Energy Communities Alliance

Local concerns. National impact.

January 2018 BULLETIN

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ECA Continues to Push for Identification of Safe, Alternative Disposition Paths for Defense Nuclear Waste

On January 16, ECA hosted a Peer Exchange on Defense Nuclear Waste Disposition in Las Vegas, Nevada. The meeting was a continuation of ECA's work to develop a strategy for host communities to work with DOE, states, tribes and stakeholders on significant, near-term advances in radioactive waste management that could potentially save an estimated $40 billion or more on the remaining lifecycle cost of DOE's Environmental Management (EM) program without impacting human health and safety or stakeholder input. This effort is driven by urgency in host communities to see how DOE can safely move cleanup forward while the future of Yucca Mountain or siting a new geologic repository continues to stall.

ECA Members at the January 16, 2018 Peer Exchange in Las Vegas, NV. From left to right: Commissioner Rick Miller, Mayor Bob Thompson, Carl Adrian, David Reeploeg, Adam Fyall, Alex Smith, and Judge Richard Dolgener.

One nearer-term alternative ECA has focused on is shifting to base treatment and disposal decisions on the *actual* characteristics of the waste and risk to human health and the environment rather than origin.

In the Peer Exchange ECA not only continued discussions among local governments, but brought in state regulators from Idaho, South Carolina and

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April 12, 2018
The Liaison Capitol Hotel
415 New Jersey Avenue, NW
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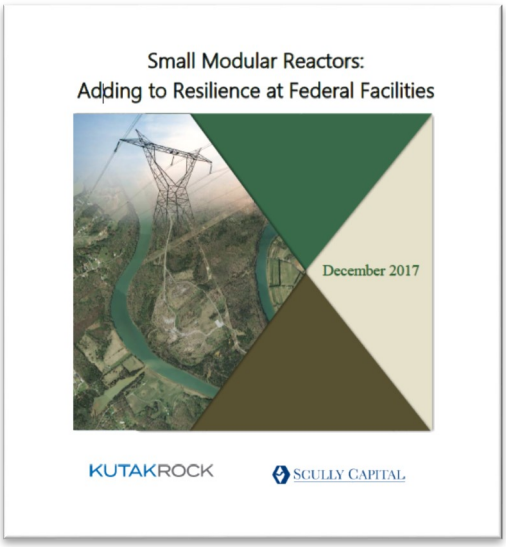
2018 ECA Annual Conference

See page 7 for details

DOE Publishes Report on Advanced SMRs and Federal Facility Resilience

On January 25, 2018, the US Department of Energy (DOE) published a report, *Small Modular Reactors: Adding to Resilience at Federal Facilities*. The report reviews critical issues relating to energy resilience – including defining energy resilience, why it is important, how to price energy resilience, and the justification for federal agencies and owners of large facilities to pay for the additional costs associated with energy resilience. The report is co-authored by ECA Executive Director Seth Kirshenberg.



The U.S. Department of Energy estimates power outages are costing American businesses around $150 billion per year. That's a lot of money that could be reinvested back into the economy. The truth is, having a resilient power source not only saves money but also maintains the critical resources our country needs to be safe and secure.

The report dives into the emerging technology of advanced SMRS and their ability to flexibly provide carbon-free power in response to outages caused by severe weather and physical threats to the grid.

The report uses as a case study the small modular reactor (SMR) project currently being developed by the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Given the project's location near the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, this SMR project could be configured to provide a unique energy resilience benefit to DOE. The report explores potential contracting methods and costs associated with DOE obtaining this resilience benefit. Additionally, the report offers recommendations to advance the deployment of SMRs.

There are a number of benefits to SMRs, ranging from increased safety features that passively cool reactor cores without the need for operator action to better financing options thanks to quicker construction times, less components and smaller sizes.

According to the report, U.S. military and other national defense facilities, such as DOE's national laboratories, are prioritizing backup power sources to maintain operations.

SMRs, coupled with transmission upgrades, can also help meet these resiliency needs in a number a ways:

Fuel Security

SMRs can easily store up to two years' worth of fuel on-site, allowing them to maintain power during and after extreme weather events or other threats to the grid.

Flexibility

Certain designs, like DOE-supported NuScale Power, LLC, can vary their energy output over days, hours and even minutes. This allows SMRs to respond quickly to a grid outage and adjust to changing load demands.

