U.S. Department of Energy

PROGRAM UPDATE

July-September 2022

Team Goes Above and Beyond to Complete Amchitka Island Projects

LM Outreach: Connecting with Partners and People

Saddling Up for Success: Site Visits in Washington State

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Connecting with Partners, People at Heart of LM Mission

When it comes to environmental stewardship, the obvious objective is to protect human health and the environment, as indicated by the top goal of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Legacy Management (LM).

LM also has a wide array of work scope beyond our primary responsibility. LM's other five goals are to preserve, protect, and share records and information; safeguard former contractor workers' retirement benefits; sustainably manage and optimize the use of land and assets; sustain management excellence; and engage the public, governments, and interested parties.

Although some of the best scientists, engineers, and professionals in the world go about LM's work every day, it is paramount that the strategies to execute these goals are discussed with our partners and stakeholders, and the result has been collaborative approaches that make us all better.

Communication and cooperation are not just things we do in the shadows of our post-closure responsibilities at LM's 101 sites. That is why we list engagement as one of the tenets of the LM mission, to make it clear that we should not — and will not — perform our work in a vacuum.

The outreach performed by LM takes on many forms, all with one common thread — to connect with partners and people to raise awareness of LM's work and invite communication from those outside our organization who can assist us in accomplishing mutually beneficial milestones.

In this edition of Program Update, there are many examples of LM's outreach efforts. These are just a sample of the engagement we routinely have with those who have vested interests in the work LM performs.

Our outreach can be a STEM with LM event, where students are educated about the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. This program not only highlights those fields, but shows how they impact the world around us.

Our outreach can be our internship program, where LM works with young professionals to build the workforce of tomorrow. Our partnerships with academic institutions simultaneously opens doors for young people while ensuring our institutional knowledge is passed down to the next generation.

Our outreach can be information-sharing efforts with our partners. An example of that was a recent tour of abandoned uranium mines in the Navajo Nation that illustrated how mines have been successfully reclaimed and safeguarded. That tour occurred between representatives of LM's Defense-Related Uranium Mines (DRUM) program and representatives of the Navajo Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation (AML)/Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action (UMTRA) Department). Exchanges like that allow us to share lessons learned and determine future strategies for the protection of human health and the environment.

Our outreach can be our work associated with DOE Environmental Justice. Environmental justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people, regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

There are, of course, many other examples of LM's outreach, which is designed to share information, listen to feedback, and establish meaningful relationships, among other attributes.

It is a cliché to say that our doors are always open. But they are, and more importantly, we encourage our partners and the public to walk right in because it is LM's belief that engagement is central to the success we all aim to achieve.

Warm Regards,

Carmelo

Carmelo Melendez

Welcome to the July-September 2022 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 within LM. Please direct all comments and inquiries to ***LM-ProgramUpdate@lm.doe.gov***.

LM Goals

Goal 1
Protect human health and the environment.

Goal 2
Preserve, protect, and share records and information.

Goal 3
Safeguard former contractor workers' retirement benefits.

Goal 4
Sustainably manage and optimize the use of land and assets.

Goal 5
Sustain management excellence.

Goal 6
Engage the public, governments, and interested parties.

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Saddling Up for Success: Site Visits in Washington State

GOAL 6

Wild horses couldn't keep LM's team from an unforgettable site visit in the Pacific Northwest

On what had been a gloomy morning, the clouds began to part over the rolling hills of an Eastern Washington valley. A deep rumbling intensified in the distance, and if not for the clearing skies, the group of explorers traversing the landscape could have mistaken it for thunder. When they turned expecting lightning, they witnessed a different force of nature — like a scene from a Western movie, no fewer than 20 wild horses tore out from the hills, roaring past and leaving the awestruck observers' jaws dropped.

For the members of the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management team visiting LM's Sherwood disposal site that day in early May, seeing horses in the wild had a deeper meaning. LM is the organization responsible for long-term stewardship of former nuclear sites that supported the nation's defense during the Cold War. On the land LM oversees, thriving flora and fauna are a sign of success. Wild horses are an even bigger endorsement.

"We may have grown accustomed to a virtual world over the last few years, but there is no substitute for visiting our sites and seeing firsthand the impacts of our work on nature and communities," said LM Education, Communication, History, and Outreach supervisor David Von Behren.

The band of horses was headed to a nearby watering hole during a site tour led by LM Site Manager Ken Kreie. He was accompanied by several colleagues from LM including Program Office Director Carmelo Melendez, Von Behren, and two members of the Spokane Tribe.

"It was the right time in the right place with the right people," Kreie said.

Watching the horses seek relief from the sun in the naturally forming pond — one they share with other animals — and finding shade underneath the Ponderosa pines, it was hard to imagine that a uranium mill tailings site once occupied the same land.

Kreie emphasized the key role that the Spokane Tribe has played in the remediation of LM's Sherwood site – attending site inspections and sampling events and keeping LM attuned to fire restrictions and hunting seasons, for example. "Over the last few years, we've been able to cultivate a mutual relationship built on trust and the sharing of knowledge," Kreie said.

"We're responsible for the land, but the Spokane people actually live with it," Kreie said. "That's why we keep an open-door policy – notifying the tribe of any site visits or inspections. Communication is the most important part of the relationship."

The group toured LM's Sherwood disposal site to assess progress on issues such as erosion, fire management, and long-term collaboration with the Spokane Tribe. They also visited the Ford site in Washington, which will come under LM's purview in about four years.

"The Spokane Tribe is already involved in conversations about the Ford site," Kreie said, particularly given its position along Chamokane Creek, a sacred body of water for the tribe.

"Observing how the environment has healed at the Sherwood site was awe-inspiring, and it set an optimistic tone for the work we are planning at the Ford site," he said.

"A great deal of preparation goes into handover preparation," Von Behren said, and the Ford site is just one of 20 that LM will inherit in the next five years.

The LM team's visit to the Ford site included meetings with the Washington State Environmental Health Association staff and Dawn Mining Company staff to discuss the issues the organization might face when it takes over the Ford site. "We consult with government organizations, county officials, tribes and other stakeholders to identify things like appropriate cleanup levels, risk tolerance, and our topline goals for the site," Kreie said.

The trip to Eastern Washington demonstrated that LM's stewardship work begins long before it takes over a site and does not stop once the land has been proven safe. "From the time we are introduced to a site we will handle to when that site can support thriving plant and animal populations, and even long after LM is there – planning, monitoring, and building relationships," Melendez said. ❖

LM Receives Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) Purchaser Award

Global Electronics Council awarded LM with sixth consecutive win for excellence in sustainable procurement of electronic equipment

The Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) Purchaser Award recognizes organizations for excellence in sustainable procurement of electronic equipment. EPEAT is a method for purchasers to evaluate a product's effect on the environment, rate it accordingly, and identify it as preferable electronic goods.

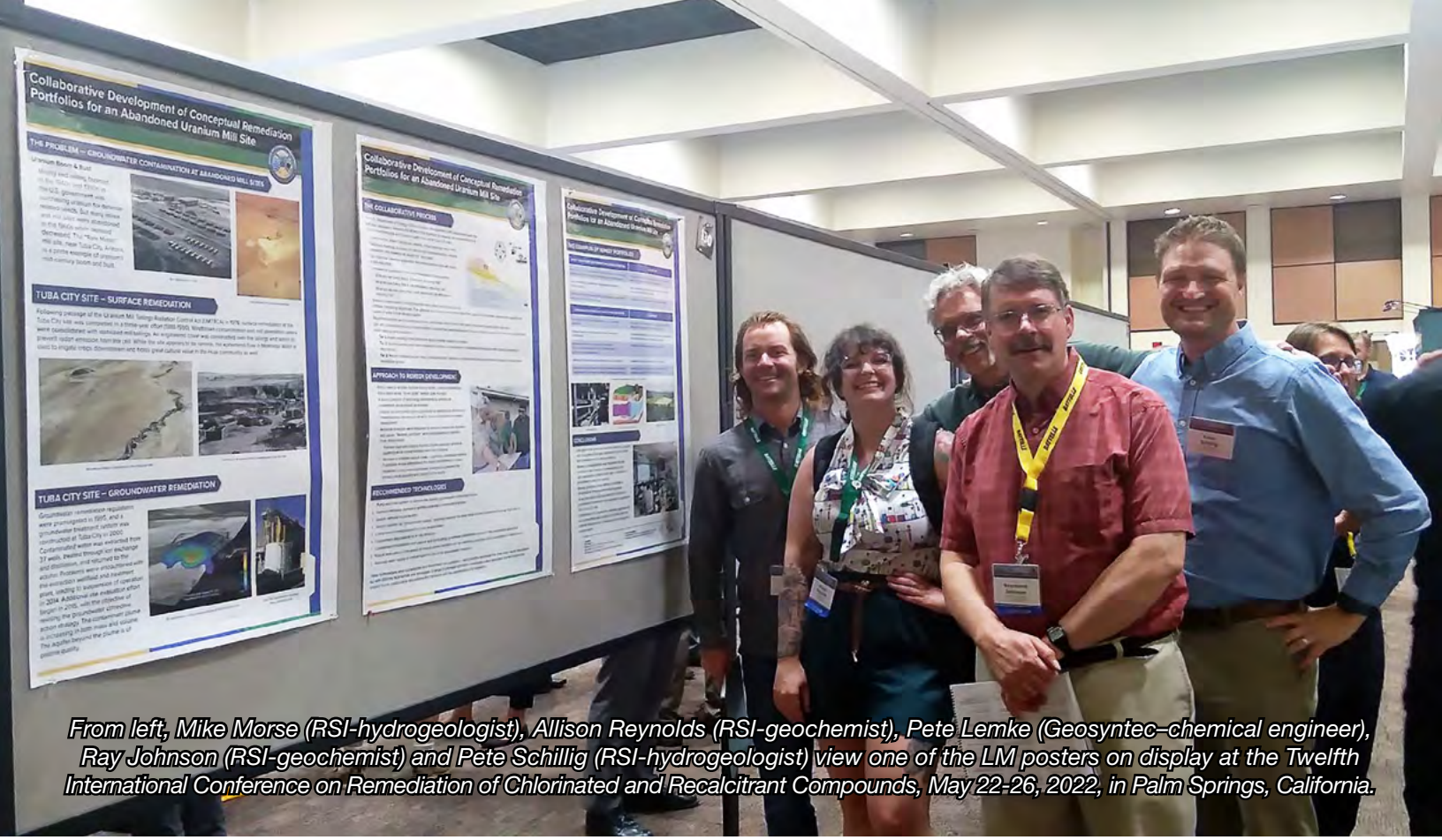
The Global Electronics Council (GEC) awarded the Office of Legacy Management (LM) with the EPEAT award in a virtual ceremony on July 28. LM IT Specialist Kyle Brown accepted the award on LM's behalf.

Manufacturers register products in the EPEAT category based on the device's ability to meet certain criteria, from product lifestyle to design, energy production, and recycling. LM received the award for making purchases within these three EPEAT categories: Computers and Displays, Imaging Equipment, and Televisions.

"Department of Energy, Office of Legacy Management would like to thank the Global Electronics Council for this EPEAT award," Brown said. "We are proud to be involved in advancing the sustainable procurement of environmentally friendly technologies as it gives support in the reduction of carbon emissions, savings of natural resources, and many more benefits."

This is the sixth consecutive EPEAT win for LM, which successfully implemented a policy for procurement of electronic equipment requiring all equipment achieve a bronze status or higher in the EPEAT system.

"The Office of Legacy Management continues to improve our sustainable procurement program to further promote positive environmental impacts through our work," Brown said.



From left, Mike Morse (RSI-hydrogeologist), Allison Reynolds (RSI-geochemist), Pete Lemke (Geosyntec–chemical engineer), Ray Johnson (RSI-geochemist) and Pete Schillig (RSI-hydrogeologist) view one of the LM posters on display at the Twelfth International Conference on Remediation of Chlorinated and Recalcitrant Compounds, May 22-26, 2022, in Palm Springs, California.

LM Pursues New Technology Solutions to Better Protect People and the Environment

GOAL 1

Conference hosted by Battelle gives LM another tool to keep up with new and evolving remediation strategies

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management provides long-term stewardship at 101 former U.S. nuclear weapons complex sites across the nation. Many of these sites are contaminated to some extent with radioactive or hazardous materials, and LM's mission is to ensure legacy contamination from those materials does not present exposure risks to people or the environment near these sites.

