

# Waste Management Today

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Good morning and thanks for checking in with Waste Management Today. Here are the stories we're following:

## **Final RFP For New Idaho Contract Includes 'Fairly Balanced Incentive Plan,' EM Official Says**

The final Request for Proposals for the new Idaho Cleanup Project (ICP) Core contract contains "a fairly balanced incentive plan," Jack Surash, deputy assistant secretary for acquisition and project management in the Department of Energy's Office of Environmental Management said yesterday. In response to industry concerns, DOE modified the proposed fee approach to allow the winner to earn some final fee over the five-year course of the contract while keeping some fee from being final until the end to incentivize performance, Surash said in remarks at this year's Waste Management conference, held in Phoenix. "I await to see what the market response to that is," Surash said.

When DOE issued an initial draft RFP for the new Idaho contract last fall, nearly all potential bidders made it clear that they could not bid on the contract as then outlined because of concerns over provisions that would make the winning contractor liable for costs above the target cost combined with uncertainties in the work scope to be performed. In apparent response to industry concerns, DOE subsequently modified the draft RFP to remove a provision that would have made contractors responsible for all costs going forward once the target cost for the new contract had been exceeded by \$150 million. DOE later announced plans to reduce the amount of fee that would be considered "provisional" and subject to potential clawback. The final RFP for the new Idaho contract, issued late last week, included another round of changes to the fee structure.

## **EM to Stand Up Los Alamos Field Office on March 22**

The Department of Energy's Office of Environmental Management plans to formally stand up its new Los Alamos field office next week on March 22, EM Acting Assistant Secretary Mark Whitney said yesterday at the Waste Management Conference's plenary session. DOE is in the midst of the transition of LANL cleanup work to EM from the National Nuclear Security Administration, and last week announced that named EM Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for Waste Management Christine Gelles will be acting manager of the new office until a permanent manager is appointed. "There really won't be much of a difference at all initially logistically, but we will have Christine in place there leading the office," Whitney said on the sidelines of the conference. "All the employees, who for the most part are EM employees, will report directly to her and they will report directly to me. So that will streamline that whole reporting process, so that will be very helpful given where we are right now in trying to establish on the contractor side the direct reporting relationship with EM."

EM is now launching a new procurement for the legacy cleanup work for the lab. DOE is currently recruiting four key new positions for the office, including a field office manager, deputy manager, regulatory specialist and contracting officer. It will also conduct a staffing analysis to "determine what additional resources and skills and bodies we are going to need to get to where we need to be when we take over the contract fully and have a new contractor on board," Whitney said. "I anticipate there are going to be some additional needs, but we are going to

do that staffing analysis first.”



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## French Plenary Delegate Offers Lessons-Learned in Repository Siting

Consent through all stages of the government and constant parliamentary support should be key to a nation's waste management strategy, French Director for Energy at the Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy Virginie Schwarz said during her plenary remarks. France was this year's featured nation, and Schwarz offered a glimpse into some of the lessons learned in France's attempts at siting a repository for the nation's spent fuel. Schwarz said four key areas helped France move forward: an active parliament, a separate waste management organization, willing communities, and a transparent, open dialogue on waste research. Previous attempts to site a location for a repository failed, Schwarz said, because the government only focused on the technical side, while ignoring the political and societal part of the equation. "Attempts to organize a dialogue with the inhabitants of the municipalities came too late," Schwarz said. "So what we thought was a really good idea, asking the municipalities to volunteer, really revealed itself to not be compatible with the necessities to prepare a project such as a disposal facility. They were several years ahead of the municipalities, but support is needed also at the county, and all the higher level of public authorities to ensure there is total solid support at all levels of the project." France anticipates opening its geologic repository for spent fuel disposal in 2025, Schwarz said.

## Lundburg and Shrum Discuss the Utah Sealed Source License Variance Initiative

Rusty Lundberg, Director of the Division of Radiation Control of the Utah Department of Environmental Quality, and Dan Shrum, Senior Vice President of Regulatory Affairs for EnergySolutions, accepted the 2015 Richard S. Hodes, M.D. Honor Lecture Award yesterday on behalf of the DRC and EnergySolutions. The Southeast Compact Commission (Commission) recognized the organizations for the significant role they played in advancing low-level radioactive waste (LLRW) management improvements in the United States by developing and implementing the Utah Sealed Source License Variance Initiative



"It is likely that future efforts to address the full life cycle of sealed sources will benefit from the success of the Utah Sealed Source License Variance Initiative," said Lundberg. "The success of the entire project can be measured not only by the number of disused sealed sources collected and disposed, but, perhaps even more importantly, by the collaborative effort of all those involved--from the early planning stages to the receipt and disposal of the final drums at the Clive facility."

Jack Storton, one of the Southeast Compact Commissioners from Virginia who presented the Award, said: "The Commission appreciates Mr. Lundberg and Mr. Shrum sharing their perspectives of the success of the Utah Sealed Source License

Variance Initiative. The LLRW industry has clearly benefitted from the efforts of the award recipients. The Commission would also like to acknowledge the participation of the Conference of Radiation Control Program Directors and the Department of Energy's Global Threat Reduction Initiative in this innovative effort to expand cost-effective disposal opportunities for sealed sources."

The DRC is the Utah program responsible for licensing and regulating the Clive facility. EnergySolutions is an international nuclear services company that operates the commercial LLRW disposal facility in Clive, Utah. Headquartered in Salt Lake City, Utah, the company provides recycling, processing, and disposal services to the nuclear industry.

