

CMRR Public Meeting, March 14, 2007

Volume 3

**Los Alamos National Laboratory
Los Alamos, New Mexico**

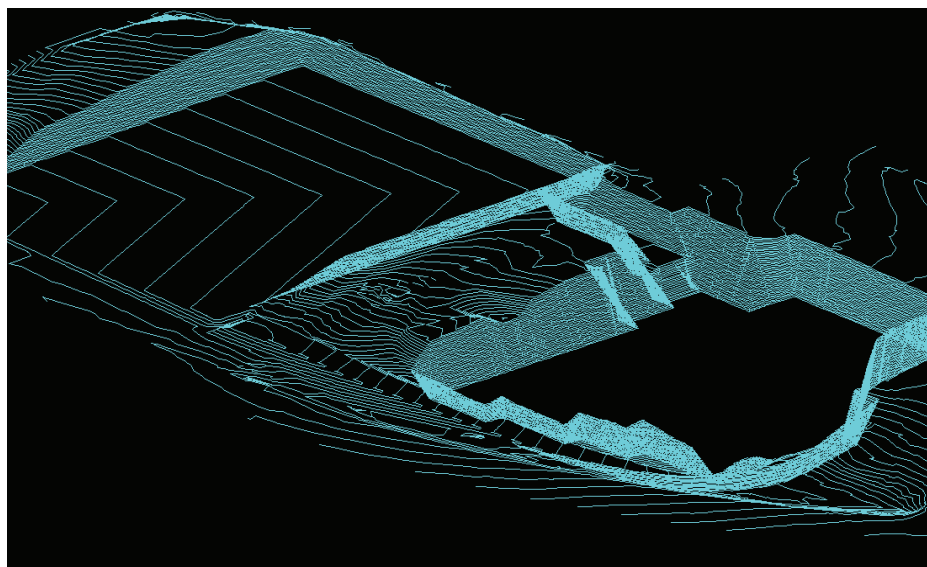


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I. Agenda

Agenda



CMRR Public Meeting
Wednesday, March 14th, 2007
Fuller Lodge
6:30 – 8:30

6:30 – 6:45	Welcome Ground rules Briefing on Public Comment Provisions Background and Purpose Introductions	Rosemary Romero
6:45 – 7:00	CMRR Project, Environmental Protection	Tori George
7:00 – 7:30	CMRR Overview & Project Update	Craig Bachmeier
7:30 – 8:15	Question, Answer and Public Comment	Rosemary Romero
8:15 – 8:25	Requests for topics for next meeting	Rosemary Romero
8:30	Adjourn	Craig Bachmeier

II. Handouts and Posters

CMRR and Nuclear Facility Consolidation

As part of the Department of Energy's nuclear facility consolidation, LANL and NNSA are consolidating LANL's nuclear operations into fewer facilities and security areas. In April 2000, LANL had 1.8 million sq ft of nuclear facility space. Nuclear facility consolidation will reduce LANL's nuclear facility gross square footage by more than half the April 2000 footprint.

As part of nuclear facility consolidation, the CMRR Project will upgrade existing CMR facilities, reduce operating and security costs, improve recruitment by providing state-of-the-art infrastructure and workspace, and ensure compliance with current environmental, safety, and health requirements.

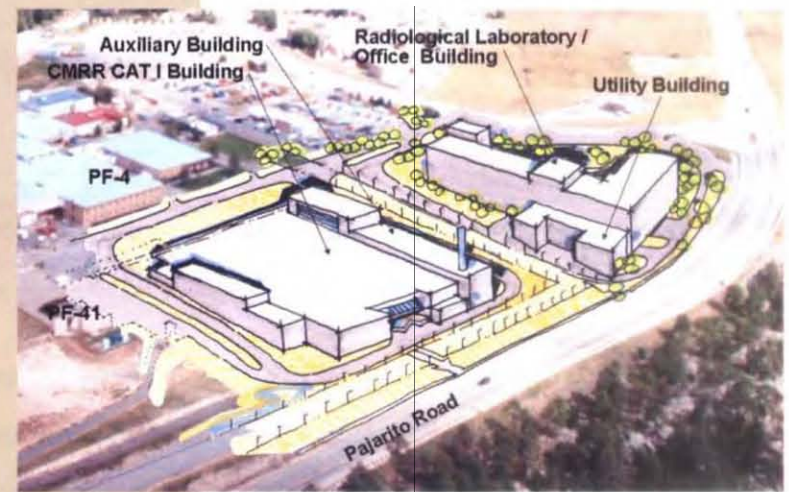
More Information

Dr. Timothy O. Nelson
CMRR Project Director
Phone: 505-667-2326
Email: ton@lanl.gov

CMRR/MS G751
Los Alamos
National Laboratory
Los Alamos, NM 87545

Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Replacement (CMRR)

Los Alamos National Laboratory



CMRR Project

CMRR Project: An Overview

The Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Replacement (CMRR) Project primarily supports Defense Program activities at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). Costing \$745M to \$975M over 8 to 12 years, construction is planned in three phases:

- A Radiological Laboratory Utility Office Building (RLUOB)
- B Special facilities equipment, including long-lead equipment and instrumentation
- C Nuclear Laboratory Facility

The CMRR Project will provide the capabilities the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) and LANL need to continue the nuclear mission to maintain and certify the US nuclear stockpile through work in the following areas:

- Pit manufacturing, surveillance, and disassembly
- Enhanced surveillance
- Milliwatt radioisotope thermoelectric generator surveillance
- Retired stockpile component processing
- Aboveground subcritical experiments
- Special nuclear material readiness and materials storage
- Advanced design/production technologies
- Dynamic materials properties
- Material certification in a hostile environment
- Arms control and nonproliferation
- Advanced nuclear fuels

These analytical chemistry, materials characterization, and actinide research and development capabilities, currently housed in the 550,000 sq ft CMR building, will move to the new CMRR facilities as they are completed.

Phase A:

Radiological Laboratory
Utility Office Building
(RLUOB)

Phase B:

Special facilities equipment,
including long-lead
equipment and
instrumentation

Phase C:

Nuclear Laboratory Facility

Phase A: Radiological Laboratory Utility Office Building

The RLUOB will house radiological laboratory space; a training center, 4 classrooms, and 2 nonradiological training simulation labs; a utility building that supports all CMRR Project facilities; and office space to support 350 personnel in segregated (cleared and uncleared) areas.

An Entrance Control Facility will connect a tunnel from the RLUOB to the Nuclear Laboratory Facility.

The RLUOB also will have a Facility Incident Command Center, an operations center, and space for future support of the existing Technical Area 55 Plutonium Facility, PF-4.



A design-build contract, a procurement method already successfully demonstrated at LANL, was issued to Austin Commercial Contractors, LP, of Dallas, TX, in November 2005.

The proposed RLUOB total project cost performance baseline is \$164M (contract life is 1095 calendar days). Approximately 300

construction workers will be employed during the RLUOB contract.

Phases B and C

Preliminary design work is under way on Phases B and C. Construction work for Phase C is scheduled to begin in 2008 and is expected to be complete by 2013.

CMRR Project Public Meeting Information Sheet

September 19, 2006

Page 1 of 2

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: Can public parties make presentations?

A: Yes, in regard to CMRR. Invitations to add to the agenda are sent out to settlement parties prior to planning.

Q: Is the nuclear facility above or below grade?

A: The facility is mostly below grade.

Q: Where exactly are the buildings going to be located?

A: Northeast of the intersection of Pajarito Road and Pecos Drive. Pajarito Road is an access controlled route.



Q: Who is the contractor?

A: Austin Commercial is the contractor for the radiological facility. The nuclear facility has not yet gone out for bid.

Q: What other construction projects have we reviewed for lessons learned?

A: We've reviewed designs and operations of the Nonproliferation International Security Center (LANL), Strategic Computing Center (LANL), Highly Enriched Uranium Manufacturing Facility (Y-12), Tritium Extraction Facility (SRS), MOX Fuel Fabrication Facility (SRS), Pit Disassembly and Conversion Facility (SRS), National Ignition Facility (LLNL), Waste Treatment Plant (HS).