An important tool in managing the risks at LM sites is staying abreast of new and changing environmental remediation technologies. One way to do that is by participating in environmental conferences where government and private sector organizations present and collaborate on cutting edge technologies that are used to clean up contamination.

A recent premier environmental conference was the Twelfth International Conference on Remediation of Chlorinated and Recalcitrant Compounds, held May 22-26, 2022, in Palm Springs, California. Hosted by Battelle, more than 1,600 private and government sector scientists and engineers from around the world gathered to create a portrait of an ever-evolving environmental industry; identifying key current issues, determining how the issues are being understood and addressed, and finding solutions for those issues.

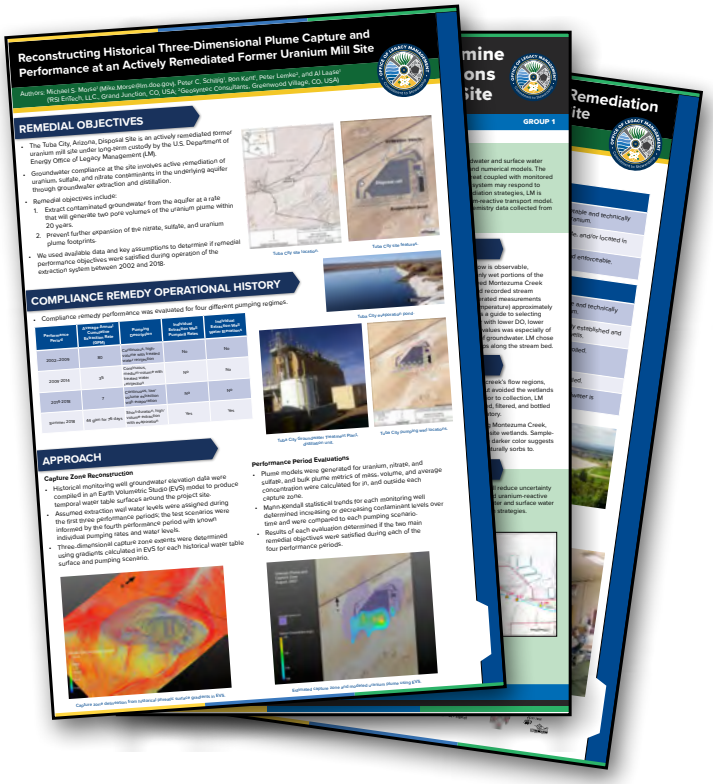
LM Site Manager Angelita Denny and a team of nine LM contractors and partners, including LM's Groundwater and Geochemistry group and the Applied Studies and Technology group, gave six presentations, three poster sessions, and chaired a topic session on various environmental topics that impact LM's legacy stewardship mission.

"The conference demonstrated that LM scientists and engineers are practicing their craft at a very high level and are utilizing appropriate technologies, and also offered insight into what can be done to solve LM's environmental issues," said LM Physical Scientist Angelita Denny.

"These environmental and technical conferences give our team an opportunity to share and gather information on new and evolving technologies that could potentially be used at our sites in the future," Denny said.

The LM participants also shared what they are learning about topics that included the natural flushing efficiency at former uranium mill sites, engineered covers for uranium mill tailings that are managed to enhance evaporation, improving contaminant transport model calibration, and what geochemical data is necessary for a reactive transport model to simulate cleanup timeframes and achieve site closure. A consistent theme heard from conference attendees who viewed the LM presentations was they had no idea the LM program existed and were impressed by the technical skills and knowledge of the LM team.

Visualization was a focus of the conference, with multiple sessions spanning one and a half days. The number of sessions offered for technical topics is a function of the number of abstracts submitted and accepted, which shows that visualization is a current industry interest.



Selection of posters submitted by LM to the Twelfth International Conference on Remediation of Chlorinated and Recalcitrant Compounds.

Most of the presentations primarily used visualization to graphically convey concepts, but LM's Three-Dimensional Visualization and Volumetric Analysis to Update the Conceptual Site Model for a Former Uranium Mill Site presentation was one of the two that used 3-D imagery to quantify plume behavior, an indication that LM is an industry leader in using visualization. Visualizations are an effective way to communicate information, particularly with animations.

LM also uses visualization to calculate bulk plume metrics (average concentration, mass, volume, and center of mass) that quantify plume temporal dynamics (contraction, stable, expanding). Unique in the industry, LM uses bulk plume metrics to calibrate contaminant transport models.

Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR), a geophysics technique that quantifies hydraulic conductivity and identifies mobile/immobile portions within aquifers, was also addressed in multiple sessions at the conference. Results were used to update conceptual site models, optimize remedial systems, and as input to groundwater flow and transport models. The wide use and acceptance of this technique validates LM's plans to use it to characterize hydraulic conductivity distribution at former uranium mill sites in Tuba City, Arizona, and Shiprock, New Mexico.

Collecting and applying contaminant mass flux data attracted significant attention at the conference. Mass flux data is being used to update site models, design and optimize remedial systems and strategies, and as input to groundwater flow and transport models. Collecting mass flux information was a National Laboratory Network recommendation to LM and is planned for the Shiprock site.

LM poster sessions included Collaborative Development Of Conceptual Remediation Portfolios for an Abandoned Uranium Mill Site, Using Stream Geochemistry to Determine Groundwater/Surface Water Interactions at a Former Uranium/Vanadium Mill Site, and Modeling Evaluation and Uncertainty Analysis of Remediation Timeframes at a Former Uranium Mill Site Using an Iterative Ensemble Smoother.

"LM's participation in conferences like this, given the positive feedback and responses from many attendees, is evidence that LM is successfully acquiring new technologies and techniques to further improve their ability to protect the people and environment impacted by the nation's nuclear legacies," Denny said. ❖

LM Hosts Annual STEM Envirothon Competition

GOAL 6

International program draws contestants from three countries, involves more than 25,000 high school students annually

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management Fernald Preserve in southwest Ohio was privileged to be selected as the field-testing day site for the National Conservation Foundation's annual science, technology, engineering, and Mathematics Envirothon competition. On July 26, site employees supported the Ohio Federation of Soil and Water Conservation Districts who were the field day organizers. The weeklong competition was held at the nearby Miami University of Ohio.

The Envirothon is an international program and competition that engages more than 25,000 high school students from the United States, Canada, and China. Students use STEM principles to gain hands-on learning experience in various outdoor fields, to expand their knowledge of the environment and natural resource conservation. These students spend months learning and studying in areas such as aquatic ecology, forestry, soils and land use, wildlife, and current environmental issues, all with the goal of qualifying for the NCF-Envirothon annual competition.

"Envirothon inspired me as a teen to move into a natural resources career," said Wendee Dodds, who serves on the Ohio Envirothon Committee, the National Conservation Foundation's Envirothon Operating Committee, and represents Jefferson Soil & Water Conservation District. "The young people here today are amazing. It's inspirational to see the kids so eager to learn about natural resources."

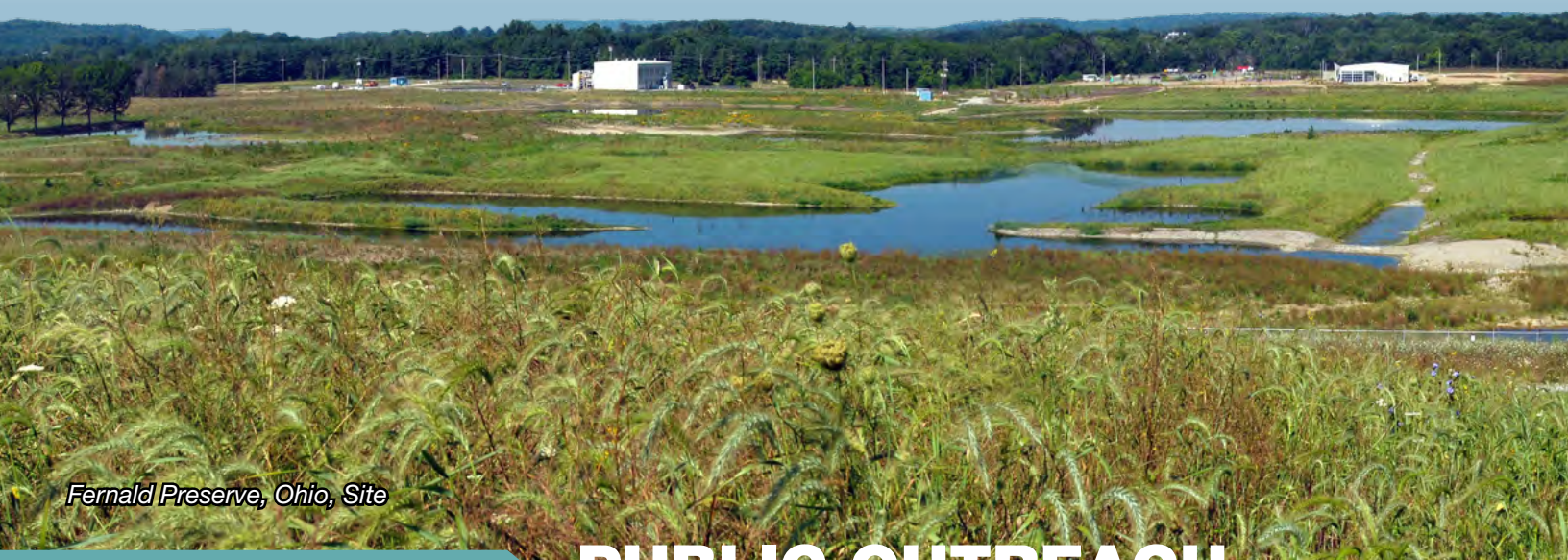
Each first-place team from participating states, provinces, or partner nations is eligible to attend the NCF-Envirothon annual competition, to compete against other top teams for scholarships and awards. The annual competition is attended by up to 500 students, guests, and volunteers, and is hosted in a new location every year. LM staff were excited to be a part of the competition and to watch the students compete.

"The Fernald Preserve is honored to support the local community and host such a prestigious event," said LM Fernald Preserve Site Manager Brian Zimmerman. "NCF-Envirothon's mission aligns with STEM with LM goals to support STEM education and equip students with the knowledge and skills to prepare for STEM careers."

This year, Fernald Preserve site near Hamilton, Ohio, hosted the field-testing day. At the five field testing stations, the teams of students faced academic and hands-on questions in the five subject areas as they moved through a circuitous route and encountered varied habitats on the site's walking trails, which allowed them to become immersed in the local environment.

"Thanks to Fernald Preserve for hosting the event, our volunteers and staff have continuously commented on what a beautiful site it is," Dodds said.

For more information or to keep up to date with the Envirothon, head to Envirothon.org. ❖



Fernald Preserve, Ohio, Site

Two of the five field testing stations at the NCF-Envirothon at the Fernald Preserve Site near Hamilton, Ohio.

Students line up at Fernald Preserve near Hamilton, Ohio, to compete in the NCF-Envirothon.

Tour of Abandoned Uranium Mines in Navajo Nation Demonstrates Successful Reclamation and Safeguarding Techniques

GOAL 1

Experts from partner agencies visit sites in Colorado and Arizona to discuss best methods for protecting public health and the environment

A tour of abandoned uranium mines in the Navajo Nation recently gave several agencies a chance to see how such mines have been successfully reclaimed and safeguarded.

A multi-agency briefing starts early in the morning in the Navajo Nation, with representatives from LM,EPA, Navajo Nation EPA and RSI EnTech contractors.

Representatives with the Navajo Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation (AML)/Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action (UMTRA) department and members of the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management Defense-Related Uranium Mines program led tours of sites near Cortez in southwestern Colorado and by mines in the Tse Tah and Red Mesa regions in northeastern Arizona for two days in mid-May.

"I am thankful for the opportunity to meet Mr. Yazzie and Mr. Dayzie on mine sites," said LM Navajo Nation Program Manager Chuck Denton. "The ability to communicate in-person and discuss each other's experiences related to DRUM reclamation is professionally valuable but, more importantly, strengthens our partnership."

