

Subject: ASO News – March 30, 2012

SC CAS Peer Review: ASO, Argonne, and UChicago provided factual accuracy comments this week on the SC CAS Peer Review Team's draft report. The team expects to issue a final report by April 5, 2012.

ASO coordinating with DHHS/ASPR to support efforts for NATO Summit: ASO received request this week from Region V of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) - US Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to establish deployment space at Argonne during the upcoming NATO Summit in Chicago on May 19-21, 2012. ASO is working this request with Argonne.

Czech Delegation visited Argonne: A Czech delegation visited Argonne on Wednesday, March 28, 2012. The delegation toured the APS and CNM. Joanna Livengood (ASO) and Mark Peters (Argonne) welcomed the delegation to the Laboratory.

Energy Science Building (ESB): Favorable weather continues to facilitate contractor progress, keeping the project ahead of schedule. This week, concrete was placed in the last section of the third floor elevated slab, thereby completing the reinforced concrete structure of the building. On the basement and first floor levels, installation of metal partitions, electrical rough-ins (panel boxes and conduits), sheet metal HVAC ductwork, hot water, chilled water, fire protection and laboratory drain piping are moving ahead at a high pace. On the exterior of the building, most of the excavated soil stockpile was removed from the building site and the storm water retention pond work is in progress. George Paliulionis is the Federal Project Director, and Dale Dietzel is the Deputy Federal Project Director.

ASO Participates in DOE CD-1 Review at SLAC: At the request of SC-28, ASO's Dale Dietzel participated on DOE's CD-1 Review of the Science and User Support Building (SUSB) project for the SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory on March 27-28, 2012. The purpose of the SUSB project is to construct a 58,000 square foot conference and collaboration facility for SLAC scientific users

Argonne Completes 2007 Waste Management Recovery Plan, Final Shipment Departs Site: On March 26th, Argonne informed ASO that the Recovery Plan in place since January 2007 is now complete. Over 10,000 cubic feet of legacy wastes, some generated as early as 1988, have been safely disposed off-site. At the start of FY2012, only two very challenging drums remained, which were each Hazard Category 3 facilities by themselves, contained prohibited liquids, and required a hot cell for processing plus multiple regulatory approvals. One drum, which was 40 R/hr on contact, was processed into several compliant drums and the Type B quantities were shipped to the Nevada National Security Site via a 10-160B cask for disposal on March 23rd, 2012. NNSS has since verified receipt and burial, which closes the five year cleanup campaign.

EM FY2014-2018 Budget Briefings: On March 29, 2012, ASO presented an above-target, emerging scope budget proposal to EM for FY 2014-2018. Work proposed was included on the list of Argonne excess facilities and waste disposition activities that EM had identified in 2009 as being acceptable to transition to EM, subject to availability of funding. The FY 2014 portion of the budget proposal included six discrete work scopes: three waste and materials disposition campaigns (including continued cleanout of the Alpha Gamma Hot Cell [AGHCF]), one characterization activity, and start of decontamination and demolition of two excess facilities (Building 200 MA/MB Wing and the Intense Pulsed Neutron Source Facility).

ASO/Argonne to Host Benchmarking Visit from Navy Nuclear Propulsion Program at ID: Argonne and ASO staff coordinated with NNSA's contractor and Federal personnel to arrange an April 24-25, 2012, benchmarking site visit to the Alpha Gamma Hot Cell Facility. Representatives from the Naval Reactors Facility (NRF) located at Idaho National Laboratory will review the facilities and equipment, plus processes and procedures pioneered at Argonne during 2010 and 2011, to safely dispose RH TRU fuel examination waste at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant near Carlsbad NM. The NRF serves a function very similar to that historically performed at the AGHCF.