SMRs can also start up from a completely de-energized state without receiving energy from the grid. This can help the grid meet system requirements in terms of voltage, frequency and other attributes when recovering from an outage.

Security

In-ground construction of SMRs make them less vulnerable to extreme weather events and other physical attacks on the grid. They also use minimal electrical parts that reduce vulnerability to electromagnetic pulses.

Independent Operation

SMRs can operate connected to the grid or independently, allowing them to power a campus facility in the event of grid failure.

Improving Resiliency at Oak Ridge National Laboratory

The report looks specifically at how SMRs operated by the Tennessee Valley Authority could help meet the resiliency needs at Oak Ridge National Laboratory—DOE's largest consumer of electricity.

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Legislative Update

President Trump Gives First State of the Union Address

President Trump delivered his first State of the Union address on January 30, in which he requested new infrastructure spending from Congress and modernization of the nuclear arsenal. He called on Congress to develop a bill that contains least $1.5 trillion for infrastructure investments, including measures that would seek funding partnerships with state and local governments and the private sector. Additionally, he requested that the infrastructure bill include ways to "streamline the permitting and approval process—getting it down to no more than two years, and perhaps even one."

Regarding nuclear weapons, President Trump stated, "As part of our defense, we must modernize and rebuild our nuclear arsenal, hopefully never having to use it, but making it so strong and powerful that it will deter any acts of aggression." The administration is expected to release the Nuclear Posture Review, which includes detailed plans for nuclear weapons modernization, on Friday, February 2.

Government Reopens after Shutdown—DOE Continued to Work

Now operating under the fourth continuing resolution (CR) passed since the turn of the 2018 fiscal year on October 1, 2017, Congress is back to work after its first government shutdown since 2013.

On the eve of the shutdown, DOE announced that it would stay open if a shutdown occurred. A DOE spokesman explained that the agency is funded through multi-year appropriations and had enough funds to stay open during a brief shutdown. DOE's shutdown guidance can be viewed here.

On Monday, January 22, the Senate reached an agreement on a three-week CR, which reopened the government after a three-day shutdown and extended current funding levels through February 8. The Senate passed the short-term spending bill on an 81-18 vote; the House later approved the bill on a 266-150 vote. The agreement to reopen the government included a commitment to Senate Democrats by Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) to discuss comprehensive immigration legislation, which will likely influence the outcome of the next shutdown standoff on February 8.

White House to Release FY2019 Budget Request

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has announced plans to release its budget blueprint on February 12 at the earliest. The budget proposal was expected to be released in early February, but OMB cited the recent government shutdown as a reason for the slight delay in its release.

According to an OMB spokesperson, "Preparing for and then implementing the recent lapse in appropriations meant that both OMB and agency staff lost several work days during an especially critical part of the budget production process."

House Hearing on 'DOE Modernization'

On January 9, the House Subcommittee on Energy held the first hearing in its "DOE Modernization" series. The series will examine necessary resources and measures to ensure that DOE can fulfill its national, economic, and energy security missions. Witnesses providing testimony included DOE Deputy Secretary Dan Brouillette, Under Secretary of Energy Mark Menezes, Under Secretary for Science Paul Dabbar, former NNSA Administrator Frank Klotz, and Dr. Thomas Zacharia, Director of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

In his testimony, Deputy Secretary Brouillette addressed the obligations of legacy management and nuclear waste as part of the Administration's modernization initiatives. Specifically, he highlighted progress such as all 20 tons of plutonium being shipped out of Hanford. Brouillette also outlined goals for 2018, which included increasing shipments of TRU waste to WIPP, initiating construction of the Oak Ridge Mercury

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FY 2018 Appropriations Highlights*

(amounts in thousands of dollars)