Q: What is the estimated cost of the building?

A: The initial, approved cost is \$745-\$975 Million. The next estimate will be performed at the end of the preliminary design phase.

Q: How frequently are public meetings held?

A: CMRR Project Public Meetings are held every six months until completion of the project, per a settlement agreement between the Department of Energy, the New Mexico Environment Department, the University of California and seven local citizens groups. These groups include: Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety, Nuclear Watch of New Mexico, Peace Action New Mexico, Loretto Community, TEWA Women United, Embudo Valley Environmental Monitoring Group, New Mexico Environmental Law Center.

Q: What is the relationship between the CMRR Project and the current SWEIS?

A: The 1999 SWEIS (Site Wide Environmental Impact Statement) for LANL permits implementation of the CMRR Project as it is currently planned and scoped. The 2004 CMRR EIS also permits implementation of the project as currently planned and scoped.



LA-UR-06-6591



CMRR Project Public Meeting Information Sheet (continued)

September 19, 2006

Page 2 of 2

Q: What is the relationship between the CMRR Project and the draft SWEIS?

A: The current scope of the CMRR Project is bounded within the parameters of the new, draft SWEIS as proposed. The 2004 CMRR EIS (DOE/EIS-0350) evaluated the environmental impacts of constructing and operating a facility that would support expanded plutonium operations at LANL consistent with those described in the new draft SWEIS. At this time, no new or additional NEPA analysis should be required to allow the CMRR Project to support the Expanded Operations Alternative described in the new draft SWEIS.

Acronyms

AC — Analytical Chemistry	MC — Materials Characterization
ASCE — American Society of Civil Engineers	MNS — Mission Needs Statement
CD — Conceptual Design, Compact Disk	NEPA — National Environmental Policy Act
CDR — Conceptual Design Report	NF — Nuclear Facility
CMR — Chemistry & Metallurgy Research Building	NMAC — New Mexico Administrative Code
CMRR — Chemistry & Metallurgy Research Facility Replacement Project	NMED — New Mexico Environment Department
DOE — Department of Energy	NNSA — National Nuclear Security Administration
DOT — Department of Transportation	NSR — New Source Review
DNFSB — Defense Nuclear Facility Safety Board	PDSA — Preliminary DSA
DSA — Documented Safety Analysis	PSHA — Probabilistic Seismic Hazards Assessment
EIS — Environmental Impact Statement	Pu — Plutonium
EPA — Environmental Protection Agency	R&D — Research and Development
ES&H — Environment, Safety & Health	ROD — Record of Decision
F&OR — Functional and Operational Requirement	RLUOB — Radiological Laboratory, Utility & Office Building
HEPA — High Efficiency Particulate Air filter	SFE — Special Facilities Equipment
HS — Hanford Site	SRS — Savannah River Site
ISM — Integrated Safety Management	SSC — Safety structures, systems and components
LANL — Los Alamos National Laboratory	SWEIS — Site Wide Environmental Impact Statement
LANS — Los Alamos National Security, LLC	TA-55 — Technical Area 55
LASO — Los Alamos Site Office	U — Uranium
LEED — Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design	US — United States
LLNL — Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory	Y-12 — Y-12 National Security Complex



LA-UR-06-6591



ENTRY VIEW



SOUTH VIEW



NORTH ELEVATION



SOUTH ELEVATION



EAST ELEVATION



WEST ELEVATION



NORTH LOBBY



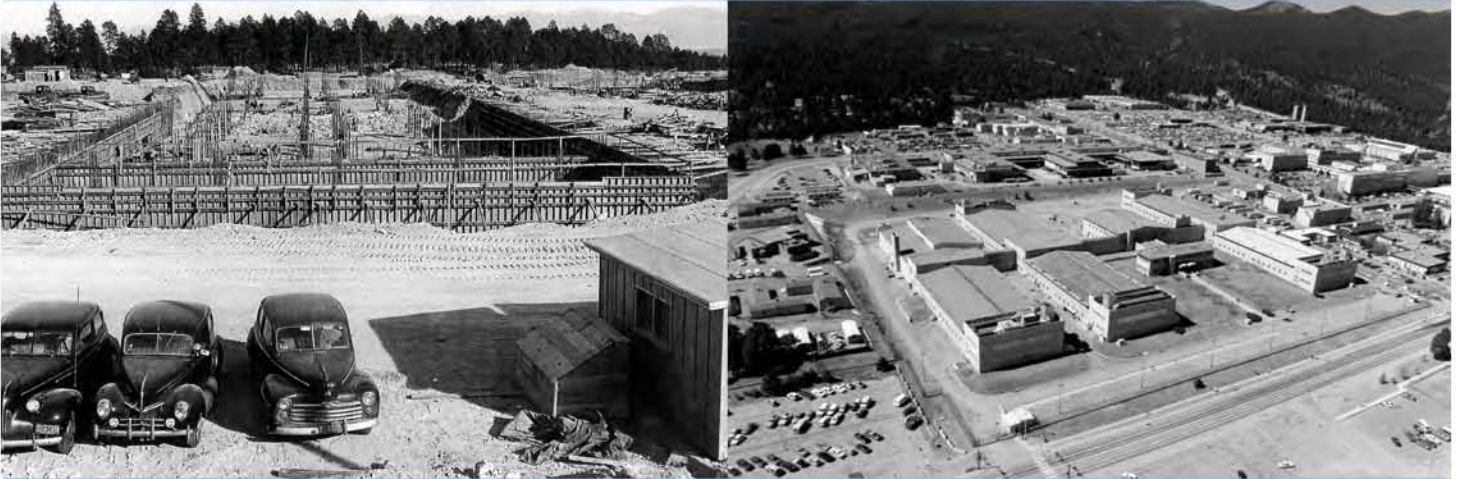
SOUTH LOBBY



**CMRR – PHASE A
RADIOLOGICAL LABORATORY UTILITY OFFICE BUILDING
(RLUOB)**

CHEMISTRY AND METALLURGY RESEARCH REPLACEMENT (CMRR) PROJECT

Historical Photos of Chemistry and Metallurgy Research (CMR) Facility



CMRR Project Phases

CMRR PROJECT

Radiological Lab Utility
Office Building (RLUOB)

PHASE A

Special Facility
Equipment (SFE)

