

Subject: ASO News - March 25, 2011

Here are a few recent items of interest from ASO:

- **ASO/UChicago/Argonne Strategic Partnership Retreat** – On March 24, 2011, senior representatives from all three organizations met to discuss topics on enhancing our partnership efforts as well as opportunities for improving mission outcomes. The conversation was extremely candid and useful. This retreat was a follow-on to the Argonne Partnership Agreement signed in December 2010 to promote Contractor Assurance and the recent H-Clause implementation.
- **GAO Review** – A GAO team conducted a design and scoping visit this week (March 21-23rd) at Argonne on behalf of the House Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, Committee on Energy and Commerce. The ultimate review will examine the overlap, duplication, and fragmentation of the Department of Energy (DOE) and National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) laboratories. ASO management and staff attended sessions throughout their stay.
- **Community Leaders Roundtable (CLRT)** – The Argonne CLRT held its quarterly meeting on March 23, 2011. ASO and Argonne provided informational updates on a wide range of topics, including DOE's initiation of an Environmental Assessment to evaluate cumulative environmental effects of the Laboratory's overall Site Modernization Plan. Argonne provide formal presentations on its Site Sustainability initiatives and its biofuel automotive research. ASO Manager and Deputy attended and participated, as well as the Director for Communications (SC-CH).
- **Next Phase TRU Waste Disposition** – DOE Carlsbad Field Office officially notified ASO that RH TRU waste loading and shipping resources will be deployed to Argonne the week of April 4th to support the spring restart of disposal operations to WIPP, beginning the week of April 11th.
- **EM FY2013 Budget Formulation** – EM's initiated their FY2013 budget formulation process with initial briefings from the sites to EM scheduled for the week of April 4th. Argonne plans to submit an over-target, emerging requirements request for EM funding in FY2013 to support continued movement of TRU wastes offsite and excess facility disposition.
- **Derived Concentration Guideline Levels (DCGLs) for Soils Associated with the Bldg. 330 Excavation** – ASO completed its review of the recommended DCGLs for slightly contaminated soils in the excavation of the former Bldg. 330. Based on the recommended DCGLs and the final fill and capping of the site, minimal if any, additional soil excavation will be required.
- **Energy Sciences Building (ESB)** – An Argonne-directed ESB Director's Review was held on March 24, 2011. Based on the outcomes of that review, the ESB project is in very good shape for the planned May 24, 2011 CD-3 review. Additionally, our appreciation is in order for the approval of the ESB construction solicitation package this week by SC's

Head of Contracting. Argonne released the package for bid later the same day (March 22nd).

- **Argonne participation at public forum on nuclear safety** – US Senators Durbin (D) and Kirk (R) from Illinois hosted a public forum this afternoon on nuclear safety to discuss the safety of the state's nuclear reactors and whether Illinois is prepared for an emergency, citing Japan's still-unfolding crisis. Mark Peters, Argonne Deputy for Programs, participated at the joint request of Senators Durbin and Kirk.

Read more:

<http://www.chicagobusiness.com/article/20110323/NEWS11/110329941/durbin-kirk-to-host-nuclear-safety-forum#ixzz1He2Oobz2>

- **Safety Basis Review Team (SBRT) for Argonne's Transportation Safety Document (TSD)** – On March 15, 2011, DOE's Safety Basis Review Team (SBRT) for Argonne's Transportation Safety Document (TSD) kicked-off their review of the TSD attending laboratory presentations and visiting the site. Pete Washburn of ASO is a member of the SBRT.
- **Briefing to SC-31** – ASO and Argonne briefed SC-31 on the Laboratory's FY2013 budget request for its safeguards and security program. Argonne's request includes an over target request of approximately \$300K to support the laboratory's continued role in maturing DOE's Federated Model to enhance cyber security protection across the SC complex. At an outcome of the meeting, Argonne will initiate conversations with DOE's CIO office regarding the potential of acquiring funds directly from the CIO.
- **Safety Management Programs Reviews** – ASO completed two additional Safety Management Program Reviews this for week for Radioactive and Hazardous Waste Management and the D&D program. Reviews concluded these programs are effectively implemented for nuclear facilities at Argonne.

If you have any questions about these or other items, please let me know.

Thanks,
Joanna

Joanna M. Livengood, Ph.D.

*U.S. Department of Energy
Argonne Site Office Manager
9800 South Cass Avenue
Argonne, IL 60439
630-252-2366
630-252-2361 (fax)
joanna.livengood@ch.doe.gov*