

Long-Term Environmental Stewardship SAND2009-5639P

Sandia National Laboratories

Summer 2009 Newsletter

This newsletter is distributed to the community to provide the latest information on Long-term Environmental Stewardship (LTES)/Long-Term Stewardship (LTS) environmental activities at Sandia.



Pinyon Jays at the Range Guzzler

Sandia National Laboratories, New Mexico Receives ISO 14001 Certification

In June 2009, Sandia National Laboratories, New Mexico (Sandia) received the news that its Environmental Management System (EMS) was certified to the ISO 14001 Standard. ISO 14001 is the International Quality Standard for Environmental Management Systems. Additionally, Sandia, California learned that it passed its recertification audit.

Sandia's EMS is the way we identify, manage and mitigate impacts to the environment and is the umbrella for all of our environmental programs.

ISO 14001 certification of Sandia's EMS is significant for a number of reasons:

- It is a third-party recognition by accredited professionals.
- ISO 14001 is recognized world-wide as providing a level of rigor and commitment to environmental protection.
- It is rare that a site as large and as complex as Sandia attempts, let alone achieves, ISO 14001 certification. (All four auditors noted that this was the most diverse and complex organization they ever certified and recognized that challenge and achievement).

In order to maintain ISO 14001 Certification, Sandia will undergo regular third party audits.

Overall, an ISO 14001 certified EMS benefits Sandia, as follows:

- Simplifies and clarifies approach to compliance and environmental stewardship and strengthens our assurance system.
- It provides an additional competitive edge for obtaining work for others business.
- It promotes efficiency and effectiveness in operations.
- It integrates with corporate processes such as those for document control, records management and corrective actions.

Green Buildings at Sandia National Laboratories, New Mexico

Sandia is responsible for over 700 buildings, constituting over 6.5 million square feet of floor space. As responsible environmental stewards, Sandia applies sustainable design principles and building practices to all new construction projects, existing building renovation and remodeling projects, as well as the operations and maintenance practices for existing buildings.

Green Building at Sandia

Sandia is a member of the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), which is dedicated to promoting buildings that are environmentally responsible, profitable and healthy places to live and work. The USGBC developed the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System® as a voluntary, consensus-based national standard for developing high-performance, sustainable buildings. LEED certification is granted only to those building projects demonstrating superior performance in five key areas of human and environmental health: sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection, and indoor environmental quality.

Sandia currently has five LEED Certified buildings onsite; that's more than any other organization in the State of New Mexico. Over 10 percent of Sandia's building square footage is LEED certified.

The Joint Computational Engineering Laboratory (JCEL)

was the first LEED Silver certified building in the State on New Mexico. It is a 66,143 SF office/computational facility designed to accommodate confidential work. From the beginning, the building was conceived to be much more than a simple structure that houses Sandia scientists and engineers.

The completion of JCEL is a significant achievement for Sandia in the area of sustainable design because it was the first LEED project at Sandia and one of only a few within the Department of Energy (DOE) community, and it was the first building at Sandia to incorporate sustainable design from the beginning of the project. The process used for JCEL has since been used to incorporate sustainable design into four additional buildings at Sandia.

Visit http://environment.sandia.gov/new/fact_sheets.shtml to learn about the other LEED Certified buildings at Sandia.



JCEL - the first LEED certified building at Sandia



Sandia Labs Director Tom Hunter, left, and Kirtland Air Force Base Commander Col. Mike Duvall at the 2009 Energy Bowl awards ceremony. The two agreed to continue the friendly competition to encourage energy conservation. (Photo by Lloyd Wilson)

2009 Energy Contest Between Sandia & Kirtland Air Force Base

Sandia and KAFB recently completed the 2009 Energy Contest, which was a competition between Sandia and KAFB to see which site could reduce the most electrical energy per gross square feet during the months of April, May, and June 2009. Here are the results:

April Winner: Sandia

Both sides increased, however SNL increased less

May Winner: Sandia

Both sides increased, however SNL increased less

June Winner: KAFB

Both sides decreased, however KAFB decreased more

The winner of each month had the bragging rights for that month. The overall competition winner being Sandia. An award event took place on August 4, 2009 where Dr. Thomas Hunter was awarded a crystal globe as the energy winner and Colonel Duval graciously accepted the energy "hog" award. Because two of the three months showed an energy increase, the three entities (Sandia, KAFB, DOE/SSO) have decided to extend the competition with the possible future expansion to include other resources. To maintain our bragging rights, the next round of energy results will require us to take more extreme measures to ensure victory and actually show a decrease in energy usage.

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.



What is LTS?

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?

As part of stewardship activities, the LTES Program is developing a life-cycle model to address environmental impacts early in the planning process, allow for proactive mitigation and/or clean-up at the end of a project, and to prevent the creation of additional ER sites.

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 contact the Environmental Message Line at 505-284-9883 or 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: Tuesday, October 20, 2009 from 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Where: Cesar Chavez Community Center
7505 Kathryn SE, Albuquerque, NM 87108

For more information, please contact the Environmental Message Line at 505-284-9883.

If you do not wish to receive future LTES newsletters, please contact us at 505-284-9883 or e-mail Katrina Wagner at kmwagne@sandia.gov.