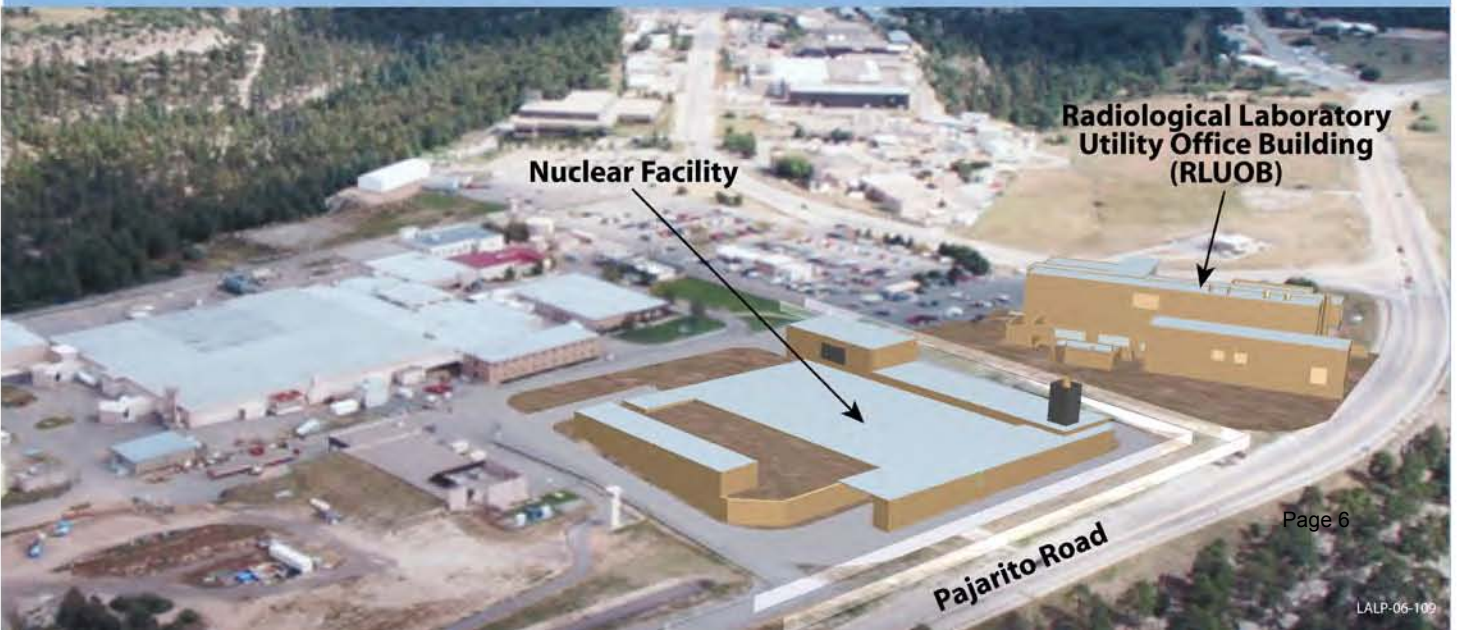
PHASE B

Nuclear Facility
(NF)

PHASE C



Architectural Drawing of CMRR Project



**SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
AMONG
THE NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT,
THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY,
THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA,
CONCERNED CITIZENS FOR NUCLEAR SAFETY,
NUCLEAR WATCH OF NEW MEXICO,
PEACE ACTION NEW MEXICO,
LORETTO COMMUNITY, TEWA WOMEN UNITED,
EMBUDO VALLEY ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING GROUP,
AND
NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CENTER**

This Settlement Agreement (“Agreement”) is entered by and among the New Mexico Environment Department (“NMED”); the United States Department of Energy (“DOE”) and the University of California (“University”) (collectively referred to as “Applicants”); and Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety, Nuclear Watch of New Mexico, Loretto Community, Peace Action New Mexico, Tewa Women United, Embudo Valley Environmental Monitoring Group, and New Mexico Environmental Law Center (collectively referred to as “Interested Parties”), for the purpose of resolving specific disputes concerning the proposed Air Quality Permit No. 2195-N, issued by the New Mexico Environment Department Air Quality Bureau for the Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Replacement Building (“CMRR”) Project at Los Alamos National Laboratory (“LANL”).

DECLARATIONS

Whereas, the Applicants applied for a New Source Review (NSR) Air Quality Permit pursuant to 20.2.72.200 NMAC on March 1, 2005 for the construction of the CMRR Project;

Whereas, after application review and requests for additional information, NMED issued draft NSR Air Quality Permit No. 2195-N to the Applicants on June 10, 2005;

Whereas, pursuant to 20.2.72.206 NMAC, NMED issued a public notice and notified the Interested Parties that the pending application and draft permit were available for review and comment by the general public;

Whereas, the Interested Parties and the Applicants provided written comments and stated specific objections to NMED pertaining to the draft NSR Air Quality Permit No. 2195-N and NMED proposed to hold a hearing on the draft permit;

Whereas, the Parties to this Agreement have met to discuss the draft NSR Air Quality Permit No. 2195-N and objections to the draft permit, and negotiated resolution of those objections in good faith;

Now therefore, in consideration of the foregoing declarations and the following terms, conditions, and covenants to be kept, honored, and performed by NMED, the Applicants, and the Interested Parties, each of them agrees as follows:

I. AUTHORITY AND SETTLEMENT TERMS

A. AUTHORITY

1. **The Parties.** NMED is an executive agency of the State of New Mexico (“State”). DOE is an executive agency of the United States. The University is a contractor of DOE and operator of LANL. The Interested Parties are citizen groups and non-profit organizations with the authority to enter into legally binding agreements.

2. **The Facility.** The proposed CMRR Project is planned to be constructed at Technical Area 55 within LANL boundaries and on DOE land. The proposed CMRR Project will replace the existing Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Building at LANL. Pursuant to 20.2.72.200 NMAC, the Applicants are required to obtain an NSR air quality permit from NMED prior to commencement of construction of the CMRR Project.

B. SETTLEMENT TERMS

3. **Permit Application Revision.** The Applicants shall submit a letter within one business day of the effective date of this Agreement to NMED, with copies to the Interested Parties, revising the application submitted on March 1, 2005, limiting the application to only Phase A and B of the CMRR Project. Phase A and B of the CMRR Project include construction of the Radiological Laboratory and Office Building, and a Utility Building (referred to as the RLUOB). The Applicants will affirm in the letter that the March 1, 2005 application will not apply to Phase C of the CMRR Project and that they will request a revision of the construction permit from NMED prior to initiating construction of Phase C. Phase C includes construction of the Security Category I, Hazard Category 2 nuclear facility. Revision of the permit to include construction of Phase C shall be subject to the requirements of 20.2.72.200 NMAC. If for any reason the Applicants are unable to construct Phase C of the CMRR Project, the Applicants shall not incorporate any functions of Phase C that require an air quality permit into the CMRR Project for Phases A and B, without first obtaining an air quality permit for such functions.

4. **Public Comment on DOE Request for Approval from EPA under 40 CFR Part 61, Subpart H.** The Applicants shall publish a public notice and mail notification to the Interested Parties about the availability for review of the Applicant’s request to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) for pre-construction approval of Phase C under 40 CFR Part 61, Subpart H. The Applicants shall hold a public meeting and provide an opportunity for dialogue among the Applicants, the Interested Parties, and other members of the public, including local governments. The Applicants shall provide at least thirty (30) days for public comment and shall

respond in writing to any written comment they receive regarding the pre-construction approval request they make under 40 CFR Part 61, Subpart H to EPA. The Applicants shall submit the written public comments and the written responses to EPA with their pre-construction approval request.

5. CMRR Project Public Meetings. The Applicants shall publish a public notice and mail notification to the Interested Parties about public meetings to be held at least once every six (6) months to discuss the CMRR Project until physical construction of Phases A, B, and C of this Project is completed; or, if a phase is cancelled, until the completion of the physical construction and turnover to DOE of the approved and funded phases; or until otherwise agreed by the Parties. The Applicants shall provide an opportunity for both written and oral public comment at the public meetings. The CMRR Project meetings shall be single subject meetings in addition to, and will not be combined with, other public meetings the Applicants may hold, including but not limited to, the Sitewide Environmental Impact Statement for LANL (SWEIS). It is understood by all Parties that security and procurement sensitive information cannot be briefed at public meetings.

6. Annual TAP and VOC Summary Report. Within one business day of the effective date of this Agreement, the Applicants shall submit a written request to NMED, with copies to the Interested Parties, that NMED include a provision in the permit that the Applicants shall submit to NMED an annual report summarizing emissions of toxic air pollutants (TAPs) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) found in 20.2.72.500 NMAC, Tables 1, 2, A and B from the CMRR Project Phases A and B.

7. Public Hearings on Permit No. 2195-N. The Applicants and the Interested Parties agree that no public hearing is necessary regarding NSR Air Quality Permit No. 2195-N and further agree not to request a public hearing regarding NSR Air Quality Permit No. 2195-N for Phases A and B of the CMRR Project under 20.2.72.206 (B) (2) NMAC, or any other provision of the New Mexico Environmental Improvement Act or Air Quality Control Act or regulations. The Applicants, and the Interested Parties also agree not to appeal the final NSR Air Quality Permit for Phases A and B under 20.2.72.207 NMAC to the Environmental Improvement Board or to the New Mexico Court of Appeals. This Agreement does not preclude the Applicants or the Interested Parties from requesting a public hearing concerning or appealing revisions to the NSR Air Quality Permit authorizing Phase C of the CMRR Project.