	FY 2017 Enacted	FY 2018 Request	FY2018 House Bill (H.R. 3354)	FY2018 Senate Bill (S. 1609)
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY	**30,746,009**	**28,041,597**	**29,888,401**	**31,463,626**
Environmental Management	**6,420,000**	**6,508,335**	**6,395,400**	**6,633,968**
Defense Environmental Cleanup	5,405,000	5,537,186	5,405,000	5,579,968
Hanford/ Richland	839,760	716,192	837,553	826,192
Office of River Protection	1,499,965	1,504,311	1,518,311	1,590,000
Idaho National Laboratory	382,088	350,226	382,071	350,226
Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory	1,396	1,175	31,175	1,175
Separations Process Research Unit	3,685	1,800	1,800	1,800
Nevada NNSA Sites	62,176	60,136	60,136	60,136
Sandia National Laboratory	4,130	2,600	2,600	2,600
Los Alamos National Laboratory	194,000	191,629	194,000	217,529
Oak Ridge Reservation	263,219	207,600	283,721	275,219
Savannah River Site	1,233,429	1,282,467	1,397,694	1,260,000
Waste Isolation Pilot Plant	292,720	316,571	323,041	300,971
Non-Defense Environmental Cleanup	247,000	218,400	222,400	266,000
West Valley Demonstration Project	66,413	60,585	64,585	75,000
Gaseous Diffusion Plants	101,304	100,575	100,575	101,304
Uranium Enrichment Decontamination & Decommissioning Fund	768,000	752,749	768,000	788,000
Oak Ridge	194,673	145,726	158,018	194,673
Paducah	205,530	202,958	202,958	205,530
Portsmouth	315,168	351,271	351,271	351,271
Legacy Management	**154,320**	**154,606**	**154,606**	**154,606**
National Nuclear Security Administration	**12,938,252**	**13,931,000**	**13,914,400**	**13,685,032**
Weapons Activities	9,245,567	10,239,344	10,239,344	10,000,071
Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation	1,882,872	1,793,310	1,776,461	1,852,310
Naval Reactors	1,419,813	1,479,751	1,486,000	1,436,651
Nuclear Energy	**1,016,616**	**703,000**	**969,000**	**917,020**
Yucca Mountain and Interim Storage	**---**	**120,000**	**120,000**	**---**
Nuclear Waste Disposal	---	90,000	90,000	---
Defense Nuclear Waste Disposal	---	30,000	30,000	---
INDEPENDENT AGENCIES				
Nuclear Regulatory Commission	**112,505**	**138,000**	**161,612**	**108,525**
Yucca Mountain Licensing	---	30,000	30,000	---

*Note: These figures are compiled from different sources: the Office of Management and Budget, the Congressional Appropriations committee reports, and press releases. There are some discrepancies in how each calculates government spending.

(Continued from page 3)

Legislative Update

Treatment Facility, and decommissioning facilities at Portsmouth and Paducah.

Furthermore, Brouillette touted nuclear energy as a significant feature in President Trump's America First Energy Plan, saying, "As the most reliable and resilient source of clean electricity, nuclear energy contributes uniquely to our energy portfolio." To maintain and modernize the nuclear fleet, he stated that DOE will continue to pursue public-private partnerships and invest in advanced reactor technologies, including small modular reactors. Under Secretary Menezes echoed the sentiment, emphasizing that partnerships with national laboratories and small modular reactors will provide a more resilient energy infrastructure.

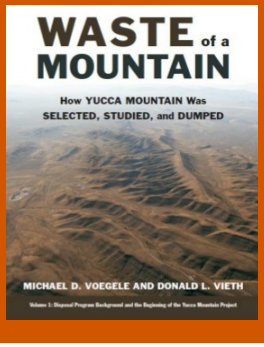
Former NNSA Administrator Klotz addressed NNSA's aging infrastructure and improving the "project management and conduct of operations by our contractors who manage and operate our sites." Director of Oak Ridge National Laboratory Thomas Zacharia added, "…the M&O contracting environment has increasingly become one in which contractors are subjected to increasing oversight, duplicative and burdensome regulations, and greater liability, while having less authority and autonomy."

House Hearing on DOE Management and Priorities

The House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology held a hearing on DOE Management and Priorities on January 30. Undersecretaries Dabbar and Menezes both testified at the hearing, which was chartered to examine the recent DOE management reorganization and its impact on "civilian research, development, demonstration, and commercial applications programs at the Department." The hearing also examined the Administration's goals and future funding priorities for DOE.

During the hearing, Representative Neal Dunn (R-FL) asked Menezes what needs to happen to accelerate the development of next-generation advanced reactors such as high-temperature or fast reactors. Menezes replied that DOE has currently prioritized small modular reactors (SMRs) and micro-reactors. He noted that it is a matter of working with the Administration and Congress to get the right level of funding and resources to prioritize other nuclear reactor technologies, but that the national labs are "ready to go on it."

Representative Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR) asked Dabbar if the recent DOE management reorganization—which placed the Offices of Science and Environmental Management (EM) under Dabbar's purview—would have an affect on his ability to balance the large portfolio and give each office the necessary attention they require. Dabbar responded that there are overlaps in the nature of responsibilities between Science and EM—both focus heavily on technology development and project management. "Science has a lot of technologies that can be applied to EM, and we plan to merge those two together," said Dabbar.