On day two of the tours, Melvin Yazzie and Gilbert Dayzie of the Navajo AML/UMTRA department explained the research and implementation of environmentally friendly ways used in safeguarding and reclaiming abandoned mines. The AML/UMTRA team attended mining conferences and studied reclamation techniques, then implemented those methods on abandoned mines in the Navajo Nation.

Yazzie and Dayzie were accompanied by Denton and Drum team Supervisor Gordon Clark; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 9 representatives Sean Hogan and Colin Larrick; and DRUM LM Strategic Partners Miquette Gerber, John Zutman, and Eli Angus.

Navajo AML/UMTRA has used several different methods of safeguarding and reclaiming adits (portals) and waste rock. Most projects entail the use of explosives to collapse the adits, adding waste rock to the hole, then covering the site with soil cover.

In many instances, waste rock from the site was used to provide top cover and to create retaining walls to manage surface water runoff. In most cases, the earthen structures, constructed to contain the mine waste rock, have been meticulously blended into the topography and are barely noticeable, even to the trained eye.

Red Mesa, Arizona

A Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency representative points out a reclamation area that is almost invisible to the untrained eye.

At one of the sites, the AML/UMTRA conducted an environmental monitoring project to evaluate water runoff above the cell and observed the hydrologic cycle in association with mine-waste leachability.

“We wanted to know if there was enough surface moisture from rain and/or snow to leach contaminants from the mine waste, or was the moisture evaporating before it reaches the mine waste?” Yazzie said. “From our short time, we showed that in this arid region, the moisture does evaporate or transpire before leaching the mine waste.”

"There has never been any mine-waste effluent observed from the leachate collection system since the cell was constructed in 2012," Dayzie said.

"Navajo AML expended great effort and attention to detail in their abandoned uranium mine reclamation projects, and it shows,” Clark said. “Navajo AML has done an amazing job of reclaiming these sites and blending them into the natural terrain features. They are proud of their accomplishments, and rightfully so."

Tour participants discuss the leachate collection system.

Yazzie said all the work that has taken place under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 has been important for protecting the health of residents. "Understanding that SMCRA gave the Navajo Nation the ability to act on these abandoned mines is also important," he said. “As first responders, we have been able to conduct reclamation to minimize the future safety and health impacts to the communities,” Yazzie said.

AML/UMTRA’s long-term goal is to remove all evidence of uranium mining from the 27,000-square-mile Navajo Nation. Reclaimed and safeguarded sites on Navajo land are scheduled for inspection and potential further safeguarding by the LM DRUM teams in October.

Yazzie is happy with the work that has been done so far, but he believes there should be more specific conferences and meetings on abandoned mine lands issues conducted by the partnering agencies.

“Rather than reinvent the wheel, we need to learn from each other on what is working,” he said. ❖

LM's New Arizona Office Provides Better Support for Outreach in Navajo Nation

GOAL 6

Staff recently moved to new location in Window Rock for more effective engagement in community

First established in 2016, the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management M) Navajo Nation outreach office chose Window Rock, Arizona because it's home to the Navajo Nation government offices and various federal divisions. Working in this centralized location among other agencies has increased LM's understanding of tribal community concerns and allows them to engage more effectively with the surrounding communities.

LM's move to the new location in Window Rock is key to providing better support, improving visibility, and increasing outreach efforts to the members of the public.

"The move to the new Window Rock office allows us to be more visible to the public," said LM Public Participation Specialist Shawn Montgomery. "We are now located among busy established businesses with a large storefront, providing more opportunity to engage with the public."

The Window Rock office supports many functions from STEM outreach with the partnering Navajo Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation (AML)/Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action (UMTRA) Departmentand the office serves as an information hub for federal and tribal partners and stakeholders. Two LM Public Affairs contracting staff work full time from the Window Rock office to provide outreach support to the four LM sites in the Navajo Nation.

"The new office is a blessing for our outreach efforts here in the Navajo Nation," said LM Strategic Partner Outreach Coordinator Kayla Bia. "It's in a better location, and will be readily accessible for us to provide our resources to our people. We're thrilled."

The office is also home to the Navajo Nation Community Outreach Network, a group of federal and tribal agencies that are tasked with coordinating and supporting the multi-agency effort through outreach, planning, and information sharing under the Ten-Year Plan.

"This space will allow us room to grow," Montgomery said. "We will be able to expand our programs even further and have the opportunity to reach a wider audience. The new office has space for our federal and tribal partners to meet in person and discuss issues."

Since inception, the Window Rock office has worked to become a centralized resource for community members and tribal and federal partners. Multiple outreach programs have expanded greatly over the past few years. STEM outreach in the Navajo Nation has grown to include annual middle school, high school, and higher-education events. The Window Rock office supports LM's effort to encourage and inspire current and future generations of STEM students.

The move began June 13, and the office is now ready to welcome the community Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The public can visit the new location at the Navajo Nation Shopping Center near the Navajo Westerners Ace Hardware in Suite 10.

"LM is excited about the new space and getting the chance to make new connections in the community," Montgomery said. "We look forward to all the future outreach events and continuing LM's mission to educate the community and future STEM workforce."

The new Window Rock office will have a brighter, larger, and more visible space for members of the public to visit and learn about LM's work in the Navajo Nation. LM staff plan to host an open house for federal and tribal partners to see the new space. ❖

Team Goes Above and Beyond to Complete Amchitka Island Projects

GOAL 1

With work to repair damage from 2014 earthquake completed, team capitalizes on opportunity to extend mission in difficult-to-reach location

In May, a team of experts sent to Alaska by the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management to conduct maintenance and repair work on Amchitka Island accomplished their mission and then some.

The Alaskan island is not easy to get to. Surrounded by a rugged coastline of sea cliffs and grassy slopes, Amchitka Island is more than 1,300 miles west-southwest of Anchorage, near the end of the Aleutian Island chain. Today, the uninhabited island is part of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge and access is restricted.

"Since we were there, we took the next step to collect additional sample information," LM's Stephen Pitton said. "Due to the extreme remote location, we try and maximize our efforts when we're there."

The team flew in and out from Adak, Alaska, and set up camp at the end of Fox Runway.

In addition to fixing a mud-pit cover, which was the main goal, the team repaired access roads, collected data on soils, sediments, and surface water, and surveyed the island's geography. This information helps the site team better understand site conditions and supports effective long-term stewardship.

The team used a drill rig at Site D to assist with repairs.

The team collects samples of the mud pits on Amchitka Island.

Back at camp, sediment samples are placed in appropriate jars. Great care was taken to make sure the jars were labeled correctly. Four shipments of samples were sent from Amchitka to Adak, Alaska,, loaded onto a commercial flight to Anchorage, Alaska, then shipped to Denver, Colorado, and Canton, Ohio. In all, 54 sediment samples were processed.

During the late 1960s and 1970s, the U.S. government conducted three underground nuclear tests on the island. Drilling for the three nuclear test sites and the three emplacement/exploratory locations generated large quantities of drilling mud, which consisted of water, diesel fuel, and other additives. The drilling-mud pits were left in place and remained open until DOE began reclamation work in 2001. Reclamation included the removal of standing water and the mixing of native soils with the drilling muds in the form of windrows. Once the drilling muds were secure, geosynthetic caps consisting of a 30-millimeter geomembrane and three feet of cover soil were constructed.

In June 2014, a 7.9-magnitude earthquake struck about 11 miles northwest of Amchitka Island. A subsequent site inspection found that three of the caps had minor cracks along their edges. This year's work included fixing the caps' cover material, placing native material at the site, and repairing a drainage channel.

In addition to the damage associated with the caps, a road needed repairs to make it passable for all-terrain vehicle traffic. The road work conducted this spring allows future heavy equipment and utility access to the mud pits.

"We couldn't have asked for a better team in the field," Pitton said. "Everyone performed their tasks with top-notch execution. This was one of my best trips out there." ❖

Wildfire Season No Longer Has a Start Date

GOAL 1

Amid more frequent and increasingly severe wildfires, flexibility, preparedness, and collaboration drive progress at LM

A bolt of lightning struck 18 miles north of Grand Junction, Colorado, on a hot, dry day in July 2020. The environment was primed for a wildfire to erupt and for weeks, one scorched through the state, fueled by winds up to 40 mph.

"We could see the blaze at night over the Book Cliffs, and the smoke was just terrible," said Wil Burns, LM technical lead for the Defense-Related Uranium Mines program.

The Pine Gulch Fire held the shortest record for the biggest fire in the Centennial State.

"It was the largest in Colorado history, until two more fires surpassed it later that year," Burns said. "It had been many, many decades since a fire that size. Then to be outsized in such a short time ... it wouldn't surprise me if this year there's another one."

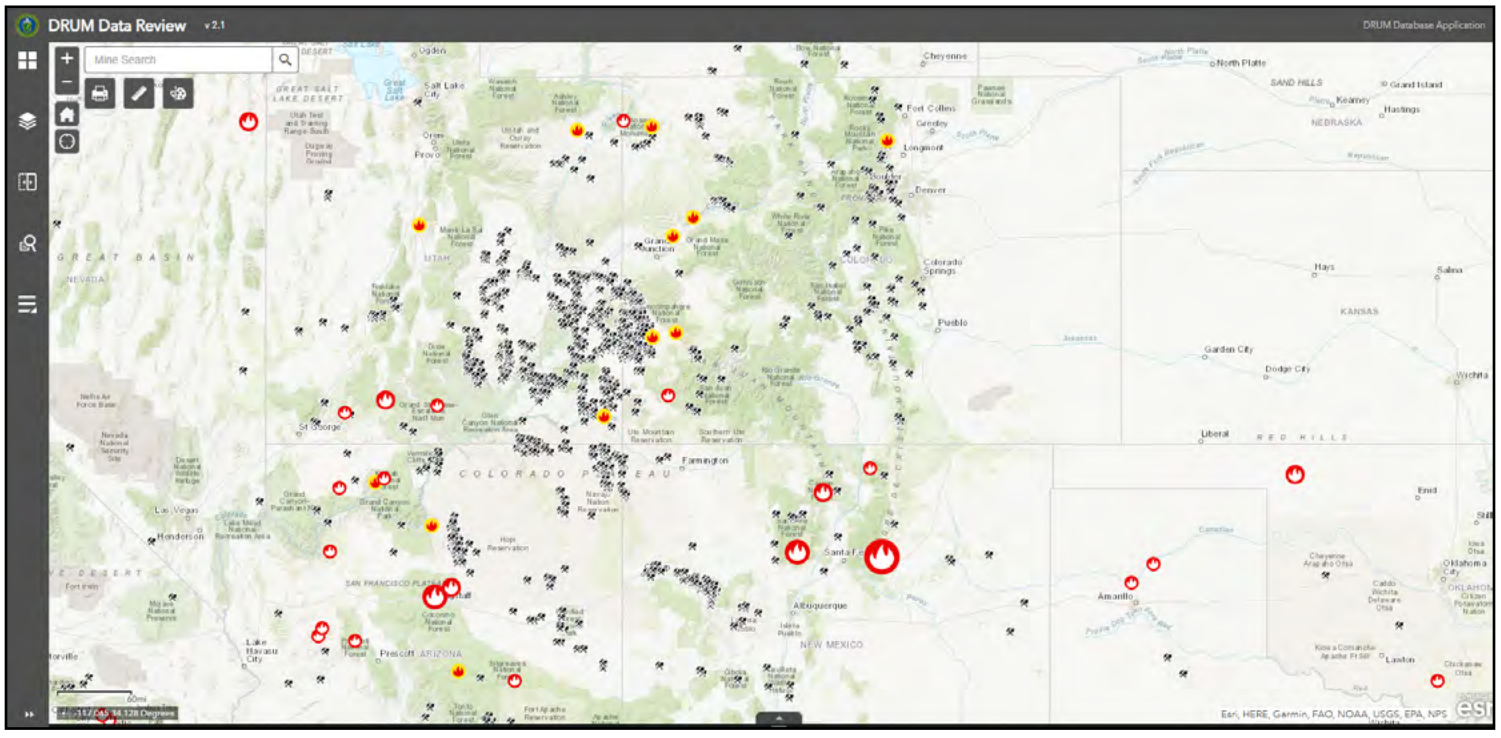
The stunning rhythm of record-breaking fires in Colorado is a pattern replicated across the globe due to unprecedented heat and drought conditions driven by climate change. Tasked with long-term custodianship of sites across the country that supported nuclear programs during the Cold War, the Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management is a witness to the effects of a more intense wildfire season in several regions of the United States.