8. Costs. NMED, the Applicants, and the Interested Parties each shall be responsible for its own costs of performance under this Agreement, except as otherwise provided in the Agreement.

II. JURISDICTION AND REMEDIES

A. JURISDICTION

9. Jurisdiction. The parties agree that the laws of the State of New Mexico shall govern any disputes arising under this Agreement and disputes arising under this agreement will be filed in a court of appropriate jurisdiction.

10. **Enforcement.** Should any Party determine that there has been a violation or deficiency in the actions of the other Parties under this Agreement including attachments to this Agreement, that Party will notify the other parties in writing of the violation or deficiency and propose a plan to correct the violation or deficiency. If the other Party fails to respond or fails to cooperate in correcting the violation or deficiency within twenty (20) days of receipt of the complaint, the complaining Party may seek enforcement of this Agreement in court.

11. **Enforcement of Certain Provisions of Agreement.** The Parties agree that enforcement of the public comment on the Applicants' request for approval from EPA under 40 CFR Part 61, Subpart H (paragraph 4 of this Agreement) and the CMRR Project Public Meetings (paragraph 5 of this Agreement) are not part of NMED's air quality permitting process for the proposed CMRR Project. The Parties agree that no Party shall hold NMED liable for enforcement of and the Parties agree to release NMED from all liability associated with the provisions found in paragraphs 4 and 5 of this in the Agreement.

B. REMEDIES

12. **Remedies.** Subject the terms of this Agreement, any Party to this Agreement may seek any equitable or other legal relief available under applicable laws, including attorney's fees and costs that a court awards to a prevailing Party in a legal proceeding that arises under the terms of this Agreement. NMED reserves the right to pursue any relief authorized by applicable statutes and regulations and reserves the right to enforce the permit and this Agreement by administrative or judicial action, which decision shall be in its sole discretion. NMED agrees that it shall not enforce paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Agreement administratively.

III. OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS

13. **Legal effect.** Unless otherwise stated in this Agreement, nothing in this Agreement will be construed to restrict any parties' authority to fulfill their responsibilities or assert rights under any federal or state statute or regulation. This Agreement shall be binding on the parties and their officers, directors, employees, agents, subsidiaries, successors, assigns, trustees, or receivers.

14. **Effective date.** This Agreement shall become effective upon execution by NMED, the Applicants and all of the Interested Parties.

15. **Authority of Signatories.** Each undersigned representative of a Party to this Agreement certifies that he or she is fully authorized to enter into the terms and conditions of the Agreement and to execute and legally bind such Party to this document.

16. **Duration.** This Agreement shall continue in effect until construction of Phase C of the CMRR Building is completed; or if Phase C is cancelled, until the completion of physical construction and turnover to DOE of the approved and funded phases; and shall then terminate. The Applicants will provide notice to NMED and the Interested Parties by certified mail of such termination.

17. **Amendment.** This Agreement may not be amended, modified, or altered except by written agreement executed by all Parties to the Agreement.

18. **Force Majeure.** Force majeure shall not apply to this settlement agreement.

19. **Notice.** Notices provided pursuant to this Agreement shall be deemed to have been given when delivered by electronic mail, facsimile, or deposited in the United States mail, postage prepaid, at the addresses listed below, unless the Party in question notifies the other Parties of a different address in writing.

U. S. Department of Energy
CMRR Federal Project Director
Los Alamos Site Office
528 35th Street
Los Alamos, NM 87544
Phone: 505-665-5534
Fax: 505-667-1039
Email: sfong@doeal.gov

Loretto Community
113 Camino Santiago
Santa Fe, NM 87501
Phone: 505-983-1251
Fax: no fax
Email: pmsl@cnspl.com

New Mexico Environment Department
Air Quality Bureau
2048 Galisteo
Santa Fe, NM 87505
Phone: 505-827-1494
Fax: 505- 827-1523
Email: Richard.Goodyear@state.nm.us

NM Environmental Law Center
1405 Luisa Street, Suite 5
Santa Fe, NM 87505
Phone: 505-989-9022
Fax: 505-989-3769
Email: dmeiklejohn@nmelc.org

CCNS
107 Cienega St.
Santa Fe, NM 87501
Phone: 505-986-1973
Fax: 505-986-0997
Email: ccns@nuclearactive.org

Peace Action New Mexico
226 Fiesta Street
Santa Fe, NM 87501
Phone: (505) 989-4812
Fax: 505-989-4812
Email: peaceactionnm@aol.com

Nuclear Watch of New Mexico
551 W. Cordova Road, #808
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505
Phone: (505) 989-7342
Fax: (505) 989-7352
Email: jcoghlan@nukewatch.org

Tewa Women United
RR5, Box 442T
Santa Fe, NM 87506
Phone: (505) 747-3259
Fax: (505) 747-4067
Email: tewawum@msn.com

Embudo Valley Environmental Monitoring Group
P.O. Box 291
Dixon, NM 87527
Phone: 505-579-4076
Fax: no fax

Email: serit@cybermesa.com

University of California
Los Alamos National Laboratory
Group Leader, Meteorology and Air Quality Group
Post Office Box 1663, MS J978
Los Alamos, NM 87545
Phone: (505) 665-8855
Fax: (505) 665-8858
Email: davef@lanl.gov

20. **Delay or Omission.** No delay or omission in the exercise of any right or duty under this Agreement shall impair such right or duty nor shall it be construed as a waiver of or acquiescence to a breach or default of this Agreement. No Party shall construe the conduct, delays, or omissions of another as altering in any way its own agreements as set forth in this Agreement. Any waiver, allowance, or approval of any claimed breach or default under this Agreement must be in writing and no Party shall raise unwritten waiver or estoppel as affirmative defenses to such claimed breach or default.

21. **Cooperation.** NMED, the Applicants and the Interested Parties shall cooperate fully with each other and act reasonably and in good faith and in a timely manner in all activities under this Agreement so that each of them may obtain the benefits contemplated under this Agreement and for which they have negotiated. No Party shall unreasonably deny, withhold, or delay any consent or approval required or contemplated for any action or transaction proposed to be taken or made in this Agreement. NMED, the Applicants, and the Interested Parties shall consult with and assist each other in good faith and without delay as to all matters that require their cooperation.

22. **Assignment and Subcontracting.** No Party to this Agreement shall assign or transfer any interest or responsibility under this Agreement without prior written approval by all Parties; provided that the University may assign its rights and obligations under this Agreement to its successor as contractor for DOE and operator of LANL. In addition, no Party to this Agreement shall subcontract any portion of the services to be performed under this Agreement without prior written approval of all Parties.

23. **Obligation.** The obligations of the Parties to this Agreement are not affected by the actions of others who are not Parties to this Agreement.

24. **Headings.** The section headings and subheadings of this Agreements are used only for convenience of reference and are not intended and shall not be construed to modify, define, limit, or expand the intent of NMED, the Applicants, or the Interested Parties in this Agreement.

25. **Severability.** If any provision of this Agreement is held invalid or unenforceable, such holding shall not invalidate or render unenforceable any other provision of this Agreement.

26. **Delivery of Written Requests.** If the Applicants fail to deliver the written requests described in paragraphs 3 and 6 of this Agreement to the NMED within one business day after the date when the NMED notifies the Applicants that the last party has signed the Agreement, all Parties are released from their obligations under this Agreement.

27. **Integration.** This Agreement incorporates all the agreements, covenants and understandings between the Parties hereto concerning the subject matter hereof, and all such covenants, agreements, and understandings have been merged into this written Agreement. No prior agreement or understanding, oral or otherwise, of the Parties or their agents shall be valid or enforceable unless embodied in this Agreement.

28. **Facsimile Copies.** Signed copies of this Agreement that are sent by facsimile transmission to the Parties to this Agreement shall be treated as originals.



