

PANEL SESSION 1 - WM2011 Symposium Plenary

Co-Chairs: James Gallagher, *Gallagher Consulting*;
James Voss, *Terra Verde Group*

Panelists Included:

- Inés Triay, *Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management, US DOE*
- Tom Zarges, *President Energy & Construction, URS Corporation*
- François-Michel Gonnot, *Chairman of the Governing Board of ANDRA*

Almost 2,000 people attended the opening plenary session and listened to the opening remarks of **Jim Gallagher**.

The progress made in cleaning up nuclear sites in Europe and the United States was evident at the Waste Management Symposia 2011 opening plenary session Monday morning.

Dr. Inés Triay, US Department of Energy Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management, highlighted the DOE 2020 vision for cleanup. The vision states that by 2020, Hanford will be the only remaining site in the United States with substantial cleanup underway and with minor legacy cleanup underway at only eight sites.

The goal is impressive given that cleanup is underway at 18 sites today in 11 states. Contrast that with where EM cleanup began in 1989 with 110 sites needing cleanup in 35 states.

To achieve the 2020 vision, DOE will build on momentum provided by American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding. They will complete three major tank waste construction projects, disposition 90 percent of Legacy TRU waste by 2015, shrink the EM legacy footprint 90 percent by 2015, and reduce life-cycle costs by up to \$36 billion.

Tom Zarges, President of Energy and Construction for the URS Corporation **and Francois-Michael Gonnot**, member of the French parliament and Chairman of ANDRA, France's national waste management agency highlighted progress in the last decade in France, the United States and England.

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