Yucca Mountain proponents and opponents are preparing for a fresh fight in the 115th Congress, but the politics of today are still greatly colored by the long history of the proposed repository. The book, *Waste of a Mountain*, tells the story of the 70-year-long effort to dispose of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste at Yucca Mountain. The book, written by Michael Voegele and Donald Vieth, details the history of government action in the effort to locate and develop a site for the permanent disposition of the waste. The book is available on the Pahrump Valley Museum's website **here**.

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US Department of Energy Publishes Report

The lab plays an important role in national security by maintaining nuclear material stockpiles. It's also home to some of the most powerful supercomputers in the world that require a continuous supply of energy to safeguard analytical results and the machines.

The report, conducted by Kutak Rock and Scully Capital for DOE's Office of Nuclear Energy, builds on a January 2017 report that provides guidance for federal agencies on purchasing SMR-generated power. It also lists a set of recommendations that include utilizing SMRs on-site for future research and the production of medical isotopes.

DOE Nominees Moving Through the Senate

On January 30, the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources advanced by voice vote the nominations of Anne White to be DOE Assistant Secretary of Energy for Environmental Management (EM-1), and Melissa Burnison to be Assistant Secretary of Energy for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs.

White and Burnison's nominations now head to the Senate floor for a final vote and confirmation.

This news comes after reports that both White and Burnison's nominations faced hurtles in a contentious Senate environment.

During a hearing held on January 18 to consider the nominations, Committee Chairwoman Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) noted that it was unusual for the Committee to even be holding a confirmation hearing for the nominee for Burnison. Typically, the head of DOE Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs considered a privileged nomination and—barring objection—goes straight onto the executive calendar for Senate floor consideration. However, Burnison's nomination did receive an objection, though Murkowski noted that it was unrelated to Burnison's qualifications for the role and, rather, a symptom of what has been "a tough environment in the Senate to confirm even the least controversial and most well-qualified nominees."

Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) reportedly placed the procedural hurdle on Burnison's nomination in an attempt to have DOE submit documents to Congress related to an "action plan" to help struggling coal plants stay afloat.

White's nomination for the EM-1 position also encountered an obstacle. It was reported that a hold had been placed on her nomination by Senator John Barrasso (R-WY) until DOE commits to ending its process of re-selling excess uranium stores on the open market. Barrasso says the practice hurts his state's uranium mining industry.

"You were unable to give me a firm commitment to immediately halt these barters, something that [Secretary] Perry has told me he wants to do. So for this reason, I am unable to support a confirmation at this time and withhold the confirmation until the department ends its practice of bartering excess uranium," Barrasso told White during the hearing.

ECA supports White and Burnison's nominations and look forward to working with them should their nominations be confirmed by the full Senate.

ECA also looks forward to the confirmation hearing of the DOE Under Secretary for Nuclear Security NNSA Administrator nominee Lisa Gordon-Hagerty, and will update readers when a hearing is scheduled.

ECA is pleased to announce the…

2018 ECA Annual Conference

April 12, 2018
The Liaison Capitol Hill Hotel
415 New Jersey Ave., NW; Washington, DC 20001

(There will be an ECA Board Meeting on April 11, 2018 at 1:00pm at ECA Headquarters)

This meeting will focus on the DOE Offices of Environmental Management, Nuclear Energy, and the National Nuclear Security Administration. Meeting attendees will have the unique opportunity to hear from DOE officials, key Members of Congress and Congressional staff, and other DC insiders.

Registration

To register, visit here. Registration is open until Friday, April 6, 2018. General Admission is $550.00.

Reception

All meeting registrants are welcome to join the ECA for a rooftop reception the evening of Wednesday, April 11, 2018 at 5:00-6:30pm EST at 1625 Eye Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006.

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ECA Continues to Push for Identification of Safe, Alternative Disposition Paths for Defense Nuclear Waste

Washington, as well as representatives from multiple attorneys' general offices to better understand the challenges and opportunities from their perspectives.

In addition, officials from EM and DOE's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs participated in the discussions, as did multiple contractors, Waste Control Specialists and Eddy-Lea Energy Alliance.