Secretary, New Mexico Environment Department

Date 9/14/05

_____, U.S. Department of Energy

Date _____

_____, University of California

Date _____

Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety

Date _____

Nuclear Watch of New Mexico

Date _____

Peace Action New Mexico

Date _____

Loretto Community

Date _____

Tewa Women United

Date _____

Embudo Valley Environmental Monitoring Group

Date _____

New Mexico Environmental Law Center

Date _____

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Secretary, New Mexico Environment Department Date _____

_____, U.S. Department of Energy Date _____

Carolyn Massey
LARC Assoc. _____ Date *September 15, 2005*
University of California

Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety Date _____

Nuclear Watch of New Mexico Date _____

Peace Action New Mexico Date _____


Loretto Community Date _____

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Secretary, New Mexico Environment Department Date _____



Assistant Manager for Environmental Stewardship Date 9/14/05
Los Alamos Site Office
U.S. Department of Energy

University of California Date _____

Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety Date _____

Nuclear Watch of New Mexico Date _____

Peace Action New Mexico Date _____

FROM : PEACE ACTION NM

FAX NO. :

Sep. 15 2005 09:10AM P1

Sep-15-05 09:13:14 NMELE

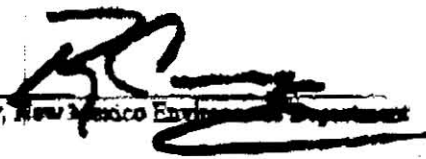
5059893769

FILE NO. P. 01

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 Date 9/14/05
Secretary, New Mexico Environment Department

U.S. Department of Energy Date _____

University of California Date _____

 Date 9.15.05
Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety

 Date 9/15/05
Nuclear Watch of New Mexico

 Date 9/15/05
Peace Action New Mexico

 Date 9/15/05
Loreto Community

NMED/DOE Univ. of California INTERESTED PARTIES
Agreement on Air Quality Permit No. 2195-N

Kathleen In Sandy
Tewa Women United

Date 9/15/05

Embudo Valley Environmental Monitoring Group

Date _____

Douglas Winklesher
New Mexico Environmental Law Center

Date 9/15/05

Tewa Women United

Slotowski

Embudo Valley Environmental Monitoring Group

Date _____

Date

September 15, 2005

New Mexico Environmental Law Center

Date _____

III. Transcript

TRANSCRIPT
of
Public Meeting

Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Replacement (CMRR) Project

March 14, 2007

[The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Fuller Lodge, Los Alamos, NM, by Meeting Facilitator Rosemary Romero.]

[Slide 1]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO, FACILITATOR]

Welcome to folks this evening. Is my mike too loud? Can you hear me okay? Okay. Great. I'm Rosemary Romero. I am the facilitator for this evening, facilitator, moderator. How are folks doing with the daylight savings time? Uh huh. Well, there's plenty of candy for those that need a little extra boost. There's candy on the table.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Um, this is the CMRR public meeting and it's always interesting—the acronyms go on and on, and if I get'em wrong, I'm sure somebody will correct me. Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Replacement (CMRR) public meeting. Deb [Debora Hall], is this the third public meeting? I thought so. These are held, um, on a regular basis and I facilitated the first meeting. Ed Moreno, a colleague, facilitated the second meeting, and, um, I'm lucky enough to facilitate this third meeting. I'm from Santa Fe, and, um, I do have bells if anybody wants bells to bring us all to order. No? Okay.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

I'm gonna walk us through— We've got a couple of presentations and then we'll, um, have a, hopefully a good discussion with folks. Who— I hope that you signed in at the front. Did anybody sign in to speak? [Pause] Okay. I'm sure that other folks'll come in and we will, um, see if there's gonna, if anybody has signed up speak. All right?

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]

[Inaudible comment]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Before I have folks introduce themselves, Deb [Debora Hall], let's walk through a couple of things here. The ground rules, I'm gonna walk through those and then I'll have folks introduce themselves after going through this, a couple of slides. Um, so I hope that you had the chance to pick up an agenda that was up front. There's several materials also, and I'm gonna point these out. Agenda. There was a sign-in sheet. Also a comment form that looks like this, and we would appreciate that if you would fill this out, and I'll remind you about that; there's other background material, information sheets that look like this. Other background material that I'm sure other folks have had a chance to have seen that before. Uhm, but, hopefully you've had a chance to pick those up.

[Slide 3]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Ground rules. I love ground rules. My children used to say that I was the queen of options, but they are pretty simple ground rules. I don't like too many of them, but they are simple. Listen respectfully. Share the air time with other participants. I encourage folks to look around to see who else is talking and share that time with each other 'cause we've got about an hour plus, but still it goes pretty quickly. Um, and hold your hand up and I'll call on you. What's not up here is, if you would please also say your name when you speak. This'll be, this is audio recorded, as you can see, or hear, rather. Um, and people do listen to the tapes. I heard somebody say earlier that the, it was very clear and, and uh, the only thing that was missing was that folks sometimes forgot to say who they were. Turn off your cell phones. I muted mine. Just because it's awful to hear those rings. Um, hopefully people, go back to the respect. If you are respectful, then there are no personal attacks. And then, speaking slowly and clearly, um, because we are audiotaping this evening.

[Pause]

[Slide 4]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Sometimes it's difficult to read off of this, but I'm just gonna' read off the uh, the slide here. I'm losing it, I tell you, it's nap time. The background and purpose: why we're here this evening. This is the settlement allowing for air permitting to be segmented to match the phased project. So this is an update for folks on the project development and for public involvement. And I said earlier that this is the third public meeting, but there's other opportunities for people to respond via written comments also. But this is an opportunity to really hear from each other through the presentations, hear from each other, clarifications—sometimes there's miscommunication that occurs, so these public meetings are a great opportunity for people to have a dialog with each other. The parties that are included in this are the New Mexico Environment Department. Do we have anybody here from the Environment Department? Okay.

[GREG MELLO, LOS ALAMOS STUDY GROUP]

[They'll show up.]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

They'll probably show up?

[GREG MELLO]

[Inaudible]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

This was announced in the—I saw it in the *New Mexican* and the *Journal*, I believe, so this was announced for folks so it'll, hopefully others will show up. We don't have to ask for the Department of Energy, University of California, Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety. Any representatives in the audience?

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay. Ahm, Nuclear Watch of New Mexico, Peace Action New Mexico, Loretto Community, I'm looking around— I do see— if I recognize any folks. Tewa Women United, Embudo Valley Environmental Monitoring Group, The New Mexico Environmental Law Center, and so again this is the third meeting in, uh, in the series. Okay. All right.

[Slide 5]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

We've got two presentations. My sense is in checking the times with folks, Tori [George], yours is probably a little bit shorter. And what we'll do is, when you finish presenting, we'll check in with folks for clarification only, turn it right over to Craig [Bachmeier], and then we've got a longer period of time for discussion. My sense is yours is probably going to go a little bit longer? Okay.

[Pause]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Use that one.

[Slide 6]

[TORI GEORGE, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION LEADER]

Hi. Can everybody hear me? Yeah, good. I'm Tori George. I'm the division leader for environmental protection at the Laboratory. And, um, glad to see a lot of folks here. Um, I wanted to start off by kinda talking about our environmental policy at the Laboratory.

[TORI GEORGE]

We really strive to be responsible stewards of the environment. We are very committed to managing our siting compliance with all environmental laws and regulations. Ahm, we are committed to meeting our environmental permits and making sure the activities we undertake are properly permitted and then we comply with those permits. Ah, and that's one of the reasons we are here, is the air permitting is one of the things that originally moved us into these good public meetings. Um. Also, we want to use continuous improvement processes to try to minimize our environmental impacts. And one of the things I won't be talking about but will come up later is the LEEDS [Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design] process. And so one of the things we are talking about here is some steps we are taking to be energy and environmentally sensitive and appropriate. Um, pollution prevention, fostering sustainable use, again LEEDS contributes to that. And, as a science institution, we also do work to try to understand and increase our knowledge of the environment.

