

Long-term Environmental Stewardship

The Sandia National Laboratories, New Mexico (SNL/NM) 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” (Department of Energy Order 450.1, Environmental Protection Program).

The SNL/NM 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 environmental regulatory limits.

Institutional Controls and Stewardship

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has issued Policy and Guidance Documents on ICs. The Sandia approach to ICs follows the DOE Policy and Guidance.

In general, ICs are widely used mechanisms for limiting inappropriate uses of land or facilities. This access limitation helps ensure continued environmental stewardship by minimizing disturbance.

In the context of the SNL LTES Program, they are designed, implemented and enforced to (1) prevent inappropriate activities on former legacy

sites and (2) prevent new contamination from SNL activities above regulatory limits.

The DOE lists the following categories of ICs:

- Government ownership
- Warning notices
- Entry restrictions
- Resource-use management
- Site information systems

SNL will use all or some of these types of ICs in combination. This allows for a flexible, layered, and redundant system approach for ICs that is commiserate with the risk (of failure of the ICs).



Institutional Controls at Sandia

Objectives of the Institutional Control Function

The objective of the IC function is to develop institutional controls processes and practices that:

- limit access to, or uses of, land, facilities, and other real and personal properties, where appropriate,
- protect the environment, including cultural and natural resources,
- maintain the physical safety and security of SNL facilities,
- prevent or limit inadvertent human and environmental exposure to resident contaminants and other hazards, and
- develop the consistency and efficiency benefits of integrating IC monitoring and enforcement with a site-wide environmental management system.

What Can You Do?

- Help assist in maintaining the integrity of institutional controls,
- Obey all institutional control signs and requirements, and
- Notify the LTES Program if institutional controls' integrity is compromised.

Contact Us!

For more information about ICs and LTES at Sandia, visit our website:



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



Give us a Call!

You can also call the LTES Program Line at (505) 284-9883.