Many issues were discussed as ECA waits for DOE to release a revision to Order 435.1 and better understand the education and outreach needed across the complex in order to support it. Meeting topics addressed by more than 50 participants included:

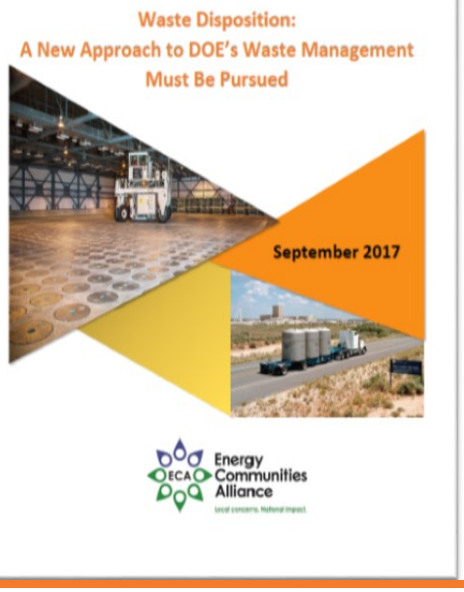
- Ensuring the state oversight roll;
- Applying lessons learned from the past such as the waste incidental to reprocessing evaluations and determinations; and
- Understanding the changes necessary to expand the mission at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant.

ECA Members pictured in front of Sedan Crater at the Nevada Nuclear Security Site on January 17, 2018.

The meeting also included a full-day tour of the Nevada National Security Site.

A key action items identified during the meeting is the need to better understand EM's roadmap, i.e. what waste exists, where it is, and what its disposal pathway is. In addition, meeting participants continued conversations about legislation that could codify any changes DOE makes under the current administration. ECA anticipates hosting future discussions in order to develop an approach and business case for new disposition paths and increasing the stakeholder groups represented.

If you have any questions about the meeting, please contact Kara Colton at kara.colton@energyca.org.



Read ECA's report on Waste Disposition here

ECA Identifies Areas of Improvement at Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board

On January 5, ECA sent a **letter** to members of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) urging the preservation of the Board as a critical independent, non-duplicative body. The letter also called for improvements in communication between the Board and local communities.

DNFSB Chairman Sean Sullivan wrote a letter to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Director Mick Mulvaney in June, proposing the elimination of the DNFSB. In November, ECA sent a letter to Chairman Sullivan opposing the proposal, reiterating the critical need for an independent review board exists separate and apart from DOE. The letter noted that DNFSB is often viewed as the only semi-regulator of DOE and NNSA activities, which adds needed trust to communities with high hazard and nuclear operations nearby.

ECA's January letter to DNFSB follows up on the previously raised concerns and asked whether the board is changing its policies and oversight as a result of the Chairman's proposal to OMB. ECA also included four recommendations to discuss during a requested meeting: 1) DNFSB should work with DOE/NNSA to develop solutions to problems identified in its reports; 2) DNFSB must communicate with the communities impacted by its reports and decisions; 3) DNFSB should understand and add a cost benefit analysis to its recommendations; and 4) DNFSB staff and members should recuse themselves where there is an impression of bias or opposition to a project.

DNFSB **replied** to ECA's letter with an invitation to meet with the Board. ECA plans to request a meeting with the Board in coordination with the ECA Annual Conference in April. ECA staff will continue to provide updates on our conversations with DNFSB on the areas of improvement highlighted in the January letter.

NRC Approves Key Safety Aspect of NuScale SMR Design

On January 9, NuScale Power announced that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has concluded that the "applications of NuScale Power's novel safety design approach eliminates the need for Class 1E power."

In layman's terms, this means the NRC is satisfied that NuScale's small modular reactor (SMR) design can operate safely without the need for safety-related electrical systems. Rather, the SMR design uses passive safety features, such as relying on convection, not pumps, to circulate a coolant in the primary circuit.

According to *World Nuclear News*, Class 1E is the "regulatory standard set for the design of safety-related nuclear power plant electrical systems. Such electrical equipment and systems are classed as essential to emergency reactor shutdown, containment isolation, reactor core cooling, and containment and reactor heat removal, or otherwise are essential in preventing a significant release of radioactive material to the environment. Currently, all nuclear power plants in the USA are required to have class 1E power supplies to ensure safety."

In December 2016, NuScale submitted the first-ever SMR Design Certification Application (DCA) to the NRC. The NCR formally accepted the DCA on March 15, 2017. Review of the DCA by the NRC is expected to be completed by September 2020.

