# Upper Los Alamos Canyon Project Public Meeting

June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Fuller Lodge

Los Alamos





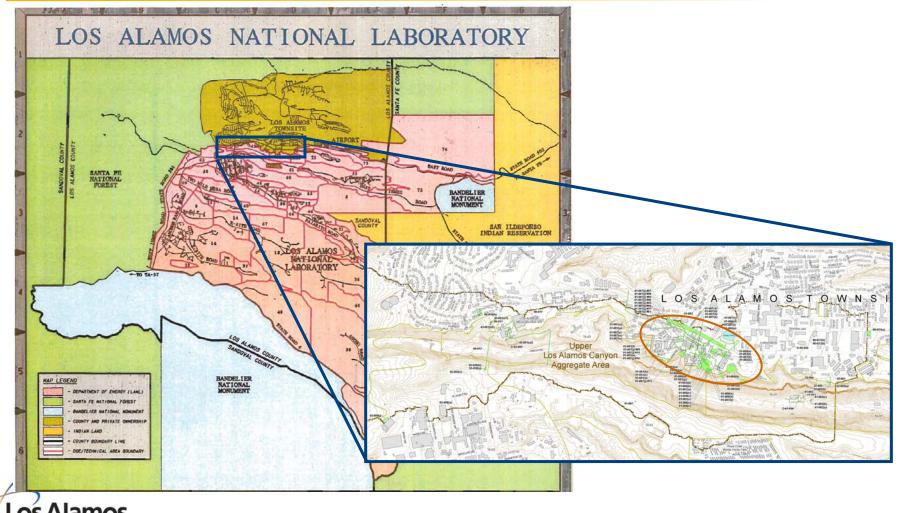
#### Introductions

- Gordon Dover Corrective Actions Program Manager
- Dave McInroy Deputy Program Manager
- Becky Coel-Roback Project Leader
- Lorrie Bonds Lopez Outreach & Public Involvement





### **Upper Los Alamos Canyon Project Location**



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## **Upper LA Canyon Former TA-01 Work Site**





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#### **Site History**

- Technical Area (TA) 01 was the main TA of the lab
- Built in 1943 during WWII as part of Manhattan Project
- Most technical work transferred to other locations by 1965





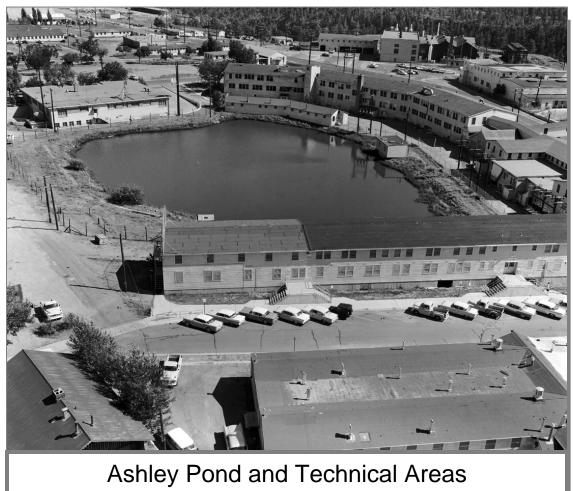
#### **Site Operations Included**

- Radiological research
- Wet chemistry experimentation
- Uranium and plutonium processing, purification, and recovery
- Casting, machining, metallurgy, and other industrial operations





# **Completing Yesterday's Mission**



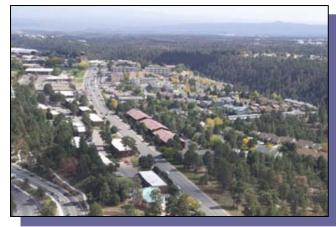
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#### **TA-01 Over the Years**





2004



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## 1953 – 1974: Dismantling TA-01

- 1945: Plutonium operations moved to DP Site
- 1953: Phased decontamination and decommission activities began
- 1953–1959: Structures in the eastern portion razed
- 1959: Industrial waste lines and contaminated concrete pads removed
- 1965: Structures in the western portion razed
- 1965: Industrial waste lines removed



#### 1974 — 1979 Investigation and Cleanup

- 1974 1979: Ahlquist Radiological Survey identified three areas of focus for decontamination
  - Areas with plutonium contamination
  - Former industrial waste lines
  - Areas with uranium contamination
- 1977: 15,000 m<sup>3</sup> of contaminated material removed
- Residential and commercial development increased