LM is gearing up for a wildfire season that is not only more severe, but also longer. "This past year, I think all of our eyes were opened with multiple record-setting wildfires," said Paul Kerl, office manager for LM's Grand Junction Field Support Center.

In fact, just a few months before LM's newly established Emergency Management Watch Office was stood up and proved instrumental in the organization's response. The Watch Office proactively notified employees and worked with local emergency service organizations to monitor the fire and protect the LM workforce.

As recently as May 24 this year, the EM Watch Office, which monitors for disasters and emergencies across LM operations, notified program managers of a fire near the Durango disposal site in Colorado. Conversations with local emergency services organizations and LM operations staff informed the decision to postpone annual inspections out of an abundance of caution.

"Safety of our personnel is always our first and foremost concern," Kerl said. "We constantly monitor LM's Fire Watch Report for hazards, and even if the ambient air quality is poor



The map tool LM's DRUM program uses to track wildfires suggests that this year will likely be busy nationwide.

from other fires in the region, we will proactively defer field work to protect the health of our team."

A wildfire engulfed some of LM's monitoring wells last year at the Shiprock disposal site in New Mexico. After a fire is contained and the area is safe, teams assess infrastructure for potential damage from the heat.

Once a fire is extinguished and the area is confirmed safe, teams mobilize to assess damage and identify any necessary repairs at the site, Kerl said.

LM is taking additional measures where possible to further mitigate risks from natural disasters. Vulnerability assessments and resiliency plans are in progress at many sites to help address risks associated with their unique characteristics.

"Preparedness is key when handling disasters that can arise unexpectedly and escalate rapidly," Kerl said.

Where wildfires previously raged during the driest summer months, they are no longer predictable. "We have to be prepared year-round," Burns said. "Each time a team from the DRUM program plans to visit and secure a mine, they check LM's Fire Watch website to ensure there are no fires impacting the sites and the field crews.

"With all of the risk factors at play, we have to be flexible in terms of what mines we go out to and when," Burns said. He said DRUM teams consistently monitor conditions across their sites, so that if work is delayed at one, they will know where else they can perform safely.

Thanks in part to this flexibility, LM's DRUM program is making swift progress on its goal of visiting 2,362 abandoned mines on public lands by the end of 2023. But one quick look at a wildfire map suggested this year would have its fair share of obstacles.

"This is the most active June I've seen so far," Burns said, examining the map LM uses to track wildfires across the country. "We're going to have to think outside the box, but we are never going to put anyone at risk."

Burns said the DRUM program is bringing on additional field workers and training them across various tasks so that teams have the backup they need to prevent overexposure to smoke or heat. The program also coordinates with local wildland fire dispatch centers and the EM Watch Office to engage local, state, and federal organizations that can support fire response.

"Between our dedicated teams and our network of support, I am confident that our work will persist despite wildfire challenges," Burns said. ❖

New DRUM staff examine an abandoned mine as part of orientation.

LM Completes Drilling, Installation of Monitoring Wells at Shiprock, New Mexico, Disposal Site

GOAL 1

Goal of project to further understand subsurface hydrogeology at site by collecting soil and groundwater data

A safe, low-impact method known as sonic drilling was used at the Shiprock site.

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management has finished a drilling, data collection, and monitoring-well installation project at a former uranium-processing site in Shiprock, New Mexico.

The purpose of the project was to further understand subsurface hydrogeology and collect groundwater level, soil, and water chemistry data at the Shiprock disposal site. The project was completed in July.

Information collected during the project will be used to update the Groundwater Compliance Action Plan for the site. The GCAP will be developed by DOE, with the participation of the Navajo Nation, and with the concurrence by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, to describe the groundwater compliance strategy to be utilized at a former uranium mill site.

LM and its strategic partner (LMSP), and the Navajo Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation/Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action Department performed extensive outreach within the community. That outreach began with presentations at the Shiprock

LM and LMSP staff conducted outreach events in Shiprock, New Mexico, during the drilling project at the Shiprock Disposal Cell in late July.

Chapter House and was followed by packet mailings to stakeholders, door-to-door notifications, public-service announcements, paid advertising, and two public affairs kiosks. Staff shared details from information sheets, distributed school supplies and bags, and answered questions about the disposal cell. Many local residents visited the kiosk.

LMSP Public Affairs Specialist Lillie Lane, who was born and raised in the Navajo Nation, recorded the radio ads for two stations that broadcast only in the Navajo language.

"Multifaceted outreach with local leadership and community members is key to remaining transparent on the work LM performs at the Shiprock disposal site," said LM Site Manager Mark Kautsky. "We have diligently worked to develop and maintain these relationships over many years."

A second phase of disposal cell drilling is planned to take place in 2023. A safe, low-impact method known as sonic drilling was used at the Shiprock site, in which resonant sonic frequencies are used to generate the energy to create boreholes.

A monitoring well (vertical pipe) is then placed in a borehole, with a screened opening near the bottom to access groundwater and measure or monitor water levels, quality, quantity, and movement. ❖

As Pandemic Restrictions Lift, LM Staff Leads Elected Officials on Tour of Disposal Site

In-person format allows for real-time demonstration of projects taking place in Shiprock, New Mexico

Now that COVID-19 restrictions have begun to lift, DOE Office of Legacy Management staff recently took the opportunity to invite elected officials on a tour of the Shiprock, New Mexico, Disposal Site.

Until this event in July, the last in-person tour of the site with Shiprock officials was September 2019, just before the COVID-19 pandemic caused lockdowns across the country and in the Navajo Nation. Before the pandemic, LM provided extensive outreach to the Shiprock community regarding projects that took place at the disposal site.

A key piece of LM's outreach begins with collaboration and information sharing with the leadership of the Shiprock Chapter House, which is the governing body of the community. Even during the pandemic, LM worked diligently to provide written letters, and official written and verbal updates to leadership during its regularly scheduled monthly meetings.

"We appreciate the commitment from the Shiprock Chapter House leadership to maintain a collaborative spirit with the Office of Legacy Management," said Site Manager Mark Kautsky. "To be able to meet with them in person allows us to deepen the relationship and understanding of their work as it relates to the Shiprock disposal site."

Among topics discussed during the tour was a brief history of the site, along with details of current and upcoming projects. The in-person format allowed for a more personal exchange of ideas rather than a formal meeting in which a report is provided.

The in-person connection also allowed LM and contracting staff to show different areas at the site where projects are scheduled. LM looks forward to welcoming leadership again in the future.

Shiprock, New Mexico

Mine Reclamation Work Resumes on Uranium Lease Tracts in Southwest Colorado

GOAL 1

LM works with four lessees on 29 parcels to mitigate physical hazards, ensuring the safety of the public, wildlife, and livestock

Working with leaseholders, LM's Uranium Leasing Program has resumed mine reclamation work in southwest Colorado. The reclamation is done with an eye toward environmental stewardship.

In addition to its four lessees — Highbury Resources Inc., Gold Eagle Mining Inc., Golden Eagle Uranium LLC, and Consolidated Uranium — the ULP team also coordinates with the Bureau of Land Management, LM's Defense-Related Uranium Mines program, the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, and private companies.

Some of the reclamation work is conducted by the lessees themselves under DOE's Reclamation in Lieu of Royalties program. Lessees must pay an annual royalty to the government, but that payment can be reduced on a prorated basis for reclamation work performed by the lessee under the direction of DOE. The annual royalty is essentially the "rent" lessees pay to hold the mineral rights on a given lease tract.

"It saves money for both the government and the lessees. They save on royalties, and we save on the cost of bidding out the work," said Engineer Brian Mangan, an LM Strategic Partner. "Safety closures and reclamation of pre-law mines reduces the U.S. government's liability. It works really well. And the government wants to make sure the work is done properly so reclamation bonds are typically required."

The area has a long mining history, dating to the 1910s when the Uravan Mineral Belt was first discovered. The Uravan Mineral Belt has seen several booms, including radium in the 1910s and 1920s, vanadium in the 1940s, and the big push for uranium starting in the late 1940s to 1970. Several smaller booms have occurred since the late 1970s and the region continues to be valued for its wealth of minerals today.

Much of the original mining on the lease tracts took place before federal and state laws had been enacted in the late 1970s to regulate mining activity and require post-closure responsibility. For most "pre-law" mines, also known as legacy mines, no environmental oversight or reclamation responsibilities were required of mining companies. When these pre-law mines on the lease tracts were abandoned, the responsibility fell to the DOE to close and reclaim the mines.

Several pre-law mines located on the lease tracts have been declared historic by the state of Colorado, so that history of the Uravan Mineral Belt may be preserved for future generations.

"We've done a huge amount of reclamation," Mangan said.

Hundreds of mines were closed prior to a court injunction in 2011 that prohibited DOE from performing reclamation work on the lease tracts. A judge had found DOE's ULP Preliminary Environmental Assessment deficient and in violation of the National Environmental Policy Act and the Endangered Species Act. The injunction was lifted in 2019, after LM completed a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for ULP, and reclamation work was able to resume.

Some of the reclamation work on the lease tracts involves mitigating hazards such as subsidences, where erosion and other factors have caused openings to develop into abandoned mines. The ULP team is also looking at the reclamation of the few remaining pre-law unreclaimed waste rock piles, the removal of noxious weeds, and items such as discarded tires located on the lease tracts.

"In these cases, we try to mitigate any physical hazards and stabilize the site as much as possible to prevent erosion," Mangan said.

Though the waste rock piles often do have a radiological signature, the primary purpose of the reclamation work is to prevent erosion and help the establishment of native plant species. Still, preliminary gamma surveys of the site are often conducted in the interest of ALARA (as low as reasonably achievable), and to help guide the work of returning the land to a more natural form.

Some pre-law sites require more work than can be covered by an annual royalty and are added to a list of projects to be completed by DOE when funding is available.

One such project was the reclamation of the Burro Mines Complex, which broke ground on June 21, 2021, and concluded on Oct. 26, 2021, well ahead of the Dec. 1 stop date necessary to protect desert bighorn sheep in the area.

The ULP team developed a proposal to reclaim the site in March 2016 after witnessing a series of heavy storms that inundated the Slick Rock area during the previous decade and repeatedly swept mine waste rock material from the Burro Tunnel mine into the nearby Dolores River.

Over the course of the project, 72,117 cubic yards of waste rock were removed from the Burro Tunnel mine and relocated into a former gravel pit. The volume of waste rock exceeded LM's objective by approximately 25 percent, as more waste rock was relocated than originally planned. It is the largest reclamation project undertaken by DOE to date.

Working with the Colorado State Historic Preservation Office, portions of the waste rock piles at the Burro Mines Complex were determined to be historical. Therefore, only select areas of waste rock were removed and the historic portions were stabilized in place.

Burro Tunnel Mine, Lease Tract C-SR-13, Slick Rock, Colorado, prior to reclamation.

Burro Tunnel Mine, Lease Tract C-SR-13, Slick Rock, Colorado, after reclamation.

"This project exemplified LM working with SHPO to strike a balance between protecting the river and preserving the history of the complex," said Miquette Gerber, ULP project manager.

Throughout the history of the program, ULP personnel have conducted cursory inspections at least monthly when weather permitted access to the lease tracts. Recently, ULP personnel were aided by DRUM personnel, who identified hazards at historic mining operations as part of their verification and validation activities. In 2021, a wetter than average winter produced several new subsidences on the lease tracts, primarily on legacy mine sites.

When ULP personnel find a new hazard, the team temporarily mitigates the hazard by installing safety fencing to prevent entrapment of humans, livestock, and wildlife. These newly identified hazards are then added to the list of possible RILOR projects to be safeguarded or reclaimed in the near future.

Today, the permitted mines on the lease tracts are bonded to ensure reclamation. The full cost of mine reclamation, including any environmental reviews, is covered by these bonds, guaranteeing that each mine site will be reclaimed. Before a regulatory framework was created, no U.S. law compelled reclamation of abandoned mines. As a result, the state of Colorado and the U.S. government have since tightened regulations for miners, who now must post surety bonds before conducting activities on the leases.