The first commercial NuScale power plant is planned for construction on the site of the Idaho National Laboratory for Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems (UAMPS).

U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board Releases Report to Congress on Spent Nuclear Fuel

In December 2017, the U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board published a report to Congress and the Secretary of Energy, titled *Management and Disposal of U.S. Department of Energy Spent Nuclear Fuel*. In the report, the Board reviewed DOE's activities related to the management of spent nuclear fuel (SNF) at the Hanford Site, Idaho National Laboratory, Savannah River Site, and Fort St. Vrain, representing "approximately 99% by mass of the total quantity of DOE SNF." The report concludes that a deep geologic repository for high-level radioactive waste remains the "ultimate objective" for DOE, and examines methods of managing SNF in a way that will not hinder eventual disposal.

After examining quantities and characteristics of SNF and packaging and storage activities at each of the four sites, the Board provided six recommendations. Among the six, the Board recommended that DOE develop and implement programs to manage degradation of SNF, including the capability to measure and monitor conditions of SNF in new DOE storage systems, and that DOE conduct engage in research and development to ensure that cumulative conditions inside canisters do not occur. The Board also recommended that DOE complete research and licensing-related activities for canisters before completing the packaging facility for SNF at Idaho National Laboratory. Finally, the Board recommended that The Office of Nuclear Energy (NE) implement the Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management waste acceptance system requirements, and that DOE prioritize research related to disposing of SNF in "each of the potential host-rock environments."

A synopsis of the report can be found here.

Nuclear Posture Review Expected in February

Pentagon spokeswoman Dana White announced that the Trump administration's Nuclear Posture Review (NPR) will be released in early February. According to the Pentagon, the NPR will focus on supporting the nuclear triad consisting of air, sea, and land-based nuclear weapons. A draft of the review leaked in January.

The draft contained a section regarding nuclear weapons infrastructure, which raised concerns about NNSA's aging infrastructure. The document noted, "Over half of NNSA's infrastructure is over 40 years old, and a quarter dates back to the Manhattan Project era. All previous NPRs highlighted the need to maintain a modern nuclear weapons infrastructure, but the United States has fallen short in sustaining a modern infrastructure that is resilient and has the capacity to respond to unforeseen developments."

The draft also stated that previous administrations have underfunded NNSA, and "significant and sustained investments will be required over the coming decade to ensure that NNSA will be able to deliver the nuclear weapons at the needed rate to support nuclear deterrence in the 2030s and beyond." The NPR outlined several measures to address the capability, capacity, and responsiveness of the nuclear weapons infrastructure, including fully funding the Uranium Processing Facility, producing no fewer than 80 plutonium pits per year by 2030, and pursuing the Stockpile Responsiveness Program established by Congress. Additionally, the NPR called for a joint DOD and DOE advanced-technology development capability.

White did not comment on any major differences between the leaked draft and the final version of the NPR. However, Vice Chairman of the Joint chiefs Gen. Paul Selva issued a statement to clarify misinterpretations about the use of nuclear weapons in response to a cyber-attack in the leaked draft. He claimed that some of the initial media reports regarding the NPR incorrectly implied that

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Nuclear Posture Review Expected in February

the United States was lowering its threshold for a response to an attack on American infrastructure.

Gen. Selva clarified the reports by arguing that the NPR is largely consistent with the U.S.'s nuclear policy for the last 70 years, but the new report added a sentence to make the broader policy less ambiguous. The added sentence explains the U.S. may respond to non-nuclear attacks on Americans or command and control systems. "If the attack has strategic consequence, if it kills a lot of people, if it interrupts our nuclear command and control and indications and warning systems -- these are all hypotheticals -- we … reserve the right to respond. Which is precisely what we said in [the] 2010 [NPR]. All we did is add one sentence [for clarity]," he said.

Los Alamos County Hears Update on Small Modular Reactor Project

On January 25, the Los Alamos County, NM Council and the Board of Public Utilities met with officials from the Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems (UAMPS) and NuScale Power to discuss the County's involvement in a new nuclear power project.

The project, dubbed UAMPS' Carbon Free Power Project is to build twelve 50-megawatt small modular reactors (SMRs) designed by NuScale Power at the Idaho National Laboratory. Once constructed, the County would purchase power from the project. UAMPS hopes to have the reactors online by 2025.

According to the *Los Alamos Monitor*, the County has until April 1 to decide whether to invest $500,000 to $3 million into the small-scale nuclear project.

