

Year in Review

07-08

Taking care of the environment is paramount at Los Alamos. The complexity and size of LANL operations make environmental compliance a continuing challenge. Legacy contamination exists at many locations and is being addressed by remediation efforts. This year, LANL garnered several top awards from NNSA for its pollution prevention efforts, affirming the importance and benefits, both environmental and fiscal, of integrating pollution prevention into the Lab's operations through environmental management systems. Such activities across the Laboratory have saved millions of dollars in operational costs while improving worker safety.

Pollution prevention, environmental stewardship awards earned by Laboratory

The Laboratory earned two best-in-class pollution prevention and six environmental stewardship awards from NNSA. Projects cited ranged from development of ultrapure carbon and carbon-nitride nanomaterials to wastewater recycling, steam generator optimization, and the recycling of soil, asphalt, and mulch.

TRU Waste Repackaging Facility certified to handle high-activity radioactive materials

The Lab's Transuranic (TRU) Waste Characterization, Reduction, and Repackaging facility, designed to safely package "high-activity" nuclear waste, was certified by NNSA as a Category II nuclear facility after undergoing significant upgrades. Resumption of facility operation will allow the Lab to reduce the current inventory of 325 containers of TRU waste stored at Area G. The materials will be shipped to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant near Carlsbad, New Mexico, for permanent disposal.

Hazardous waste operations personnel receive training, practice in latest emergency response methods

The Lab initiated a training program for hazardous waste operations personnel. The training, which covers responses to hazardous substance spills and related emergencies, takes place at the Lab's



Establish excellence in environmental stewardship

We will assure audiences that the Laboratory is a good environmental steward by cleaning up contaminated sites, using the NMED Consent Order as our guide to cleanup, and minimizing impacts on natural resources.

Hazardous Materials Response training area. All hazardous waste operations personnel are required to take the course annually.



Establish excellence in environmental stewardship

We will assure audiences that the Laboratory is a good environmental steward by cleaning up contaminated sites, using the NMED Consent Order as our guide to cleanup, and minimizing impacts on natural resources.