontaminate the heavy water holding facilities at SRS.

The National Defense Stockpile Center (Stockpile) contacted OSM to refer a potential buyer of lithium hydroxide, which is no longer in the Stockpile. OSM has referred the inquiry to ORO, where DOE's lithium hydroxide is in storage. Discussions are underway between ORO and the potential buyer to determine the parameters and scope of a possible purchase agreement for the sale of lithium hydroxide. OSM will provide assistance as necessary. Proceeds from the sale of lithium hydroxide will be sent to the Department of Treasury.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

DOE awarded FY 2004 Operation Grants, with a value of $250,000 each, to nine community reuse organizations that support efforts to diversify the economy in communities with large DOE facilities. Both LM and the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) approved grant applications for the following community reuse organizations:

- Next Generation Economy, Inc. (Albuquerque, NM),
- Regional Development Corporation (Santa Fe, NM),
- Nevada Test Site Development Corporation (Las Vegas, NV),

- Tri-City Industrial Development Council (Economic development organizations surrounding the Hanford Site in Richland, WA, designated this Council as the CRO for that area in 1994. The Council is located in Kennewick, WA.),

- Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments (Westminster, CO),

- Miamisburg Mound Community Improvement Corporation (Miamisburg, OH),

- Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee (Oak Ridge, TN),

- Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative (Piketon, OH), and

- Eddy/Lea Regional Commission (Carlsbad, NM).

Each of these organizations will use the grant to fund general administrative expenses for the organization's efforts to initiate job growth through the creation of new businesses and the expansion of existing businesses in their communities.

Each community reuse organization is unique in its efforts to bolster the local economy. Next Generation Economy, Inc., is serving the Sandia National Laboratory (SNL) community by facilitating the construction of a commercial microsystems production facility to meet the demand of the emerging microsystems industry in Albuquerque. The Regional Development Corporation supports economic diversification efforts in the counties located near the Los Alamos National Laboratory through such projects as "Connect Rio Arriba," a community-based effort to build a wireless broadband network in the Chama Valley, and Otra Vez, a transitional work force training program that uses surplus SNL personal property. The Nevada Test Site Development Corporation assists start-up companies located in Las Vegas and the counties located near the Nevada Test Site. The Tri-City Industrial Development Council provides both technical and financial assistance to new businesses starting or expanding operations in the communities near the DOE Hanford Facility. The mission of the Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments is to support the cleanup and closure of the DOE Rocky Flats Facility and to help determine the future use of the site.

The Miamisburg Mound Community Improvement Corporation is establishing the Mound Site as an economically viable, privately owned technology and industry center known as the Mound Advanced Technology Center. The purpose of the Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee is to assist the private sector in creating quality jobs in the region by using underutilized land, facilities, equipment, personnel, and technologies available at the Oak Ridge complex. The Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative enhances the skills of the regional work force by offering early educational assistance and job retraining to workers at the DOE Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant.

The operation grant awarded to the Eddy/Lea Regional Commission will fund both administrative activities and two local economic development projects. The City of Hobbs, New Mexico, will receive funding to conduct an environmental assessment, and for preparation and cleanup of a "Brownfield" area identified as the future Hobbs Industrial Air Park. The City of Artesia, New Mexico, will receive funding for pre-engineering services to develop the Artesia Industrial Park.

POLICY AND SITE TRANSITION

Rocky Flats, Colorado, Site Transition: The transition team, representing LM, Rocky Flats Project Office (RFPO), Kaiser-Hill Company, and S.M. Stoller, continues to refine the Rocky Flats Closure Responsibility Scoping Checklist and monitor transition progress in accordance with the checklist target start and completion dates. RFPO personnel continue to integrate LM personnel into the technical, regulatory and stakeholder interactions, issues and actions.

LM participated in the Rocky Flats Stakeholder Workshop in April 2004, the Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board Community Workshop on Future Public Participation in June 2004, and in numerous other outreach sessions during the period.

The first official transfer to LM occurred as responsibility for the administration and maintenance of the Rocky Flats Public Reading Room was successfully transferred from RFPO to LM in April 2004.

Weldon Spring, Missouri, Site: The final Record of Decision (ROD) for the Weldon Spring Site was signed by DOE and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region VII in January 2004 and February 2004, respectively. The *Final Remedial Action for the Groundwater Operable Unit at the Chemical Plant Area of the Weldon Spring Site* document describes the groundwater cleanup strategy as monitored natural attenuation (MNA) with institutional controls to limit groundwater use during the period of remediation.

The draft Long-Term Surveillance and Maintenance (LTS&M) Plan for the Weldon Spring Site was issued as a Federal Facilities Agreement primary document for regulator review in March 2004. Comments were received from the regulators and some stakeholders by May 2004. DOE is addressing the comments and intends to issue the Draft Final LTS&M Plan in August 2004.

The draft *Remedial Design/Remedial Action (RD/RA) Work Plan for the Final Remedial Action for the Groundwater Operable Unit at the Weldon Spring Site* document was issued February 2004 for regulator review. Comments were received from EPA and the State of Missouri by May 2004. DOE made revisions to address the comments and issued the draft Final RD/RA Work Plan in June 2004. The plan is expected to be final in July 2004. DOE took interim actions to implement the plan with concurrence from EPA and the State of Missouri by drilling three new wells to supplement the groundwater monitoring network in support of the ROD remedy of MNA. Those wells were installed by June 2004.