UAMPS is asking the County for an initial investment of $500,000 to reserve a spot as the project is designed, developed and built. Los Alamos County is to be one of 34 customers UAMPS needs to fully fund the project. County officials plan to have more public meetings before a final decision is made.

"The decision to sign the [contract] gives the member the ability to preserve the option to participate in this project if further development demonstrates the prudence of doing so." Stated a UAMPS memo. "In the immediate development term, the first $6 million of additional development costs will be subject to 100 percent reimbursement. The $6 million will be shared by all members of UAMPS.

From left: Steve Cummins, deputy utility manager of power production with Los Alamos Department of Public Utilities, Mason Baker, chief legal officer and general counsel of the Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems, and Christopher Colbert, the chief strategy officer from NuScale Power, discuss the small-scale nuclear power project with Los Alamos County Council and the Board of Public Utilities.

Daughters of HANFORD

Check out Daughters of Hanford, a project that highlights women's perspectives of the Hanford nuclear site. The project offers a cross-section of politicians, leaders, and environmental cleanup advocates - all women who were part of history and the future talent putting their minds on the nuclear site's toughest problems. More information **here**.

NATIONAL CLEANUP WORKSHOP

September 11-13, 2018

Hilton Alexandria Mark Center, Alexandria, VA

Presented by

Energy Communities Alliance

FCOG Energy Facility Contractors Group

The 2018 National Cleanup Workshop will bring together senior DOE executives and site officials, industry executives, and other stakeholders to discuss EM's progress on the cleanup of the environmental legacy of the nation's Manhattan Project and Cold War nuclear weapons program.

Interesting in becoming a sponsor?
Contact Robin Frei, **rfrei@la-inc.com** or (301) 233-3892

www.CleanupWorkshop.com

SRS Management, Operations Contractor Receives 'Excellent' Rating

Originally published in the EM Update, Volume 10, Issue 4, on January 30, 2018

The Savannah River Site (SRS) management and operations (M&O) contractor earned an "excellent" rating and nearly $25 million — or 94 percent — of the available award fee for EM work performed from Oct. 1, 2016 through Sept. 30, 2017, according to a recently released scorecard.

"Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS) displayed growth and improvement in fiscal year 2017," said DOE-Savannah River Associate Deputy Manager Thomas Johnson, who challenged the company to "continue developing innovative technologies and performing unique operations in a safe and compliant manner."

Each year EM releases information relating to contractor fee payments — earned by completing the work called for in the contracts — to further Following are SRNS accomplishments for EM during this period:

- Maintained operations of facilities and executed work safely, with illness and injury rates well below EM established goals. The SRNS total recordable injury case rate was 0.25, compared to the 1.10 goal, and the rate for SRNS days away from work was 0.04, compared to the 0.60 goal.
- Partnered with local colleges and universities to fill many vacancies with recent graduates from programs tailored to long-term site needs, increasing the efficiency of the hiring process; and
- Outpaced goals to subcontract with small businesses, including targets for all socio-economic categories, such as women-owned and service disabled veteran owned companies.

SRNS President and CEO Stuart MacVean said the scorecard is a great reflection of the quality, innovation, and dedication of the company's workforce.

"We are pleased EM considered our performance to be 'excellent' and recognized our growth and improvement during fiscal year 2017," MacVean said.

"We are especially proud of the recognition that SRNS successfully executed ongoing operations safely while displaying a strong safety culture."

DOE-Savannah River noted areas needing improvement:

- Less than adequate planning and control implementation for asbestos work;
- Increased technical safety requirement violations and four environmental notices of violations; and
- Three significant conduct-of-operations events in the nuclear materials stabilization area.

Voices of the Manhattan Project, a joint development by the Atomic Heritage Foundation and the Los Alamos Historical Society, is publishing Manhattan Project oral histories. Check them out at www.manhattanprojectvoices.org.

Oak Ridge EM Clears Way for ETTP Economic Development

Originally published in the EM Update, Volume 10, Issue 4, on January 30, 2018

A longstanding cleanup goal is now within view at the East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP). Advances by the Oak Ridge Office of Environmental Management (OREM) are transforming the former Manhattan Project and Cold War uranium enrichment complex into a private-sector industrial park to benefit the community.

OREM and its contractor URS | CH2M Oak Ridge (UCOR) are working together to remove old, contaminated structures, clean the soil and water, and enable the transfer of land and infrastructure for reuse and development. Through these efforts, the goal to complete major cleanup at ETTP by 2020 is becoming a reality.