"There's no more just walking away," Mangan said.

To date, LM has completed final reclamation activities at 182 legacy (pre-law) mines and overseen the final reclamation of 13 permitted mines. Of the pre-law mines the ULP team has:

- Permanently closed 199 mine portals and other mine openings.
  - Fabricated and installed 74 bat gates including 23 culvert bat gates.
- Permanently closed 19 shafts and 137 vent raises.
- Backfilled pits and trenches with 144,800 cubic yards of material.
- Recontoured and reclaimed 248,800 cubic yards of mine-waste-rock materials.
- Permanently closed 259 exploration drill holes.
- Reseeded about 185 acres of disturbed land with native species. ❖

LM Reengages Partners in Visit to BONUS Site

GOAL 6

LM members meet with PREPA and the city of Rincon at decommissioned nuclear power plant

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management is reengaging with partners and stakeholders at the Boiling Nuclear Superheater (BONUS) site in Puerto Rico! On Aug. 2, LM's Cliff Carpenter, Tiffany Drake, and Giancarlo Deguia performed a site inspection with representatives from the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority and the city of Rincon. The inspection confirms the site remains protective of human health and the environment. This site, near the city of Rincon, is a decommissioned nuclear power plant that was the world's eighth nuclear power plant and first in Latin America.

Following the inspection, LM staff met PREPA's Mary C. Zapata Acosta, deputy executive director of operations, and Rincon Mayor Carlós Lopez Bonilla to discuss partnerships in the long-term stewardship of the site and the future of Modesto Iriarte Technological Museum. LM and PREPA remain committed to strengthening the 50-year stewardship partnership for the BONUS site. ❖

From left: Cliff Carpenter (LM); Tiffany Drake (LM); Giancarlo Deguia (LM); Mary C. Zapata Acosta (PREPA); Michele Miller (LMSP); Zutma Matos (PREPA); and Indira Mohip Colón (PREPA).

From left: Marisabel Pinero (City of Rincon); Ken Broberg (LMSP); Rincon Mayor Carlós D. Lopez Bonilla; Tiffany Drake; Giancarlo Deguia; and Cliff Carpenter.

LM Tours USACE North Atlantic Division FUSRAP Sites

GOAL 6

LM Joined the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for Tours of Five Active FUSRAP Sites in the Northeast

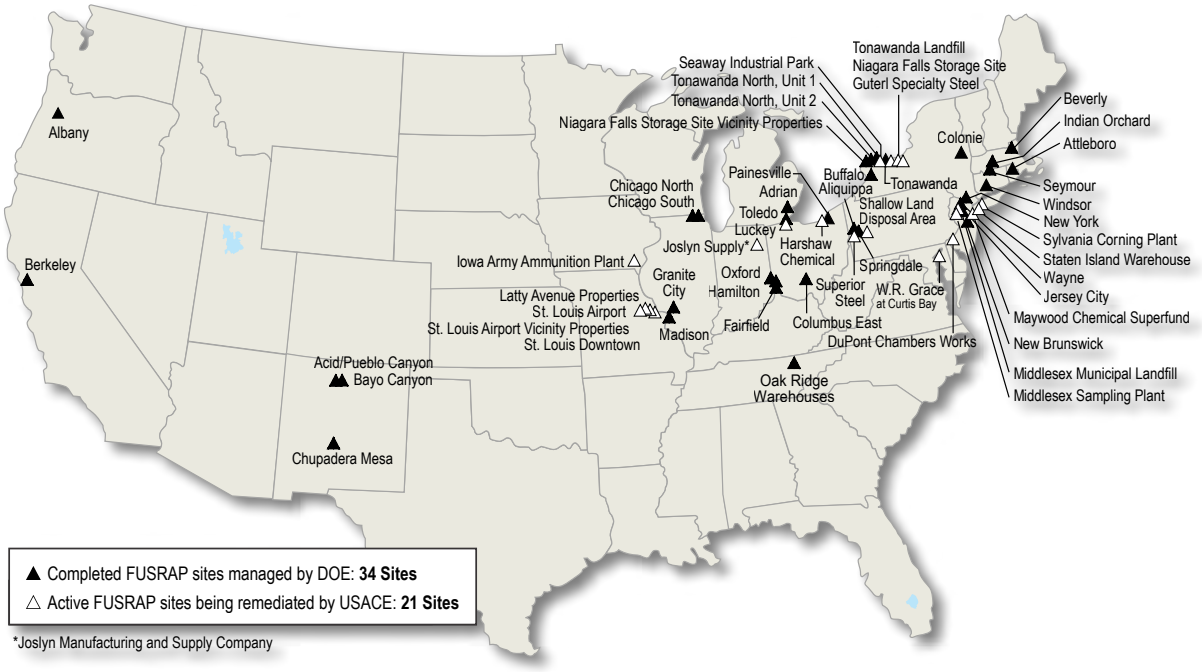
This July, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers hosted U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management staff on a tour of five Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program sites in the Northeast. Under FUSRAP, USACE performs active remediation before transferring cleaned up sites to LM for long-term stewardship.

"This tour is essential for LM and USACE to explore the progress being made at these sites across the Corps' North Atlantic Division," LM FUSRAP Manager Darina Castillo said. "Our partnership, along with our continued work with stakeholders and community leaders is key to the success we are seeing at FUSRAP in the areas of beneficial reuse and stakeholder engagement."

LM Technical Director David Shafer and Office of Site Operations Action Officer Dante Tan joined Castillo on the tour. During various legs of the tour, participants were able to meet with local stakeholders as well as representatives from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. General Services Administration, and state agencies. LM and USACE share a commitment to protect human health and the environment and engage in meaningful exchanges with stakeholders.

The tour included sites in Hicksville, New York; Maywood and Deepwater, New Jersey; and two sites in Middlesex, New Jersey. USACE also provided a presentation on their site in Curtis Bay, Maryland.

The tour gave LM staff a firsthand look at the progress being made at sites being actively remediated by USACE. At the Middlesex South, New Jersey Site, the tour participants visited the results of several years of collaboration toward beneficial reuse, including the construction of a public road across the government owned property to support a new warehouse, which promises to bring jobs to the community. Most importantly, it provided LM and USACE the opportunity to share information and plan for eventual site transfers. Close collaboration between the two agencies is essential to ensure efficient and effective site transitions to long-term stewardship. ❖



Jay Glascock is Living His Dream

GOAL 5

How the OSO Director Twice Found His Calling

Not everyone finds their calling, much less the opportunity to pursue it. For Jay Glascock, director of the Office of Site Operations (OSO) at the U.S. Department of Energy) Office of Legacy Management's Westminster Operations Center in Colorado, it happened twice.

"I grew up in Colorado and went to the Air Force Academy, then entered the military in that fashion," Glascock said. He describes the two decades of military career that followed as more of an upbringing than a job.

"When you are growing up in the military and leading these public works organizations, you're protecting human health in any environment. That's the basic foundation of the job," he said.

As a civil engineer, that foundation was often literal. He worked in communities around the world taking care of "roads and commodes," learning quickly what it takes to keep installations running in top condition.

Glascock, right, assuming command of public works organization in Nevada.

"These Air Force bases are like small cities. They're twice the size of Fort Collins, Colorado, and you have to take care of all the [infrastructure]," he said.

He found the work fascinating. When he retired from the military in Washington, D.C., where he oversaw major infrastructure projects globally and in key regions for the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon, he was looking for a change. After 24 years had passed, Glascock wanted something outside of the military complex. He wanted something new and challenging. That's when his second act beckoned. The DOE was looking for people with his skillset.

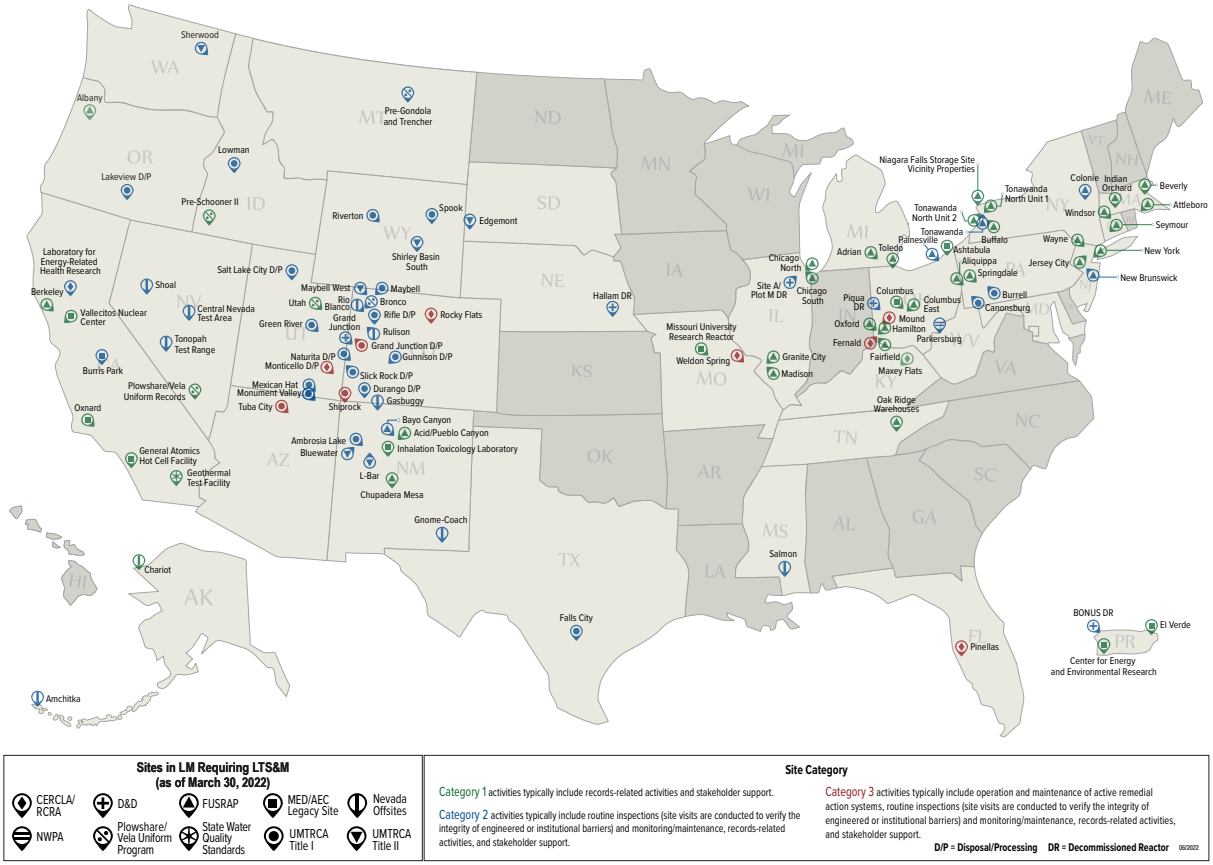
Glascock, third from right, pictured with the joint engineer staff at the Pentagon.

"They were struggling from a project management perspective and that's what my background is — construction, civil engineering, and project management. They wanted some help there and I came into the Department of Energy and the Office of Engineering and Construction Management and flourished," he said.

Everything he thought he knew about the DOE was about to change.

"It was an eye opener because there were things I just didn't know. Even working in Department of Defense. I didn't know that there was such a tight relationship between Department of Defense and Department of Energy," he said.

The differences, he notes, are also abundant. While working on Air Force installations, Glascock was responsible for fully focusing on one site and the needs of the people there. Working with DOE LM, he is responsible for exponentially more sites, all with vastly different profiles, staff, and surrounding communities. Even the terrain varies, with sites scattered from the beaches of Puerto Rico and the suburbs of Cincinnati to the mountains of New York and desert communities in Western states.



"In Legacy Management, you have one hundred plus sites and the communities are all different, they're all different states. They're all differing local governments and state governments, all differing regulators. And so, in Department of Defense, I was really focused on one set or one group of stakeholders. And here I've got to juggle."

Among his LM responsibilities Glascock champions major repair and maintenance projects, ensuring environmental remedies are protected after site cleanups. One of his strengths is being able to communicate effectively with different stakeholders with an abundance of self-awareness.