The first annual inspection stakeholder public meeting was held in March 2004. In this meeting, DOE briefed about 60 interested parties on the findings of the annual site inspection conducted in October 2003. Site personnel notified the attendees of the availability of the draft LTS&M Plan and briefed them on other site activities.

Fernald, Ohio, Site Closure Project Transition: Pending resolution of a disposition path for material in three silos at the site, the Fernald Closure Project (FCP) is on track to close the site and transition to LM. Actual date for transition to LM is not yet finalized; DOE Ohio Field Office currently estimates transition to occur by February 2007.

For the past few months, there has been a significant LM presence at Fernald for the purpose of transition planning. A multi-disciplinary team of LM functional experts has evaluated each of the Site Transition Framework functional areas at Fernald to determine the status and path forward for a successful transition. Following a comprehensive discussion with site personnel, an assessment report was drafted in March 2004 that documented the status of transition preparation and highlighted the areas where additional planning was required. Since that time, there have been monthly visits to Fernald by smaller teams to address transition for specific functional areas. The culmination of LM effort during FY 2004 is expected to be a DOE-approved Site Transition Plan.

The various Fernald stakeholder organizations have welcomed LM representatives and have invited them to participate in the upcoming Fernald Citizens Advisory Board retreat, scheduled for September 18, 2004. LM has taken an active role in resolving stakeholder concerns, and is also taking a proactive approach to building relationships with Fernald's regulators.

Mound, Ohio, Site Transition: The transition of the Mound Site is progressing at a steady pace through a series of integrated meetings with Miamisburg Closure Project (MCP) personnel. DOE's Office of Environmental Management (EM)/LM transition team has identified and developed the action items and target dates necessary to satisfy the requirements of the Site Transition Framework. The set of action items is formatted in a work breakdown structure which is continually being refined. The purposes of the work breakdown structure are to: (1) define the scope and schedule of LM transition activities, and (2) serve as a tool to integrate LM transition activities with the EM transition activities.

The EM/LM transition team holds weekly conference calls to share progress and communicate any upcoming transition events and/or issues. Some of the integration activities include: (1) participation in the annual institutional controls effectiveness assessment, (2) selection of four information technology applications for early transfer, (3) development of a draft Public Involvement Plan for site transition, and (4) participation in several meetings with the local stakeholder groups.

Oakland, California, Sites: In April 2004, representatives received site updates for the Oakland sites that will transfer from EM to LM: Geothermal Test Facility (GTF), General Atomics (GA), Missouri University Research Reactor (MURR), Laboratory for Energy-Related Health Research (LEHR), General Electric (GE), and Energy Technology Engineering Center (ETEC). GTF, GA, and MURR records are being compiled and dispositioned by LM's Office of Business and Resource Management. Contract closeout will be the responsibility of the EM Consolidated Business Center.

DOE/EM has completed all planned removal actions at LEHR, and the site is scheduled for transfer to LM on October 1, 2005. A site transition plan is being developed to articulate the post-removal actions the former LEHR Site must meet in order for its possession to be returned to University of California at Davis. Another meeting with university and state and federal regulatory organizations was scheduled for July 2004 in California. A Memorandum of Agreement between DOE/LM and the university will be prepared in FY 2005 to establish joint actions pursuant to the transfer of site management.

Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) Sites: The Wayne, New Jersey, FUSRAP Site is being considered for return to DOE/LM so that the site may be excessed in accordance with General Services Administration guidelines. The site's third year of groundwater sampling results will be evaluated to determine whether it may be possible to expedite the removal of the site from the National Priorities List if there are no significant risks remaining to public health and the environment.

Nevada Off-Sites Site Transition: During this period, LM and EM have initiated the development of a Site Transition Plan for the Nevada Off-Sites. The Nevada Off-Sites refers to the nine sites in five states where nuclear weapons tests were conducted outside the Nevada Test Site boundary. LM and EM are working together to develop a clear understanding of the life-cycle baseline associated with these sites. The team is also reviewing the regulatory commitments, actions required to protect human health and the environment, and the resources required to transfer these sites to LM.

OTHER POLICY AND INTEGRATION ACTIVITIES

Fact Sheets: LM's Office of Policy and Site Transition (P&ST) has been developing a series of fact sheets on various topics. The fact sheets, developed in conjunction with EM and other LM program elements, are intended to provide LM's interim policies and/or define LM products. Currently, P&ST has either completed or is working on the following fact sheets:

- Site Transition Plan (draft completed) – discusses purpose, content, and requirements

- Site Transition Process (completed) – discusses EM to LM site transition process for the Site Transition Plans

- LTS&M (internal review) – discusses purpose, content, and objectives for the LTS&M Plan

- Site Transition Coordinator (STC)/Site Transition Team (internal review) – discusses roles and responsibilities of an STC and the transition team

- Public Outreach (internal review) – outlines LM's public outreach approach during the transition phase

- Records Management/Information Technology (being developed)

- Post-Closure Regulatory Environment (being developed)

For additional information on these fact sheets, please contact Jonathan Kang at jonathan.kang@hq.doe.gov.

REQUEST FOR LM PUBLIC DOCUMENT(S):

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Position: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, and Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

E-mail Address: _____

DOCUMENTS REQUESTED:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

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