[Slide 7]

[TORI GEORGE]

So, moving on to actually a brief overview on what are the environmental status and environmental activities we've undertaken associated with the, the RLUOB [Radiological Laboratory, Utility & Office Building] building, which is the office building. I think most folks here are familiar with the two structures involved. Um, as you know, construction is underway and, in order, the precursor to that was the Environmental Impact Statement and the Record of Decision that came out in February of 2004 and addressed the RLUOB

building and the main nuclear facility. So we do have a Record of Decision in place, and that's publicly available and part of the Federal Register, and available.

[TORI GEORGE]

Um, we also take very seriously our commitment to cultural sites around the Laboratory. We have many. Um, as part of the surveys associated with these construction sites, we determined that there was one site, in this case it's a[n] historical site, associated in that construction area. It was a very small homestead site. We think it dates from just past 1900, approximately 1907. We worked with the State Historic Preservation Office, the SHIPO, as it's known, and worked with them and we did what's called a "recovery plan." We did extensive excavations at the site and actually recovered quite a few architect—artifacts. The uh, no architects, artifacts, sorry. Um, but interesting, but no, none of them. Uh, it was a very small site. It is just the foundations left. It's about 21 by 20 feet. There was a little cellar underneath it, which surprised us. Interesting, as part of the excavation. There was also a small cistern. Uh, I think about 8 feet in diameter, about 13 feet deep. Um, and we found some actually very interesting little artifacts that we preserved and have documented and worked with the SHIPO to document all these findings. They range from a marble, you know, which is kinda interesting, to the typical kinds of things that you'd expect to see, a few rusted cans, glass shards, I think there was a rusted bed frame, you get the idea. But, so there was very little left. But we did do an extensive investigation of this. And reported this to the SHIPO, and the SHIPO was satisfied with our efforts in documenting what was there.

[TORI GEORGE]

Um, environmental, excuse me, Endangered Species Act, I'm having a hard time with words tonight. The Endangered Species Act. Um, this area is in potential habitat for the spotted owl. Um, we've done surveys around the laboratory since 1994, trying to determine where endangered species actually nest. In the two canyons in this area since 1994 we've never actually had owls actually inhabit these areas. But we did continue to do surveys. We did a biological assessment, working with Fish and Wildlife Service, and they determined that our proposed construction was appropriate for the area. And mitigation measures were taken into effect. We've left, for example, trees along the canyon rim, you know, those types of things, environmentally sensitive lighting that goes down, were incorporated in the design, those types of things.

[TORI GEORGE]

Um, water quality. Like any construction that goes over a certain size in the United States, we have to do storm water permitting during the construction. We have, have a site [that] is permitted under the NPDES, which is the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, but it's an EPA permitting process for storm water discharges. So what this means is during the construction of the facility we have a storm water pollution prevention plan. There it is. We've drafted that plan. We're implementing it. That assures that we are appropriately controlling sediment and water flow as we build the site. So berming, silt fencing, those types of things. And we do regular inspections as required by this permit. Um, and also, post-construction storm water was taken into the design of RLUOB, and we have the appropriate water containment and we are striving to minimize water runoff from the site after construction so as to minimize any potential impacts on the canyon or anyplace else. So we've designed that appropriately to meet appropriate requirements.

[TORI GEORGE]

Air permitting. Um, as you know, we do, ah, this was the issue that brought us all here. On air permitting, there are two types of permits involved. One is for the rad emissions and one for the non-rad. EPA [Environmental Protection Agency] addresses the rad permitting and NMED [New Mexico Environment Department] has the non-rad. We have the appropriate permitting in place for the RLUOB building, for both sides of the house. Um, but I think a question people've had a lot, that we've been talking about, is, what about when we move to the nuclear facility, um, and the air permitting there.

[Slide 8]

[TORI GEORGE]

This is very similar, I think, a diagram that you guys have seen if you've been here [in the] past meetings. It kinda describes the process going forward for the nuke facility, on the two permitting tracks we will be going with, with NMED, and for the non-rad side, and for EPA for the rad side. I'd like to point out two things. Due to construction scheduling, our permitting goes along with the construction scheduling. And you'll see that we are looking at beginning sometime in fiscal year '08, and we will move in parallel with the construction as we move forward, and I'd like to really point out too that we have public comment through both sides of this permitting process and we really welcome your input and your participation in those permitting processes as they move forward in the next year.

[TORI GEORGE]

So, I think that does it for my update on environmental issues. Any clarification questions, or anything? Or?

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Oh, let's see. Or we can just screw up some words, "slides," "archeologist,"—

[TORI GEORGE]

Ahh, details, details. We try it.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

All right. Any clarification questions from Tori? This is a hard night for speaking, I think.

[TORI GEORGE]

Oh my gosh. The twisted tongue.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

All right. So what we'll do, is I'm gonna turn over, turn this over to Craig [Bachmeier] is, ahm, I think this is gonna probably fill up the whole fifteen minutes or so Craig, and then we'll open it up for discussion.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

Okay. Can you hear me now?

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]

Yes I can.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

All right. I'm not sure exactly what I'm gonna do with my hands, so—I'll use the pointer.

[Slide 9]

[CRAIG BACHMEIER, BUILDING PROJECT DIRECTOR]

Um, as Rosemary said, my name's Craig Bachmeier, and I'm managing the construction on the first phase of the CMRR project. I'm [going to] speak on another slide a little bit about how the project is broken down. I'll go through, um, attributes of both the CMRR project and the individual phases and so some of the material that I talk about, I'll try to draw which element of the project I'm actually talking about. Um, in this slide, this is the basic mission need for the overall project. The story line kinda simply goes that, uh, the CMR facility was built in 1949. It was designed as a very excellent chemistry lab, it has served the laboratory well for fifty plus years, but it's at the end of it's service life and is in need of replacement, so the replacement project is designed to consolidate and relocate the current capabilities that exist in the CMR facility and move those out to the Parajito corridor where they can be co-located next to TA-55 [Technical Area 55] and the rest of the mission assignment in that area of the Lab.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

In this slide we've added a little bit of a time line. In 1999 is when the Department of Energy identified deficiencies in the existing building and made the decision that the building should be replaced. Ah, the Defense Board [Defense Nuclear Facility Safety Board] concurred with that decision. Ah, that was followed by a few years of programming studies geared towards defining the scope of the replacement project. In 2002, uh, Critical Decision Zero was issued by the Department. Critical Decisions are a series of gates that are part of the Department of Energy's project management system uh, that control the development of a project and revisit the mission need to ensure, ahm, it's the appropriate thing. So, Critical Decision Zero approves the mission need which is the basic requirement for a project. Um, that's followed by a[n] environmental assessment, which in this case was an EIS [Environmental Impact Statement] and that was completed in 2004 and a Record of Decision was issued, um. Following that, the CD-1 process is geared towards the Department selecting the preferred alternative and establishing a cost range for the project and that allows the preliminary design activities to proceed.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

So that was completed in 2005. And two parts of the project are in that phase right now. And for Phase A, the RLUOB facility, we received CD-2 and -3, and, um, [in] the last part of October of '05. CD-2 and -3 allows you to proceed with final design in construction of the building. And so, that's the phase that we're in at this point.