The Southeast Compact Commission for Low-Level Radioactive Waste Management established the Richard S. Hodes, M.D. Honor Lecture Award to honor the memory of Dr. Richard S. Hodes, who served as chair of the Southeast Compact Commission from its inception in 1983 until his death in 2002.

Nominations for the 2015 Hodes Honor Lecture Award are now being accepted. The deadline for submittal of nominations is June 30, 2014. Details are on the Commission website at [www.secompact.org](http://www.secompact.org) or you may contact Ted Buckner at 919/380-7780 or [tedb@secompact.org](mailto:tedb@secompact.org).



### Preview: Used Nuclear Fuel Management

International used nuclear fuel management strategies get the spotlight today as panel of industry and government officials will discuss the progress of on used fuel transport, storage, recycling, and geologic disposal. Both the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Department of Energy will make presentations highlighting their research and development into dry cask storage as well as the nation's strategy to build a pilot consolidated interim storage facility. The panel, entitled "Progress in Dealing with the World's Stockpile of Used Nuclear Fuel - World Progress with Transport, Interim Storage, Recycling and Geologic Disposal," will take place at 3:15 p.m. in room 102BC. Panelists include: Bill Boyle, Director of the Office of Used Nuclear Fuel Disposition Research and Development, US DOE; Keith McConnell, Special Assistant to Director of Office of Nuclear Material Safety & Safeguards, US NRC; Frederic Bailly, Senior Vice President, International Projects, Back End Business Group, AREVA; Tim Tinsley, Business Leader, Spent Fuel Management Technology, UK NNL; Claes Thegerstrom, SKB; and Andrew Sowder, Senior Technical Leader, Nuclear Fuel and Chemistry, EPRI.

Key questions for the panel include: What progress has DOE made in its post-Yucca waste management strategy? How does international progress reflect against progress in the U.S.?

### Preview: Panels on Project and Contractor Management

Two panels are scheduled to be held this morning looking at how DOE interacts with its contractors and manages projects. The panels come as DOE is still in the midst of seeking how to appropriately balance risk and rewards with its contractors while at the same time ensuring sustained engagement of the industry marketplace. DOE is also moving forward with a new project management approach that entails, in part, plans for additional reviews of projects by senior officials to help better identify and resolve issues before they become significant.

The first panel, "Emerging Issues That Challenge Traditional Contractor Roles at Federal Sites." Is set to be held from 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. in Location 102BC. Panelists will include Robert Cochran, President, Federal Services, CB&I; Andy Kelsey, Vice President, Environmental Business Development, Bechtel Environmental, Inc.; Peter Lock, Director, Health, Safety, Security & Environment, Radioactive Waste Management Limited, UK Nuclear Decommissioning Authority; Greg Meyer, Senior Vice President, Environmental & Nuclear Operations, Fluor; Joan Miller, Vice President, Decommissioning & Waste Management, Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (Canada); Bob Nichols, Director, Facilities, Operations and Infrastructure, Fluor Paducah Deactivation Project; James Taylor, Executive Vice President & General Manager, Nuclear & Environmental Management & Service Group, AECOM and Martin Schneider, CEO, Exchange Monitor Publications.

The second panel, "US DOE Acquisition and Project Management - The Last 5 Years in Review," is set to be held from 10:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Location 103AB. Panelists will include Jack Surash, Deputy Assistant Secretary (DAS) for Acquisition and Project Management, US DOE EM; Chris Honkomp, Assistant Secretary and Director of Project Assessment, US DOE EM; Kenneth Rueter, President and Project Manager, URS/CH2M Oak Ridge, LLC; Jeff Bradford, Chief Operating Officer, Washington Closure Hanford, LLC; and Dennis Carr, Site Project Director, Fluor/B&W Project.



## Preview: Small Business Contracting Panels


A set of two panels are scheduled to be held this afternoon looking at small business contracting opportunities and challenges in the DOE marketplace. DOE has recently moved to separate work for small businesses at the Idaho site and is currently working on an acquisition plan to help decide what types of small business opportunities may be available for legacy cleanup work at the Los Alamos National Laboratory post-FY 2016. DOE-EM acquisition chief Jack Surash also recently said EM would be looking to increase its focus on providing opportunities for the various socio-economic subcategories of small businesses.

The first panel, "Small Business Contracting Opportunities with the US Federal Government and Their Contractors," is scheduled to be held 1:30 to 3:10 p.m. in Location 103AB. Panelists include Dave Hess, Assistant Director, Office of Contracting US DOE EMCBC; Bill Badger, Public Affairs, Business Development and Strategy Manager, CH2M Hill; Sam W. Artis, Director – Small Business Liaison Office, Energy, Infrastructure & Industrial Construction, AECOM; Rich Brown, UPF Director of Procurement, Bechtel; Sharon Brady, Vice President of Business Operations, The S.M. Stoller Corporation, a subsidiary of Huntington Ingalls Industries, Inc.; and Marty Gray, Capture Manager, Fluor Government Group. The second panel, "Addressing the Small Business Barriers in Contracting with the US DOE," is scheduled to be held from 3:15 to 5:00 p.m. in Location 103AB. Panelists will include Jack Surash, Deputy Assistant Secretary (DAS) for Acquisition and Project Management, US DOE - EM; John D. Hale III, Director, Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, US DOE; and John Evett, Small Business Program Manager, US DOE - EM.

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