

Subject: ASO News – June 11, 2012

NAPA Visit to ASO/Argonne: Within the FY 2012 appropriations, Congress directed the [National Academy of Public Administration \(NAPA\) to conduct an independent review of the Department's management and oversight of DOE's national laboratories](#). Accordingly, ASO and Argonne are hosting NAPA representatives on June 11-12, 2012.

FY2012 Lab Plan Briefing: ASO Manager (J. Livengood) participated in SC's Lab Plan briefing session with Argonne and UChicago on June 8, 2012.

Radiological Protection: Argonne/ASO recently sought guidance from the Office of Health Safety & Security (HSS) on the rare earth Samarium. Samarium, like many rare earths, contains primordial radionuclides that fall outside of regulation under 10 CFR 835. When questioned, HSS determined that samarium and similar rare earths that are purified must be considered TENORM and are subject to regulation under 10CFR835. Argonne is currently considering options on how to approach this dilemma, and will seek collaboration with other Science laboratories holding rare earths.

Alpha Gamma Hot Cell Facility (AGHCF) De-Inventory Activity: Overall campaign production increased last week to a total of 80 drums out loaded from AGHCF, which met the project major milestone due 06-25-2012, more than three weeks ahead of schedule. Out load campaign #29 produced 24 drums of shippable RH TRU waste and was the largest single out load ever produced from the AGHCF. Every 6-inch diameter storage hole is now documented as empty. In addition, shipment of RH-TRU wastes to WIPP continued. Three 72B cask shipments were made on May 31, 2012, which was the first time Argonne has shipped three truck loads in a single day (see photos below). CBFO has now allocated shipping resources to other sites for a few weeks before they resume from Argonne.



Figure 1
RH TRU 72B cask on trailer exits Argonne 05-31-2012. Two other trucks and escort vehicles are visible in the background. This was the largest such convoy ever sent from Argonne.



Figure 2
Four RH TRU 72B casks are shown on trailers at Argonne. Three were loaded and shipped 05-31-2012 and the fourth is empty and ready to be loaded for future shipment.

Advanced Photon Source Upgrade (APS-U) Project, SC Independent Mini-Review: The APS-U Project will undergo an Office of Science (SC-28) Independent Mini-Review on June 13, 2012. The purpose of this review is to assess APS-U's progress toward Critical Decision 2 (CD-2) scheduled for early FY2013. The project will present accomplishments to date and project plans for FY 2013. The project received CD-1 on September 15, 2011. APS-U upgrades the existing third-generation APS light source, which enables APS to provide an unprecedented combination of high-energy, high-average brilliance, high flux, and short-pulse x-ray together with state-of-the-art x-ray beamline instrumentation to complement fourth-generation light sources.

Energy Science Building (ESB): ESB construction now stands at 41% complete. Installation of the north face curtain wall (glazing) is approximately 20% complete. The Penthouse steel is 100% erected and welding of its metal deck is almost complete. Site work is about 90% complete and site utility work is near 88% complete. Safety remains at the forefront of all activities. Safety management reviews, held by Argonne with the General Contractor (GC) and by the GC with its sub-contractors, proved to be very beneficial to all, by maintaining awareness of potential hazards as well as benefits. Through these reviews that involve the contractors and subcontractors, the project has been kept free of serious incidents. Attached is a photo of ESB taken on June 8, 2012.

Sustainability: On June 6, 2012, Paul Kearns, Argonne Deputy Director for Operations, issued a memo to all employees, expanding the Alternate Work Schedule (AWS) availability to all exempt and non-exempt employees. This AWS, designated as 9/80, is equivalent to the government's AWS 5/4/9 and will be effective June 18, 2012, subject to the approval of the individual's respective supervisors/divisions, specific operational requirements, and special agreements. The reduction in the number of employee commuting miles will help the Laboratory meet the goals set by President Obama in EO 13514, which requires 13% reduction of Scope 3 GHG emissions (emissions that come from employees' commute to/from work and work related travel) by FY 2020 versus 2008 baseline.

Energy Savings Performance Contract, Central Heating Plant Improvements: ASO and Argonne are finishing the selection process for the Combined Heating and Power plant addition to the Central Heating Plant at Argonne. Once an Energy Saving Company is selected, the company will be responsible for conducting an Investment Grade Audit prior to final negotiation and contract award. ASO expects to issue the final award in December 2012, with final commissioning in time for the winter of 2014/2015 heating season. The addition is expected to save almost \$2,000,000 in energy and maintenance per year. Sean Seamon is the contracting lead and George Paliulionis is the technical lead for this project.