"It's very exciting to witness our vision being realized at ETTP," OREM Manager Jay Mullis said. "Getting here required an incredible amount of planning and hard work from our employees. While we are still working toward our ultimate goal for the site, our progress is already visible, and it is enhancing safety and creating new economic opportunities for the region."

So far, Oak Ridge's cleanup program has torn down more than 400 facilities that once supported 40 years of uranium enrichment activities, and the list of demolished facilities grows almost monthly. By 2020, workers will have taken down more than 500 facilities with a footprint spanning 113 football fields.

Oak Ridge became the first site in the world to successfully remove all of its massive gaseous diffusion buildings. The land these buildings occupied is now available for major industrial development and historic preservation. So far, more than 1,000 acres have been transferred and an additional 800 acres are ready for transfer.

OREM has also transferred 14 buildings, emergency services, rail lines, and most of the domestic water supply and sanitary sewer infrastructure, and it completed modifications to most electrical infrastructure, allowing it to be transferred.

Visitors who return to the site are amazed at the transformation. Through these changes, companies are seeing significant signs of potential at the site, and they are investing in its future.

The Oak Ridge Office of Environmental Management transferred almost 200 acres to the community for redevelopment. The area was once occupied by the massive K-31 and K-33 gaseous diffusion uranium enrichment buildings. It is the largest land transfer at the East Tennessee Technology Park to date.

LeMond Composites recently located in the area with plans to begin carbon fiber production this year. Locally-owned MCLinc is renewing its commitment with the construction of a new 30,000 -square-foot laboratory facility. UniTech Services Group funded the refurbishment of ETTP's barge area to receive and transport shipments using local river systems, adding to the site's existing offerings and infrastructure.

This year, the stage is set for even more. OREM is scheduled to finish demolition of many of ETTP's remaining structures, including buildings that once supported uranium enrichment operations (Poplar Creek Facilities), a waste incinerator facility (Toxic Substances Control Act Incinerator), and former water treatment facilities (Central Neutralization Facility). The program will also complete the removal of approximately 30,000 feet of tie lines, the pipes that once transported enriched uranium between the site's facilities.

OREM is also beginning construction on the K-25 History Center early this year adjacent to the slab of the former K-25 building, which is now part of the Manhattan Project National Historical Park. This project fulfills one of the program's major historic preservation commitments, and it creates a national attraction to share the site's Manhattan Project and Cold War achievements with visitors.

The cleanup program will continue to build on 2017's progress this year and maintain its path toward completing major cleanup in 2020.

Roll Call 2018 Congressional Calendar

Both chambers in session
Senate only in session

January

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
	1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 MLK Day	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 State of the Union	31			

February

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 Presidents Day	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

March

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 Good Fri. Passover (begins)	31

April

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
1 Easter Sunday	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Orthodox Easter	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

May

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Mother's Day	14	15	16 Ramadan (begins)	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 Memorial Day	29 Vesak	30	31		

June

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 Eid al-Fitr	16
17 Father's Day	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

July

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
1	2	3	4 Indepen-dence Day	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

August

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 Eid al-Adha	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

September

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
						1
2	3 Labor Day	4	5	6	7	8
9 Rosh Hashana (begins)	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 Yom Kippur (begins)	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

October

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
	1 FY '19 (begins)	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 Columbus Day	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

November

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
				1	2	3
4	5	6 Election Day	7 Diwali	8	9	10
11	12 Veterans' Day (observed)	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 Thanks-giving Day	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

December

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
						1
2 Hanukkah (begins)	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28	29
30	31					

2018 Upcoming Events

February 8	Current Continuing Resolution ends
February 12	White House to release FY2019 Budget Request *(likely)*
February 20-22	**2018 Nuclear Deterrence Summit**; visit www.deterrencesummit.com for more information.
March 18-22	**2018 Waste Management Symposia**; visit www.wmsym.org for more information.
April 11	**ECA Board of Directors Meeting** (for ECA members only); contact meganc@energyca.org with questions.
April 12	 **2018 ECA Annual Conference** The Liaison Capitol Hill Hotel 415 New Jersey Ave., NW Washington, DC 20001 **Register here; See page 7 for details**
September 11-13	**2018 National Cleanup Workshop**; See page 12 and visit www.cleanupworkshop.com for more information.

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