

Institutional Controls (IC)

Institutional Controls (IC) are controls implemented or placed on certain sites at SNL/DOE that have undergone environmental clean-up in order to protect human health and the environment. DOE uses a wide range of institutional controls as part of efforts to:

- appropriately limit access to, or uses of, land, facilities, and other real and personal properties;
- protect the environment (including cultural and natural resources);
- maintain the physical safety and security of DOE facilities; and
- prevent or limit inadvertent human and environmental exposure to residual contaminants and other hazards.

In general, ICs are widely used mechanisms for limiting inappropriate uses of land or facilities. In the context of the SNL LTES Program, they are designed, implemented and enforced to prevent inappropriate activities on ER legacy sites and prevent new Sandia activities that may result in contamination exceeding regulatory limits.

Long term stewardship for the legacy contaminated sites is defined as the institutional controls necessary to ensure protection of people and the environment at sites where the DOE has completed cleanup (e.g., landfill covers, remedial actions, removal actions, and facility stabilization).

Sites requiring IC generally consist of the environmental restoration (ER) legacy sites, closed underground storage tanks (UST), or inactive drain and septic systems (DSS), and engineered units.

In 2010, thirty-two sites were inspected as part of the IC program. All the IC implemented at these sites are intact and no issues were identified. Annual site inspections will continue to be a key ongoing function of the IC program.



Sandia National Labs Recieves Gold Leaf Award



The International Society of Arboriculture, Rocky Mountain Chapter awarded Sandia National Laboratories (Sandia) a Gold Leaf Award - Honorable Mention for Outstanding Community Landscape Beautification. Sandia's Arbor Day Event and Urban Forestry Program has grown Sandia's tree inventory from approximately 100 trees to over 3,000 on 128 acres over the past 25 years. The urban forest program is seen as a valued component of providing a professional quality physical work environment. The Arbor Day celebration is used to highlight the value of trees and show the commitment of Sandia management toward trees and the landscape.



The International Society of Arboriculture is a worldwide professional organization dedicated to fostering a greater appreciation for trees and to promote research, technology, and the professional practice of arboriculture. Benefits from trees in an urban environment include:

- Improving employee morale, productivity, and health,
- Complying with EO 13423 and EO13514 regarding environmental stewardship,
- Providing shade in key circulation areas,
- Bringing human scale to the space between buildings, and
- Connecting people to nature as a respite from our work environments.



The US Forest Service quantified the environmental, aesthetic and other benefits in the *City of Albuquerque, New Mexico, Municipal Forest Resource Analysis, August 2006* that indicates a \$1.31 benefit for each \$1 spent. Benefits quantified include:

- Energy use reductions,
- CO² reduction/sequestration,
- Improved air quality,
- Storm water reduction, and
- Overall aesthetic (other) values.

The next Arbor Day will be celebrated nationally on Friday, April 29, 2011.

What is LTES?



Sandia's LTES Program involves stewardship activities for past, present and future activities. The LTES program "promotes the long term stewardship of a site's natural and cultural resources throughout its operational, closure, and post closure life cycle" (DOE Order 450.1A, Environmental Protection Program).

Sandia's LTES Program is responsible for providing corporate-wide processes for minimizing adverse environmental impacts from Sandia operations, including new, active and legacy sites. These processes will identify and manage cumulative environmental impacts prior to reaching regulatory limits.

A subcomponent of LTES is the long-term stewardship (LTS) of legacy waste sites (former Environmental Restoration [ER] sites). These LTS sites require additional monitoring and maintenance measures. Sandia's LTS activities have been increasing as the ER Project comes to a close. Scheduled cleanup of more than 200 ER sites is complete. Long-term monitoring requirements for LTS are currently in development.

What are some LTES activities at Sandia?

The LTES Program is continuing to grow and working to improve our ability to better represent concerned citizens. We have a website that offers user-friendly access to information on events and projects within the LTES Program. The public can also access fact sheets relating to Sandia's environmental programs, as well as information on the Community Checklist, and meeting announcements.

For more information on Sandia's LTES Program, please visit our website at:

<http://ltes.sandia.gov>



Mission

The LTES mission ensures long-term protection of human health and the environment and proactive management toward sustainable use and protection of natural and cultural resources affected by Sandia's operation and operational legacies. This mission will be accomplished by working with the line and support organizations in proactively identifying potential environmental impacts and applying environmental processes and guidance.

Next Event

What: DOE/DoD Semi-Annual Public Meeting
When: Wednesday, October 20th 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Where: Cesar Chavez Community Center
7505 Kathryn SE, Albuquerque, NM 87108

For more information, go to

<http://ltes.sandia.gov/>

If you do not wish to receive future LTES newsletters, please e-mail
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