[Slide 10]

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

Thank you, Deb [Debora Hall]. This slide has been presented in the other, uh, meetings, but again, this is the way the project is constructed. Overall it's um got a cost range of \$745 million to \$975 [million] and a time line of eight to twelve years. That's a substantial project by any measure and certainly an important capability for the Laboratory. The project is broken down into three phases, A, B, and C. A is the RLUOB facility. Um, the Phase B is the special facilities equipment, and Phase C is the acquisition of the nuclear facility, the heavy

lab. We refer to Phase A as the light lab/office building and, um, the nuclear facility is oftentimes called the “heavy lab.” Um, Phase A provides 19,000, these are the functional attributes that the project is gonna deliver, ah, 19,500 square feet net, of light laboratory space. Um, it provides office space for 350 workers. It includes a training facility, uh, that will support much of the operations out at TA-55. It includes a central utilities building which is geared at, for supplying all of the utilities for the RLUOB building itself but also will deliver the bulk utilities, heating, cooling, gases, and things like that, uh, for the nuclear facility. So an important component, um. In addition there’s a[n] incident command, which is providing infrastructure support for the TA-55 area, and there’s also an operations center in the RLUOB that will provide operations and control for, the RLUOB facility and provide the capability to do monitoring at other facilities, uh, at ’55 [TA-55] if needed in the future.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

The status of the project right now is, we did, uh, we issued a contract with Austin Commercial Company for both design and construction services in the latter part of, uh, ’05. We went through a series of design development where we have initially spent about three months doing, developing a quality assurance program for the project and then we went into preliminary design and we have now finished final design, and we are in the process right now of having the Laboratory and the NNSA [National Nuclear Security Administration] review that design to make sure that it meets all the codes and standards that would be required of any building. But also to make sure that it meets all of the specific requirements that are in the contract. And, um, that’s a big effort. And I’ll talk more about that later. Um, the facility hazard categorization is complete. It’s a radiological low-hazard facility, which basically means it’s, um, a commercial facility, um, in terms of the nature of the construction that takes place for the most part. Um, our contract documents for construction safety and quality and so forth have been done. And construction’s underway. We are doing what we call “mass excavation” right now, which is the development of the excavation that’ll support our foundations. Ah, that work is about 70% complete. There’s a large volume of dirt being moved and transported around the Laboratory right now. This work happens at night, but if you’ve been driving around after six o’clock, I’m certain you’ve probably gotten behind one of our trucks.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

Uh, Phase B is the “Special Facilities Equipment,” is the project title, but, uh, it’s an acquisition activity that’s geared to buying and installing the major equipment for the, both the nuclear facility and the radiological laboratory. And the types of equipment are mostly confinement boxes, glove boxes, um, fume hoods, uh, chemistry fume hoods, things like that, and a variety of other configurations for different types of boxes. It’s long-lead specialty equipment, um, it includes programmatic equipment, and so it’s all the major pieces, spectrophotometers and large instruments that are gonna to go into the, uh, both buildings.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

And then Phase C is the nuclear facility. It provides an additional 22,000 square feet net of [clears throat] (Excuse me.) heavy lab. It is what has been classified as a Security Category I facility and a Hazard Category 2. And both of those categorizations are largely driven by the amount of material that’s in the building. And one of them relates to various security protection measures that are required and the other one relates to safety. Um, in addition, functionally, the building is gonna’ provide material storage for up to six metric tons of

nuclear material and a large vessel handling capability, uh, that supports the hydro program at the laboratory.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

The status of the nuclear facility is that they are in preliminary design. That should be completed later this summer. Perhaps of interest to this group is there's a public meeting. I'm told it's on March 13th actually, that will, is sponsored by the Defense Board, but it—

[TIM NELSON]

[Twenty-second]

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

Twenty second? All right. Up to the minute. And it will go through the safety integration in the design of the nuclear facility. So, an important topic. Um, I guess I skipped on the SFE [special facilities equipment] Phase B, that project is just finished preliminary design and is now undergoing a series of reviews by the Department of Energy to validate that design as they prepare for obtaining their Critical Decision-2 that would allow them to start procurement of the equipment.

[Slide 11]

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

Um, this slide basically is just introducing that we're gonna be talking about the rad lab and eventually I'll be talking about some of our LEED activities. In this slide it gives us a basic layout of the project. This is Parajito Road. Um, and that Pecos is the street that takes you up to TA-55. Um, the CMR facility is located right in this currently open space, um. The project consists of three technically distinct facilities: the light lab office building, the central utility building, and the nuclear facility. The nuclear facility'll be primarily a below-grade structure. This building is gonna be a basement and four stories, and I've got additional pictures of that as we go forward.

[Slide 12]

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

Thanks Deb. I think you could turn that if it is more convenient. Um, so, Phase A, these are some images of the building. Uh, the project was intentionally separated from the heavy lab for a couple of reasons. In addition to safety, segregating functions for the office facility from those that are gonna to be in the nuclear lab is a good thing to do. But in addition, it also puts those things that don't need the heavy security protection features that are inside the other area. It allows those operations to be conducted on the outside in a much more cost effective way. So we think that the rad lab is gonna be a[n] excellent long term support facility as it replaces the CMR facility, portions of it.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

In this image, and we have more details of the facility design in the posters, uh, but this is an image looking from the north to the southwest. Um, the entrance to the facility'll be coming out of the parking lot, but will be on the north side of the building. And going up the flight of stairs, you'll enter on a catwalk and go into an atrium area that is going to be a very nice welcoming area for the building. The structure itself is constructed of two floors of

reinforced concrete and then the top three floors are structural steel, and the second floor, it will be, use a post-tensioning, um, structural system.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

The exterior of the building is clad with a couple of materials. These materials fit the Laboratory's design guidelines. The primary material is a pre-cast concrete panel. Um, and it'll be accented by a corrugated metal design and, uh, the basic feature of the building is that it's got several architectural masses, um, that are in a linear fashion, running sorta north/south and then with this area, which we call the saddle-back because of the nature of its roof is largely an office area, and then it's flanked on the west side with the central utilities building. Um, and um, we uh selected this design from a couple of options because it made the best use of what is a very congested site. Um, it's actually very difficult to fit this building in there and these features actually are designed to accommodate that. I think, that's about all I'll say. I guess one other attribute [of] the building is that this corridor, this central corridor separates a classified part of the building, er, uh, "limited area" is the more appropriate term, from this part, which is for unclassified work. And so that adds a lot of flexibility in the facility for meeting program needs.

[Slide 13]

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

In this slide, this is an aerial photograph of the Parajito corridor. Um, again, this is Parajito Road; this is Pecos Road running up to the TA-55 and TA-50 areas; this would be coming from the Laboratory and going on your way down to White Rock. The— we've got a number of projects both that are CMR related and some additional projects that the institution are doing. All of these things are happening in this same area, and so I thought I'd just point those out to you in the event that you're able to go through and see some of the activity. The nuclear facility is located in this area, that previously was a gravel parking lot supporting TA-55 operations. We've since recently excavated that entire area, down approximately to the level of the road. It will also be the construction support area for the rad lab, so it'll have the contractor's equipment, some of his trailers, and it'll include our material storage areas and things like that.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

The RLUOB site proper, before we started work a month or so ago, in earnest out here, uh, was again, more parking for the TA-55 area. That, this area has since been cleared out. Utilities were moved, pulled back, this asphalt has been taken up, and um, used in other parts of the project. And our primary objective schedule-wise right now is to get this excavation completed, all of that soil out of there so that we can support concrete operations in the April time frame. We're taking a lot of that dirt across the street to this previously, uh, a meadow. And we are using the soils that came out of these two areas to support a parking lot that's being developed by the institution. Um, and in addition we've got soils that we are staging in this area, and we've got some temporarily stored soils in this area that will eventually be brought back and used for backfill around this building.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

In addition to that, we've got soil that we're taking up to the bypass road that's being developed by the Laboratory. And then we'll be taking some soils at some point over to the county landfill to provide cover materials for them in closing that sanitary landfill. So we're

getting a lot of mileage out of the dirt that's coming out of this facility. In addition, the institution is making some traffic safety modifications to Parajito Road and eventually is planning to upgrade the electrical reliability of this area with a new substation. Our project has taken a power line that's—ran across the site and we relocated that. So you might've some of that activity if you've been in that area. It's now below ground, and provides us with more access to the site, and improves the electrical safety in the area.

