



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF **ENERGY**

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Energy Secretary Chu Announces \$6 Billion in Recovery Act Funding for Environmental Cleanup

New Funding Will Create Jobs and Accelerate Cleanup Efforts

WASHINGTON, DC -- Energy Secretary Steven Chu today announced \$6 billion in new funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to accelerate environmental cleanup work and create thousands of jobs across 12 states. Projects identified for funding will focus on accelerating cleanup of soil and groundwater, transportation and disposal of waste, and cleaning and demolishing former weapons complex facilities.

“These investments will put Americans to work while cleaning up contamination from the cold war era,” said Secretary Chu. “It reflects our commitment to future generations as well as to help local economies get moving again.”

These projects and the new funding are managed by the Department’s Office of Environmental Management, which is responsible for the risk reduction and cleanup of the environmental legacy from the nation’s nuclear weapons program, one of the largest, most diverse and technically complex environmental programs in the world.

The states and DOE sites that will receive this funding include:

- Washington (Total funding \$1.961 billion)

Richland Operations Office (\$1.635 billion) - Demolish nuclear facilities and support facilities, remediate waste sites, remediate contaminated groundwater, and retrieve solid waste from burial grounds. Accelerate cleanup of facilities, waste sites, and groundwater along the Columbia River to support shrinking the active area of cleanup at the 586-square-mile Hanford Site to 75 square miles or less by 2015.

Office of River Protection (\$326 million) - Accelerate design and construction of infrastructure and systems to transfer radioactive liquid waste from aging underground tanks to a waste treatment facility for immobilization and disposal. Accelerate design for the high level waste storage facility. Upgrade the effluent treatment facility to continue waste volume reduction operations and the 222-S Analytical Laboratory to allow continued retrieval of waste from aging single-shell tanks. Develop single-shell tank integrity programs for safe storage of waste.

- South Carolina (Total funding \$1.615 billion)

Savannah River Site (\$1.615 billion) - Accelerate decommissioning of nuclear facilities and contaminated areas throughout the Site, including in-place decommissioning of two nuclear materials production reactors. Recovery Act work includes shipping more than 4,500 cubic meters of waste out of South Carolina and will reduce the site's industrial area by 40 percent, or 79,000 acres, by September 2011.

- Tennessee (Total funding \$755 million)

Oak Ridge (\$755 million) - At the East Tennessee Technology Park, Oak Ridge National Laboratory and Y-12 sites, accelerate demolition and disposal of remaining uranium enrichment plant buildings, surplus Manhattan Project era buildings, and highly contaminated uranium processing buildings, and perform soil remediation to protect area groundwater. Accelerate cleanup of the most significant sources of off-site mercury release to East Fork Poplar Creek to prevent further contamination of the area.

- Idaho (Total funding \$468 million)

Idaho National Laboratory (\$468 million) - Accelerate demolition of excess nuclear and radiological facilities resulting in a footprint reduction of more than 800,000 square feet. Retrieve targeted waste per the Agreement with the state of Idaho and accelerate the shipment of waste offsite for disposal.

- New Mexico (Total funding \$384 million)

Carlsbad (WIPP-\$172 million) - Accelerate completion of legacy transuranic waste shipment preparation and shipments to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant repository from one large quantity site and seven small quantity sites. Accelerate shipments from four other large quantity sites.

Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL-\$212M) - Demolish 35 buildings and structures

across the complex, reducing the footprint by more than 260,000 square feet.

- New York (Total funding \$148 million)

Brookhaven (\$42 million) - Demolish surplus ancillary structures associated with a nuclear research reactor. Remove contaminated soil and buried pipelines and dispose of off-site, protecting the surrounding soil and groundwater.

Separations Process Research Unit (SPRU) (\$32 million) – Cleanup the North Field Land Area removing contaminated soil for off-site disposal, performing sampling to confirm cleanup results and re-grading and re-seeding the area.

West Valley (\$74 million) - Design and construct a storage system for high-level waste canisters and move high-level waste canisters from the former waste treatment facility to the new system, allowing the former treatment facility to be decontaminated and demolished earlier than planned. Begin demolition of former process buildings and install a system to prevent migration of groundwater contamination. Accelerate radioactive waste treatment and disposal activities to shrink the area of site contamination.

- Ohio (Total funding \$138 million)

Miamisburg (\$20 million) - Complete remediation of Operable Unit 1 (historic landfill).

Portsmouth (\$118 million) - Demolish surplus facilities, including electrical switchyard structures, cooling towers, and one pump house, and clean up 65 acres of contaminated soils. Remove the source of the highest contaminant concentration groundwater plume on site, preventing further potential groundwater contamination.

- Utah (Total funding \$108 million)

Moab (\$108 million) - Accelerate removal of uranium mill tailings away from the Colorado River and dispose of an additional two million tons of mill tailings by 2011, accelerating site cleanup by several years. The Recovery Act work will be accomplished by increasing the number of railcars and shipments.

- Illinois (Total funding \$99 million)

Argonne National Laboratory (\$99 million) - Accelerate demolition of excess contaminated facilities and waste cleanout activities several years early.

- Kentucky (Total funding \$79 million)

Paducah (\$79 million) - Remove and dispose of large process equipment and demolish surplus chemical processing facilities, shrinking the area of contamination prior.

- California (Total funding \$62 million)

ETEC (\$54 million) - Provide funding for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to conduct radiological assessments necessary to complete an environmental impact statement and enable completion of site cleanup.

Stanford Linear Accelerator Center (SLAC) (\$8 million) - Accelerate excavation and disposal of contaminated soil and accelerate installation of groundwater treatment systems.

- Nevada (Total funding \$44 million)

Nevada Test Site (\$44 million) - Identify waste characteristics within the soil at three corrective action sites and install groundwater monitoring wells to provide additional data on groundwater contamination to support future cleanup work. Demolish three major facilities and two smaller structures, removing contaminated materials.

- Multiple States (Total funding \$69 million)

Uranium Thorium Payments, Statutory Reimbursement (\$69 million) - Reimburse cleanup costs to companies that formerly processed uranium and thorium for sale to the federal government. These payments may allow companies to accelerate completion of site cleanup work.

- Management & Oversight/Reserve at Headquarters and Sites (Total funding \$70 million)

For more information on the Department's Environmental Management activities, visit <http://www.em.doe.gov/pages/emhome.aspx>. For regular updates on Department of Energy's efforts to implement the President's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, visit energy.gov/recovery.