"You're bringing facts, you're bringing data and trends, and you're bringing science and engineering to the table," he said. "But sometimes when you're negotiating or engaging, you have to remember that you're dealing with people, you're dealing with community perspectives." Those perspectives are their realities.

He admits it's a balancing act, but one that keeps his job interesting.

Glascock, right, receiving an update from the site manager at Fernald Preserve, Ohio.

"It doesn't get stale," he said. "They're different regulators in different states with different beliefs. They approach problems differently. That's what keeps the job fresh."

As of three years ago, that job has put him right back where he started — Colorado.

"When you're living in the place you love, enjoying the work you're doing and the people that you're doing it with, that's the trifecta," he said. ❖

From Administrative Assistant to Management Analyst, Jeanie Gueretta's 40-Year Federal Career Draws to a Close

GOAL 5

Friends and colleagues send her off to the next adventure in life with a party at the LM Field Support Center in Grand Junction, ColoradoGrand Junction Office in Colorado

Jeanie Gueretta, management analyst and contracting officer's representative with the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management, brought 40 years of federal government service to a close with her retirement in Grand Junction, Colorado, on July 29, 2022.

"It's been an honor and privilege to work for LM and with amazing federal and contractor colleagues who have been dedicated, hardworking, and supportive," she said. "Thank you for making my time with LM fulfilling and memorable. DOE will always have a special place in my heart, and I will always be with you in spirit — cheering you on."

Gueretta, who worked for LM since its inception in 2003, started her federal career in 1982 while a 17-year-old senior in high school with the Social Security Administration in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

"I was a data transcriber keying in data from employer W-2 forms," she said. "I transferred to DOE in 1985 and worked at the Albuquerque Operations Office for about 10 years, then transferred to the Grand Junction Projects Office in Colorado in 1995."

In 2003, DOE designated the Grand Junction office to become part of the new Office of Legacy Management program office.

"Since I was at the Grand Junction office, I went with the flow as we became part of the new LM organization," Gueretta said. "I'm proud that I had the opportunity to work with such great people. My coworkers are dedicated, and we have a strong organization with outstanding leaders and hardworking staff."

She started with LM as a records manager up until 2017, then took on the role as a management analyst and the contracting officer's representative for the LM Support Services contract.

High among the memorable experiences she had with LM was participating with the transition team for the Rocky Flats Site near Denver that transferred to LM as a long-term surveillance and maintenance site.

Rocky Flats Site, Colorado, circa 2005.

"Rocky Flats went through site cleanup and closure and was the first major DOE site to go through environmental remediation and closure and transition to LM," she said. "It was exciting to be part of a team that was figuring out how to make the site transition successful."

Gueretta led the Business and Administration functions transition to LM, which included a very large records collection and information technology systems and data. She helped develop a scoping checklist to track almost 500 tasks that needed to be accomplished by staff from different organizations.

"It was such a great tool that I used a similar version to track about 300 tasks last year when we completed the latest LM Support Services contract transition," she said.

She said she was also very proud of helping develop a robust LM records management program, which was based on the existing Grand Junction office records system. In 2000, the Grand Junction office received the Blaine Hardesty Award from the National Archives and Records Administration in recognition of records management excellence. She said the work put into the Grand Junction office records management program set the foundation for an even stronger LM records management program.

"I'm really proud of helping develop our great records program as our records collection continues to grow with each new long-term surveillance and maintenance site transition." she said. "The program ensures that our nation's history is preserved and that we are able to tell our story to future generations. Our dedicated records management staff ensure that we can respond to the numerous records requests from stakeholders received each year."

Reflecting on her career, Gueretta said she held several positions at the Albuquerque Office, starting as a clerk-typist in the Transportation Safeguards Division, secretary in the Budget and Resources Management Division, emergency programs assistant in the Weapons Emergency Management Division, and then secretary for the deputy manager and manager.

She said she really enjoyed serving in the Weapons Emergency Management Division, where she participated in training exercises to prepare to handle weapons-related emergencies domestically and abroad. Her teams included DOE federal and contractor employees from throughout the DOE complex, other agencies including the military, and other government entities. Her adventures with emergency management sent her on exercises at the Seneca Army Depot in upstate New York and working with the British Royal Air Force and Italian government during an exercise in Vicenza, Italy. She was deployed twice to Florida for the Galileo and Ulysses space probes space shuttle launches.

During exercises with Italian government in Vicenza, Italy.

"I also had the opportunity to observe DOE activities at the headquarters level while on detail at the Forrestal Building in Washington, D.C., supporting the startup of the Office of Environmental Management in 1989 and the Office of Field Management in 1994," she said. "Working with these two new DOE program offices helped give me a perspective of agency workings at the headquarters level and the field level."

Gueretta started as an administrative specialist in Grand Junction. From 1995 to 2003, she performed various administrative functions supporting the federal staff, including human resources liaison, training coordinator, records manager, and information technology coordinator. She was also responsible for overseeing contractor activities in records management, information technology, training, document management, graphics, and technical library and mailroom services.

Gueretta pictured in front of a launch pad at Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

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From Administrative Assistant to Management Analyst, Jeanie Gueretta's 40-Year Federal Career Draws to a Close

Over the years she worked her way up from entry level to management positions, all while raising her three sons with her husband Rick. She had started college after high school, she said, but marriage, a new job in Grand Junction, and then kids came along, so she took a break.

"Years later, I decided to go back to school because I felt that I needed to complete my degree and wanted to set an example for my sons on the importance of finishing what you start," she said. "It was challenging being a wife and mother and working full-time, while also going to school full-time, but it was worth it. I felt a great sense of accomplishment as I walked in the commencement ceremony in Colorado Springs with my husband and sons cheering me on."

Gueretta and her three sons: Antonio at left, Gabe in middle, and Nick at right.

"My advice to my sons has been to get your college degree while you're young and try not to take a break, because it will be harder to get back into the school mindset later and you might have to retake classes like I had to do," she said. "I think they listened. Antonio graduated from the University of Colorado-Boulder in 2020 with a master's degree in Mechanical Engineering. Gabe graduated from Colorado Mesa University this year with a bachelor's degree in Applied Anthropology and Geography with minors in Archaeology and GIS. And Nick is a senior at CMU majoring in Criminal Justice."

Gueretta enjoys arts and crafts projects, like painting, making jewelry, hand-dyeing fabrics, and quilting and is looking forward to having more time to spend on hobbies.

"I'm a believer in continuous learning and that there are always opportunities for growth" she said. "In July, I started a 10-month Colson Fellows Program course on Christian theology, faith, and worldview as it relates to current culture. So far, it's been really interesting, with students in my class from several states, and I'm looking forward to learning and personal growth as I complete the program."

As a last hurrah at the Grand Junction office, Gueretta's friends and longtime colleagues threw a party in her honor on July 21. LM Director Carmelo Melendez presented Gueretta with a plaque for her decades of service and Paul Kerl, LM team leader, presented a U.S. flag that had flown over the U.S. Capitol.

Many LM leaders attended, either in person or virtually, to sing Gueretta's praises. The showstopper came when Gueretta's son, Antonio, attending virtually, shared a heartfelt message with his mom.

"Thank you for all you've done for our family, holding down a career and chasing three boys around," he said. "I just want to say how proud I am. I love you, mom."

"Wow, that's a hard one to follow," quipped LM Deputy Director Peter O'Konski as Gueretta's friends laughed, beaming at her through glistening eyes.

"Thank you, Captain Obvious," LM Director Carmelo Melendez said to more laughs.

O'Konski, who attended the party virtually, was one of a handful of longtime colleagues to praise Gueretta's professionalism.

"You really are the model of what we want people to be in federal service," he said. ❖

American Association of Blacks in Energy's Second Quarter Meeting

GOAL 6

Envisioning Environmental Justice in Virginia's Clean Energy Transition

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Environmental Justice (EJ) Program Manager Dr. Melinda Downing served as a panelist for the American Association of Blacks in Energy's (AABE) Second Quarter Virtual Meeting.

Downing was joined on the panel by Stacey Halliday (Beveridge & Diamond, PC), Carlos Brown (Dominion Energy), and Dr. Steven Blunt (First Baptist Church Mahan). The event was moderated by Shaunta Hodge (Dominion Energy) in what would prove to be an eye-opening and informative discussion on Virginia's Clean Energy Transition. The meeting included 38 participants.

Clean energy transition is a top priority of the Biden Administration's agenda. In President Biden's whole-of-government approach to tackle the climate crisis, he has made it clear that his Administration will chart a new course — one that puts parity in clean energy technology, clean energy jobs, and resiliency in disadvantaged communities. At DOE, Secretary Jennifer Granholm is "obsessed with creating good-paying, union jobs."

The major topics covered included:

- The role of leaders in the energy industry and influencers in advocating for underserved or historically disadvantaged communities.
- How communities will be affected by the transition to clean energy.
- The benefits of deploying renewable or clean energy technologies.
- How communities are responding to clean energy technologies in their communities.
- Steps being taken by DOE to ensure social and environmental justice in the clean energy transition.
- What is the call to action?

"The clean energy revolution must lift up these communities that have been left behind, and make sure those who suffered the most are the first to benefit." – Melinda Downing, DOE Environmental Justice Program Manager

In alignment with the Administration, Downing's remarks exemplified her long-standing passion and advocacy for environmental justice and the impact the transition to clean energy will have on these communities.

Downing began her remarks by providing historical context and reminding the audience that over several decades, the EJ movement has been concerned with environmental law, the development of mechanisms for public participation and decision-making, and safe and healthy communities for all Americans, including minorities, low-income persons, and American Indian and Alaska Natives.

"The same EJ concerns are proving equally important to climate policy designed to deal with the transition to clean energy," Downing said. "Clean energy is an opportunity to create new, good-paying jobs that all Americans can make family-supporting careers out of … and to empower disadvantaged communities to build wealth. In other words, clean energy can power environmental justice."

In closing, Downing mentioned that DOE recognized early on the importance of meaningful public participation and building trust by giving communities a seat and voice in environmental decision-making processes.

Downing believes this will be a great way to leverage relationships and work collaboratively with AABE on EJ and clean energy for the future of underserved communities of color. ❖

2022 Community Leaders Institute

GOAL 6

Legacy Management teams with educational institutions to sponsor community leaders

The U.S. Department of Energy, Medical University of South Carolina, Allen University, and Alabama State University sponsored a virtual Community Leaders Institute event July 15-16.

A critical factor in the success of community development programs is a well-informed community. "Action" occurs when those with authority assume an informed and active leadership role.

The purpose of the CLI is to help those leaders know how to access and obtain the information necessary for making good decisions and communicating that information to the citizenry.

The focus of this Institute was on the unique relationship between environmental protection, human health, EJ, and economic development. This CLI's sessions focused on:

- The role of federal, state, and local governments.
- Youth issues and challenges.
- Economic development, housing, transportation and community development.
- Health disparity/health issues.

The CLI is the first step toward enabling community leaders to lead the quest for their communities to work collaboratively with and through the agencies to affect the well-being of their communities. It is a powerful vehicle for bringing about environmental changes that will improve the health of the community and its members. Their action can serve as a catalyst for changing policies, programs, and practices.

Montgomery, Alabama, Mayor Steven L. Reed served as the host for the CLI and Talladega, Alabama, Mayor Timothy L. Ragland was also in attendance. Presenters included J. Kyle Bryant, Sr., Environmental Protection Specialist, Environmental Justice and Children's Health Section of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; and Keisha Long, Environmental Justice Coordinator, Office of Environmental Affairs, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control.

The Institute was dedicated to the memory of Dr. David E. Rivers, who developed the concept of the CLI. Rivers was a professor in academic affairs and founding director of the Public Information and Community Outreach Initiative at the Medical University of South Carolina Libraries in Charleston. Rivers was active in the environmental justice and health disparities movements throughout the country.

For additional information, contact Melinda Downing, DOE Environmental Justice program manager, at Melinda.Downing@hq.doe.gov. ❖

TREAT Workshop Provides Radiation Information to Educators

GOAL 6

Local students, teachers, and community representatives come together at energy event

About 25 local middle and high school teachers, students, and community representatives came together recently at the Augusta Technical College's satellite location in Waynesboro, Georgia, for the Teaching Radiation, Energy and Technology (TREAT) Workshop, an event for area educators.