## 1992 — 1997 Investigation and Cleanup

- New environmental regulations enacted
- Phased investigation, sampling, quantitative risk assessments performed
- 68 solid waste management units identified
- Hillsides, septic outfalls, dumps, sanitary waste line leaks remediated







## **New Mexico Compliance Order on Consent**

- Consent Order signed on March 1, 2005, by New Mexico Environment Department, Department of Energy, University of California (UC), and New Mexico Attorney General
- UC responsibilities assumed by Los Alamos National Security, LLC on June 1, 2006
- Consent Order sets formal schedule with milestones and penalties for missed deadlines





#### **Project Objectives**

- Protect human health & the environment
- Comply with Consent Order requirements
- Determine nature & extent of any residual contamination
- Evaluate potential risk to human health and environment
- Obtain NMED concurrence that the sites require no further action





#### **Upper LA Canyon Project**

- Encompasses eight technical areas
- Total of 115 sites required evaluation (solid waste management units or areas of concern)
  - 54 sites require no further action
  - 61 sites are addressed in the work plan
  - More than half the sites are in former TA-01





#### **Areas to Investigate**

- Septic tanks and outfalls
- Sanitary and industrial waste lines
- Drainlines, storm drains, and outfalls
- Sites with potential soil contamination
- Landfills





## **Upper LA Canyon Former TA-01 Work Site**





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## **Planned Investigation Work**

- More than 700 samples planned
- Sampling locations approved by NMED
- Locations provide information about subsurface conditions
- Locations planned to minimize effects on residents, businesses, and day-to-day traffic
- Samples will be analyzed for radionuclides & chemicals





#### **Access Agreements**

- Work will be performed on private property only with land-owner permission
- Permission will be requested in the form of a written access agreement
- Specific information about the work is available in the Integrated Work Plan, available at:

http://www.lanl.gov/environment/cleanup/upper\_la.shtml





#### **Work Practices**

- Ensure public safety
- Ensure active communication
- Minimize disturbance to local residents and business
- Observe county noise restrictions and traffic-control requirements
- Restore work sites





# **Sampling**



Drilling

Core sampling



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Slide 20

# **Sampling**



Hand Auger



Power Auger



Hand sampling

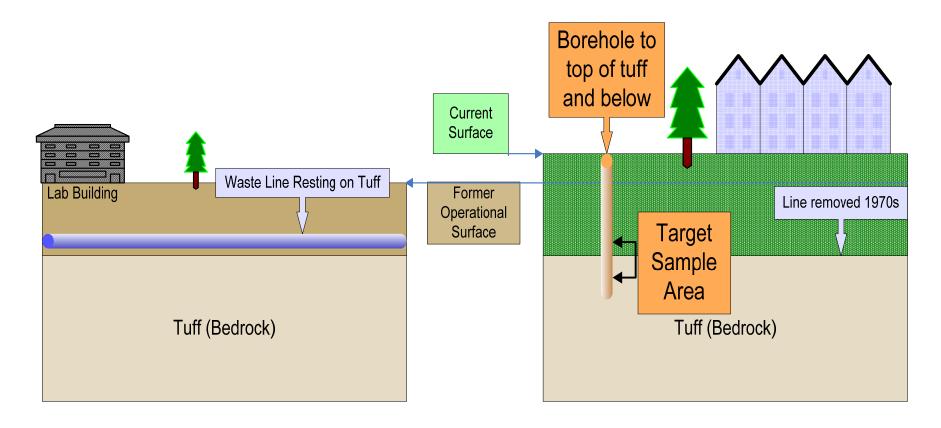


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## **Sampling**



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#### **Project Schedule**

- June 2008: Complete contractor selection
- July 2008: Mail access agreements
- August 2008: Sampling begins
- Winter 2008: Sampling complete
- Late winter 2009: Final sample analysis complete
- May 31, 2009: Submit Investigation Report to NMED

We will meet with landowners as needed to answer specific questions throughout the project.



#### **Public Involvement**

- Meetings
  - November 2007: Property owners and residents
  - January 2008: General public
  - May 2008: General Public
  - Summer 2008: Individuals and landowner groups upon request
- For more information contact
  - Lorrie Bonds Lopez 505-667-0216
  - envoutreach@lanl.gov
- Or visit our web site at

http://www.lanl.gov/environment/cleanup/upper\_la.shtml





## **Upper Los Alamos Canyon**

# **Questions?**

#### **Thank You**



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