Through an environmental justice grant, the U.S. Department of Energy partners with Savannah State University to develop and carry out two annual workshops. The goal is to educate teachers of kindergarten through 12th grade and local community leaders in the Central Savannah River Area about radiation, sources of radiation, radioactive waste management, effects of radiation on environmental health, and the negative impact of environmental radiation exposure to humans.

The workshops are designed to educate the teachers so they can in turn provide radiation education to their students, and even encourage them to pursue careers in engineering and nuclear fields.

Experts from DOE, Savannah River Site, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources gathered to teach, answer questions, and discuss potential career opportunities.

Melinda Downing, DOE's environmental justice program manager, welcomed the group and emphasized the importance of the workshop, during which participants heard about the history and missions of SRS, Radiation 101, the SRS Annual Site Environmental Report and a presentation by the Savannah Riverkeeper, a nonprofit organization that strives to respect, protect, and improve the entire Savannah River basin through education, advocacy, and action.

Dr. Kenneth Sajwan, the SSU project facilitator, works directly with the SRS site, community leaders, and others to develop relationships and coordinate the event.

Facilitators for the Institute included the Rev. Jenkins Bosman and Rozlyn Smith of the Imani Group, a local community-based organization that provides leadership and diversity training, and Sajwan, who is also the manager for Community Leaders Institute.

Taylor Rice and Kim Mitchell of Savannah River Nuclear Solutions provided an overview of the SRNS Education Outreach program. SRNS is the management and operations contractor at SRS.

Attendees included students from the Mentorship for Environmental Scholars program. Makayla Hammons was the first high school student recruited by MES. She will be attending North Carolina A&T this fall. Also in attendance was Clarence Brown, founder of the Pre-College University.

SRS Environmental Justice Program Manager de'Lisa Carrico, the workshop coordinator, said local teachers and community leaders greatly value the workshop.

This collaboration strengthens meaningful public involvement in adversely impacted communities and is recognized as a model environmental justice program for communities around federal facilities. ❖

Members of the 2021 TREAT Workshop

Makayla Hammons, the first high school attendee, receives her TREAT certificate.

TREAT attendees (left to right) are Andre Vaugh, Savannah State University; Karington Perry, Elizabeth City State University; Courtney Staggs, Elizabeth City State University; and Makayla Hammons, North Carolina A&T State University.

Origin Story: The Department of Energy History Program

GOAL 2

By Eric Boyle, DOE Historian

Sixty-five years ago, in January of 1957, the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission was preparing to celebrate its 10th anniversary when one of its commissioners expressed a concern: he and his colleagues were making some of the most momentous decisions in American history, without the benefit of a historian to record the events. The discussion ultimately resulted in a decision to create a new AEC History Program, which involved hiring professional historians, giving them complete access to the AEC files, and permitting them to write — with no restrictions other than those imposed by national security — the story as they saw it.

On April 24, 1957, AEC Secretary Woodford B. McCool, informed AEC Chairman Lewis Strauss that he had interviewed available candidates to head a new history project, and that he recommended Dr. Richard Hewlett for the position. Hewlett had been with the AEC for five years by that time, and in the words of McCool, had hoped to be associated with the history effort and had given much preliminary thought to what would be required. He saw the general scope and time of the project as McCool did, and finally, and very importantly, he wrote well and his research was scholarly. McCool identified two other candidates, and provided the resumes for all three to Strauss.

Richard G. Hewlett, posing in 1958 with the Bush-Conant document collection

Less than two months later, on June 20, 1957, AEC Announcement No. PSMO-38 officially informed headquarters principal staff and the manager of AEC operations that Hewlett had been appointed as the AEC's first historian. In his new position, Hewlett was given the mandate to plan and direct the newly established AEC History Program, including the preparation of the official history of the AEC, beginning with its origin in the Manhattan Project during World War II, as well as the preparation of what was referred to as "the current history of the AEC." Additional duties included writing historical articles on major events or developments in AEC history.

Announcement PSMO-38 also laid out Hewlett's short bio. He had attended Dartmouth College prior to military service in World War II. After the war, he completed his undergraduate work and went on to earn his master's degree in 1948 and his Ph.D. in 1952, both at the University of Chicago. He had been employed as an intelligence specialist for the Directorate of Intelligence for the U.S. Air Force from July 1951 to February of 1952, when he came to the AEC. At the AEC, he had served as a program analyst in the Progress Report and Statistics Branch, in the Division of Finance.

Hewlett had done a great deal of preliminary thinking about what the AEC History Program as part of his effort to secure the position. In a draft from April 1957 titled, "Notes on the AEC History Project," Hewlett maintained that the History Program and AEC Historian would:

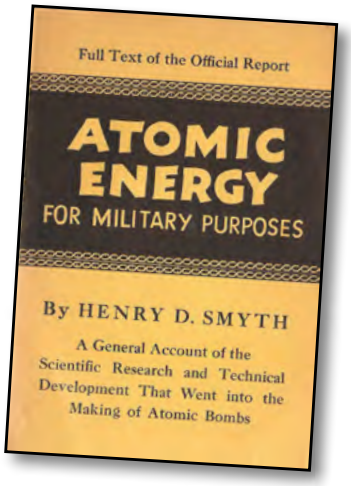
- Prepare the official history of the AEC.
- Prepare monographs and articles on smaller segments of AEC history, for publication in professional journals.
- Collect documents and record developments as they happened for future use.
- Develop a system for locating and preserving AEC records of historical importance.
- Serve as liaison between AEC and individual scholars or academic groups.

When Secretary McCool announced that the AEC History Program would be approved by the AEC General Manager on Aug. 7, subject to any comments by the AEC commissioners, all five of Hewlett's objectives were endorsed.

In creating the administrative structure for the new History Program, which now falls within the Office of Legacy Management, McCool also followed one of Hewlett's

most important recommendations: that a Historical Advisory Committee be established to advise the Commission on matters relating to the official history of the AEC, and to assist the history staff in planning and reviewing portions of the AEC history. In a separate report on the establishment of an HAC, McCool explained that it was an essential part of the AEC History Program because it would include members with exceptional ability and experience who would assure the Commission and the public that the work met the highest professional standards, with the added benefit of stimulating interest in historical and social science research on the development of atomic energy.

Among AEC leadership, not everyone was on board with the ambitions of the AEC History Program, and not everyone agreed on the value of the Advisory Committee. Willard Libby, a chemist who had worked on the gaseous diffusion process for uranium enrichment during the Manhattan Project, and who was serving as an AEC commissioner at the time, believed the proposed AEC History Program was too ambitious. In AEC commissioners' meeting minutes, Libby reportedly believed involving a number of historians on the Advisory Committee wasn't the best approach. And he suggested the official history should be written under contract by someone who had participated in the AEC program but had retired. He also suggested that by updating the first official administrative history of the Manhattan Project known as the "Smyth Report," and Arthur Compton's book, *Atomic Quest*, and then combining the two in a revised form, a more desirable history of the AEC would be obtained.



AEC Chairman Strauss responded to Libby by noting that the two books he referred to did not even cover the AEC's activities since approximately 1945. He added that Mr. Compton had not actually been active in the development of the AEC either. But Strauss also said that he believed the Advisory Committee might actually be a hindrance to the program. He suggested that perhaps it would be more desirable to obtain a number of writers with security clearances who would work in two groups — one would cover all previous years of the AEC, and others would maintain a current recording of AEC history.

In response, AEC Secretary McCool suggested it was important to obtain the support and assistance of historians outside the AEC, in part to avoid a possible future charge that the history was biased, and he maintained that the Advisory Committee would be helpful on both counts. He conceded that an ad hoc advisory committee might be a first step in reviewing the proposed outline for the AEC history and providing guidance concerning alternative approaches.

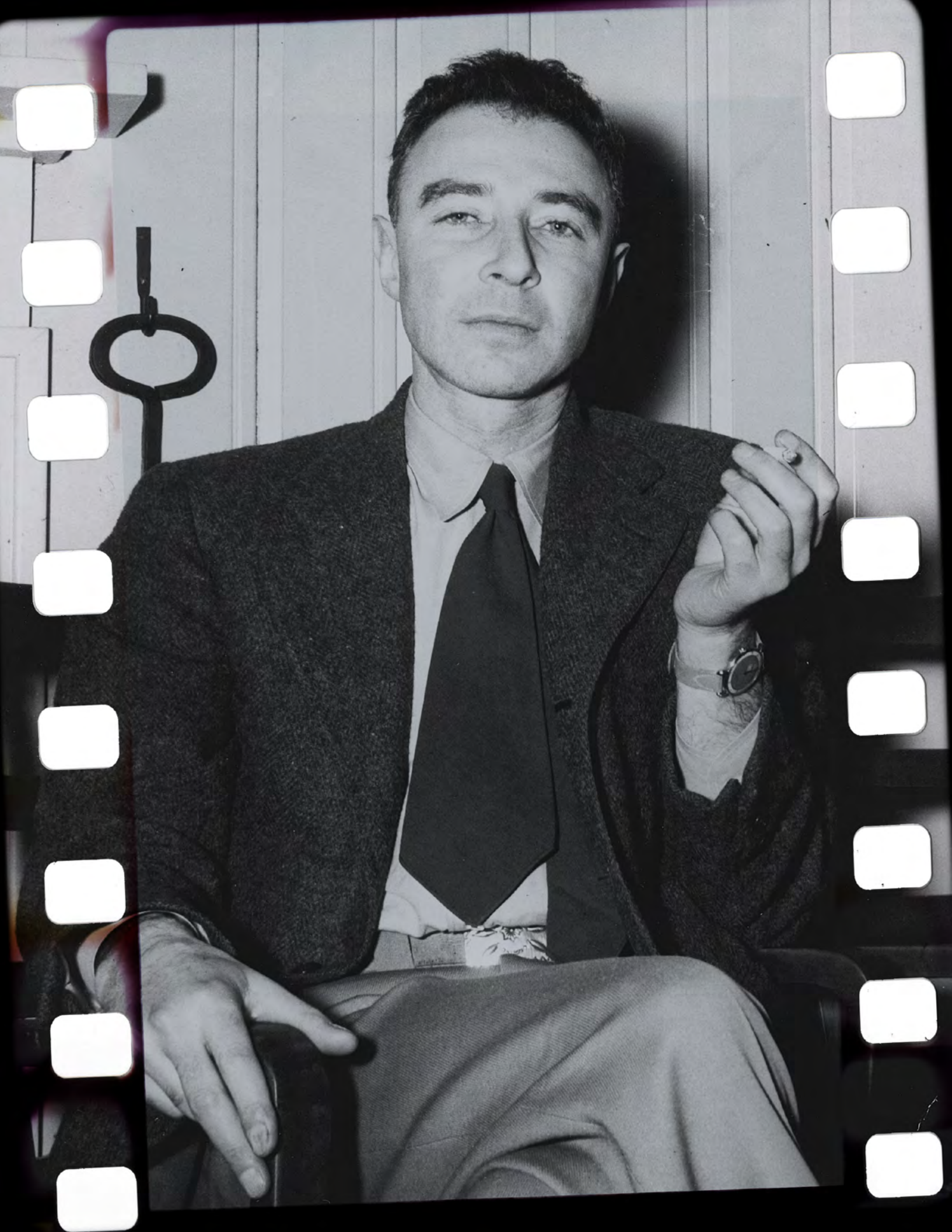
So, in February 1958, an ad hoc committee consisting of Dr. James Baxter, president of Williams College and former chairman of the new U.S. Army historical advisory committee; Rear Admiral Samuel E. Morison, professor emeritus of history at Harvard and author of *Victory in the Pacific, History of the United States Navy in World War II*; and Dr. Isador Isaac Rabi, professor of statistical mechanics at Columbia and former chairman of the AEC General Advisory Committee, made their recommendations to the Historical Advisory Committee.

In addition to Baxter and Morison, the following individuals were endorsed to serve on the Advisory Committee: Dr. William T. Hutchinson, professor of history, University of Chicago; Dr. Glenn T. Seaborg, professor of chemistry, University of California; Dr. Cyril S. Smith, professor of metallurgy, University of Chicago; Dr. Arthur S. Compton, distinguished service professor of natural philosophy, Washington University; and Mr. Don K. Price, Jr., vice president, Ford Foundation, New York, who subsequently became dean of John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard. The plan was to meet twice a year to review manuscripts, to advise on changes, and to provide guidance on future work on the official history. In addition, contact would be maintained with the committee by letter and through individual interviews, so it would be a more or less continuous session.

Over the years, the Advisory Committee proved to be an essential part of the AEC History Program. It was an effective substitute for independent scholarly criticism. It facilitated the independence of the History Program within the AEC while simultaneously promoting transparency and partnerships.

In the process, the AEC History Program became a model for other federal agencies. Hewlett served as chief historian of the AEC and its successor agencies, including DOE, from 1957 to 1980. He was a founding member of the Society for History in the Federal Government and the National Council on Public History.

He was co-author of three volumes of AEC history, including ***The New World, 1939-1946***, which was published in 1962 and was a runner-up for the 1963 Pulitzer Prize. *Atomic Shield, 1947-1952*, published in 1969, received the David D. Lloyd prize from the Harry S. Truman Library Institute. For both of these books, Hewlett was awarded the Distinguished Employee Award by the AEC, the highest employee award given by the agency. *Atoms for War and Peace, 1953-1961*, was awarded the Richard W. Leopold Prize from the Organization of American Historians and the Henry Adams Prize from the Society for History in the Federal Government, in 1990. ❖



Biopic Piques Interest in Life of J. Robert Oppenheimer

By Eric Boyle, DOE Historian

Many of you may already be excited about Christopher Nolan's Oppenheimer biopic, scheduled for release in 2023. Filming in Los Alamos, New Mexico, wrapped earlier this year, and the movie is now in post-production. A teaser was released in late July.

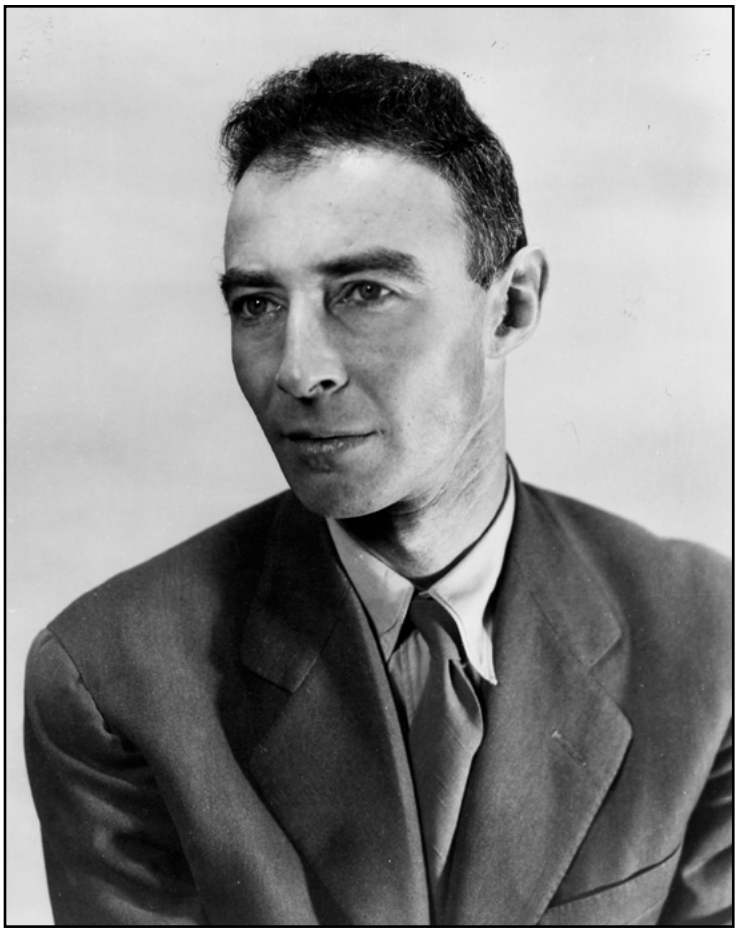
The film stars long-time Nolan collaborator Cillian Murphy, who is accompanied by an all-star cast including Emily Blunt, Robert Downey Jr., Matt Damon, Florence Pugh, Rami Malek, Josh Hartnett, Matthew Modine, and Kenneth Branagh.

Anticipation around the film has increased interest in the fascinating life of J. Robert Oppenheimer, the famous theoretical physicist widely known as the "father of the atomic bomb." Earlier this year, LM received a request to assist Los Alamos historians who were searching for a formerly top-secret report from a visit to the wartime site of the Manhattan Project by Vannevar Bush in 1944. Bush was the director of the Office of Scientific Research and Development during World War II.

Last year, an emeritus professor from Stanford University also reached out to help him track down the unredacted version of the transcripts from the now infamous Atomic Energy Commission's Personnel Security Hearing Board in 1954, which resulted in Oppenheimer being stripped of his security clearance. Another request came from the *Oppenheimer* prop team, who was looking for photos or copies of the prestigious award and medal for public service, the Enrico Fermi Prize, that Oppenheimer received in 1963.

If you're the kind of person who likes to read the book before you see the movie, and would like to learn more about these events and others, the Pulitzer Prize-winning *American Prometheus: The Tragedy and Triumph of J. Robert Oppenheimer*, by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin, is an excellent choice. Clocking in at just under 600 pages, plus another 100 pages of notes and bibliographical sources, it is a sweeping biography that conscientiously explores Oppenheimer's life from his childhood growing up on the Upper West Side of Manhattan to his excruciating death from throat cancer in 1967.

More than a quarter century in the making, *American Prometheus* is based on thousands of records from archives and personal collections, including the voluminous collections of Oppenheimer's own papers in the Library of Congress, Federal Bureau of Investigations records capturing decades of surveillance, and nearly a hundred interviews with Oppenheimer's closest friends, relatives, and colleagues. Tales of his unquestionable brilliance and triumphs are coupled with an examination of his foibles, his enigmatic character, and his lifelong struggles.



Like the Greek god Prometheus, who stole fire from Zeus and bestowed it upon humankind, Oppenheimer harnessed the power of atomic fire and ushered us into the nuclear age. But, as Bird and Sherwin note, "when he tried to control it, when he sought to make us aware of its terrible dangers, the powers-that-be, like Zeus, rose up in anger to punish him."

In the words of the authors, *American Prometheus* is a "deeply personal biography researched and written in the belief that a person's public behavior and his policy decisions (and in Oppenheimer's case perhaps even his science) are guided by the private experiences of a lifetime." This gripping and poignant account of those experiences provides a complex and nuanced portrait of a remarkable man. It remains to be seen if the film *Oppenheimer* will do the same. ❖

New Employee Bios

Obiajulum Diei-Anene

Obi Diei-Anene has joined the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Legacy Management Office of Business Operations LM-10 as a contract manager/procurement analyst. Prior to working with LM, she was a contracting officer for the DOE, Office of Headquarters Procurement Services (MA64). She joined DOE 13 years ago as a contract specialist and received a certificate in contracting. She has been a contracting officer for more than nine years and has significant experience in contracts and financial assistance. She has successfully worked with various program offices within DOE that have classified, and highly complex acquisitions and financial assistance. Obi has developed and conducted acquisition and financial assistance training for program offices and small business conferences. She has a Master of Science degree in management and a Bachelor of Arts degree in information systems. Obi is originally from Nigeria, loves traveling, and is very excited to be part of the LM team.

Allison Finelli

Allison Finelli has joined LM as chief of staff. Prior to joining LM, Allison served as deputy chief of staff for the DOE Office of Environmental Management. In her time in EM's front office, Allison directly supported two heads of the program, providing staff continuity between EM leaders and also during the administration change in 2021. Allison was instrumental in developing and refining the front office processes and procedures for the transition to remote work during the COVID-19 pandemic; managing all aspects of front office scheduling; and developing the front office travel and engagement strategy. Prior to joining the front office, Allison completed a detail as chief of staff for the Office of River Protection, served as an executive officer for EM's Office of Field Operations, and worked as a public participation specialist in EM's Office of Communication, and Office of Intergovernmental and Community Activities.

Before joining DOE in 2015, Allison served as the deputy executive director of Energy Communities Alliance, the organization of local governments adjacent to, and impacted by, DOE activities. While at ECA, Allison oversaw the activities of the organization related to environmental management and cleanup programs, the Manhattan Project National Historical Park, land transfer and reuse, research and development of new nuclear technologies, siting nuclear facilities, and high-level waste management. Allison was born in Washington, D.C., and has lived in the D.C. metro area her whole life. Allison holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics from the College of William and Mary. She lives in Rockville, Maryland, with her husband and two daughters.

Annette Moore

Annette has joined the LM-11 Archives and Information Management team as an IT specialist. After several years of wandering around the country, Annette settled on studying geology, where field trips are part of the curriculum. She received a Bachelor of Science in geology from Illinois State University and followed up with graduate school at the University of Wyoming studying satellite remote sensing. Annette's career in technology and geospatial science began as an imagery analyst at DigitalGlobe, where she eventually stepped in as program manager to establish and then manage Information Assurance for University System of Georgia data systems. Next, Annette spent some time as a cybersecurity analyst with Caterpillar Inc. and as a New Network/New Facilities project manager with Pearson Education. The past two years working with Navarro, and then RSI, have brought together most of her interests in groundwater and field-based sampling, data modeling, industrial system security and supporting an efficient, compact IT organization. In this role with LM, she hopes to continue being engaged in continual improvement and governance of data systems as well as the management of environmental and spatial data to meet the requirements of the LM mission.

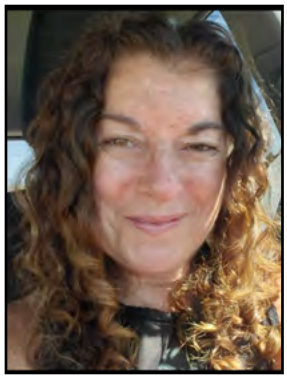
Stephen Pitton

Stephen Pitton has joined the LM-21 Site Operations Team as a site manager. He is a Colorado native and in his off time he enjoys taking his family and doing all the "-ing" of Colorado (hiking, camping, skiing, biking, rafting, climbing, hunting, fishing, etc.) He graduated from Colorado State University with a civil engineering degree in 2005 and is a registered engineer in the state of Colorado. His engineering career began in land development during a transition to a structural engineering job, in which he gained experience working projects on both the East and West coasts. Toward the end of 2008, Stephen joined the LM program as a contractor, initially in the engineering department, and later as a site lead and project manager. More than 14 years on the LM contract as an engineer and site lead provided him knowledge and skills in managing field office staff, developing budgets, schedules, logistical planning, and design and implementation of projects. He begins his federal career in LM with high hopes of making a positive impact on the LM mission.

Joni Tallbull

Joni Tallbull joined the LM-21 Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act/Nevada Offsites team, as a site manager. She grew up in Fort Defiance, Arizona. She received a Bachelor of Arts in physics with an emphasis in chemistry from Occidental College. After graduating, Joni worked for two years as an environmental technician with Diné College – Diné Environmental Institute. During this time, she coordinated research, internship, career, and other STEM resources/opportunities for Diné College students through a 100 percent-grant-funded program. She then worked for the Navajo Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation/Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action (AML/UMTRA) Department) for eight years. In her years with AML/UMTRA, she coordinated environmental monitoring efforts at reclaimed abandoned mine sites, as well as program efforts in providing guidance and input to-LM for remediation and outreach efforts for UMTRCA sites located in the Navajo Nation. Tallbull looks forward to a career with DOE and being a steward for environmental remediation efforts.

Diana Kamenel Trettin



Diana Kamenel Trettin joins the Asset Management team in LM as the Beneficial Reuse Program manager. Diana started her federal employment with National Park Service in January 2015 as a natural resource/renewable energy specialist for the Intermountain Region. She then joined the Bureau of Land Management as a mitigation specialist in 2017. Diana earned her bachelor's degree in geology/marine science biology from the University of Miami and spent a number of years as a consultant doing environmental and remediation work. She was the assistant director for the state of Georgia Department of Natural Resources Sustainability Division and has worked for various municipalities around the country as a project/construction manager. She is Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design accredited. Her hobbies include scuba diving, hiking, traveling, reading, and cooking. Diana lives in Boulder, Colorado, with her husband, children, and numerous animals.

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