[Slide 14]

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

Next, this slide is a topographic image, that, a perspective that shows the excavations that I've been talking about. If you are not familiar with these types of drawings, these lines indicate the degree of slope on the land. So an area that has lots of lines is very steep and areas that have wide spacing are actually relatively flat. And so again, these are very steep walls, about 75% in terms of grade. Ahm, around three sides of that. And the contractor's started to move equipment into this area. And at the same time we are also using this area to do some additional geotechnical mapping of these walls that provides structural information for our foundation designs. Um, this area is going to stay. This is—

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]

[Brief inaudible comment]

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

And this excavation is where the new facility is going to be. Hopefully this map parallels the previous one I showed. Um, the nuclear facility, when it's done, well, this is now roughly at the grade of the highway. When it's finished, um, that will be as much as another 30 feet below grade in terms of total depth of excavation. Comparable to the RLUOB site, which is actually gonna be about 25 feet deeper than the road is. And, um, I guess the other feature that's visible in this drawing is this excavation that's connecting the two sites. And that represents a tunnel that will allow personnel to go in between the two buildings. And it'll be controlled by an entrance control facility within the RLUOB.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

Um, but again, this what I get to spend most of my day on right now.

[Slide 15]

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

This is our project schedule. Um, in the previous meeting we, uh, Tim [Nelson], spent time going over the schedule for the overall CMRR project. This is a blowup of the schedule just for Phase A. Um, again, we went through our Critical Decision process, and I'll start with CD-2, -3 which happened in late October of '05. We followed that with our contract award to Austin Commercial. Again, we went into QA [quality assurance] for about three months developing a QA program. Went into design. We've been in design now for something like 12 months. We're finishing up that design at this time. And we have started basic construction activities at this point, which is just clearing the site and getting things ready for the primary activities. As I said, concrete work is scheduled to start in the April time frame. And you'd see significant structural steel work taking place by late summer. And overall the construction phase is scheduled to complete in January of 2009. And that'll be followed by a readiness assessment phase, um, where we go through and demonstrate that the facility

systems all function as they are supposed to and that we're actually ready to begin operations and that's a process that we go through with the Department of Energy.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

Overall this schedule is designed to support having the radiological laboratory completed prior to the forecasted end-of-life for the CMR facility, and the RLUOB is able to take on some of the current mission that's currently being done in CMR, although not all of it.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

The project overall is \$164 million so it's a significant effort by the Laboratory. Right now we are about 16% complete. And these funny numbers are indices that we use to measure whether we are on schedule and how we are doing in terms of tracking costs. So, "1" is good, it means you're doing what you said. And ".96 on schedule" means we are a little behind schedule but not by too much. And, um, so I think that's it for this slide then. Thank you.

[Slide 16]

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

The next several slides are some photos of some of the work that we are doing. Um, this set is actually from a while back. Senator Domenici kicked off the project back in January of '05—we did a ground-breaking ceremony. Again, while we were doing design we've been off mobilizing the contractor, clearing the site, [clears throat] Excuse me—uh, taking down that parking area lighting, some of the old fencing that was in that area, and things like that. Next slide.

[Slide 17]

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

Um, the main activity over the last twelve months has been design. And that's a substantial activity that has been done by our contractor, Austin Commercial, and their design subcontractor, Carter Burgess, out of Dallas. But it's also very intensive effort for the Laboratory, making sure that all of the contract requirements have been met. It takes a great deal of effort. In our current design reviews, we've got over a hundred functional specialists that are involved in reviewing the design to make sure that it's what we had asked for. And, as an example, in this area we've got, ah, what I think is one of the benefits of the type of contract that we have, where we have both the design and construction being done by one contractor. This is a meeting that's taken place between our Laboratory project team, the institution, the Laboratory institution's water quality people, and the experts working with the construction contractors, uh, environment and safety representative, to make sure that both the storm water controls that are in place during construction and in the final design are done in a way that meets requirements and protects the environment. And getting that construction input early in the process is something that's actually very beneficial. Next slide.

[Slide 18]

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

Um, some of the things that we're doing right now. Again, I said that we're mobilizing equipment. We've just brought in a crane this week and we'll be bringing in another crane of this size next week. We've got a large number of different types of construction equipment that we're bringing in right now to get ready for that concrete effort next month. And what

we've been doing over the last several months, mostly at night, is hauling dirt. We are running up to twenty-five of these tractor-trailer configurations, uh, and taking that dirt to a number of sites. And, um, it actually takes quite a bit of coordination to make that happen.

[Slide 19]

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

Um. Okay. So my last topic is [to] talk a little bit about LEEDS. LEEDS is, uh, a national program that started a while back, mostly in the design community. There was a recognition that there was an opportunity to build environmental and sustainable ideas into buildings from the beginning. And so the, ah, and this is done by a consensus-based standards organization. It's voluntary. But what they gave us is a system and a structure by which to evaluate our projects and just help motivate us towards doing the right things in terms of environmental efforts. For our project, specifically, we are using the new construction criteria. There's several different systems that have been developed over the last several years, but in particular that's the one we are scoring ourselves against. The way the system works is that there's a four-tier system to it, somewhat like the Olympics. The first level is, you can achieve, is a certified building. The second level is silver. Then there's gold. And then if you're really doing well, there's actually a platinum level that has been added as well. The Department of Energy tasked our project with achieving LEEDS silver as a minimum for us. And so that's a stretch goal for us with this particular building. For us to achieve silver, we have to have between 33 and 38 points according to the scoring system. We currently have confirmed, based on our final design, that we can get 36 of those points. And so the way the process works, is some of 'em are design-related, some of 'em are construction-related, and so there's a number of things that we still have to do in addition to the design, in order to get these points. And when you're all done you fill out a lot of very complicated paperwork and you submit this information to the counsel and they make a judgment about whether or not you've actually earned that certificate and then we would get that back.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

Um, I failed to update this part of the slide. The math would suggest that if we picked up seven, that then there's four additional potential points that we could get. Two of those we have decided we just won't ever be able to get and two of them we're still working to try and achieve. And so we are still, still laboring to make this happen. Next slide.

[Slide 20]

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

What we are showing in this slide is just some of things that we are doing right now. We do the site development. We're recycling the vegetative matter that's out there. The paving materials that we dug up were recycled and have been re-used within the construction site itself. The soils that we're taking out, as I talked about, we've been distributing around to other Lab projects and we'll be re-, re-using that soil on our site as well. Um, and we have a lot of other things yet to go.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

So we've got things that we're doing in the area of energy conservation. Um, we've got a fairly innovative cooling system for the building that utilizes a[n] ice storage system. Um, so the way these systems work, it's actually somewhat inefficient to produce chilled water and other things during the day to run our chillers, but at night when the temperature in New

Mexico drops and gets relatively cool, those chillers can become a lot more efficient. And so the way we have this designed is we'll make ice during the night and then during the day we'll turn the chillers off and we'll draw that cooling capability out of the ice. And, um, our plan is to not have to run those chillers during the day.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

Another thing that we are doing on this building is that we specifically designed it to have direct expansion cooling. Uh, the conventional cooling system at the Laboratory uses evaporative cooling with cooling towers. And as a water conservation technique we'll use this other cooling system. Works a little bit, it's a[n] air-cooled system, a little bit like the radiator on your car, and takes the heat out that way. And again, for our arid environment, we think anything we can do to save water'd be a good thing. So there's a number of things like that.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

We also have water for the more traditional things, energy-, er, water-conserving fixtures. Um, as well as lighting, energy-efficient lighting, and another thing that we are spending money on is putting individual controls for both air conditioning temperature and lighting levels in much of the facility. And that again allows people to self-regulate the use of energy in the building. So.

[Slide 21]

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

Um, the next slide, I think in doing a recap, so overall, this is a big important project for the Laboratory and the Department of Energy. Um, we think that, uh, this is gonna be a major component of supporting and renewing our infrastructure for the mission that Los Alamos has. We think that we're gonna to be able to do our current activities in a new set of facilities that are gonna allow us to do it better, better in terms of safety, security, ah, energy, um environment, in all ways, we should be able to do a better job. And, so that's it.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

All right. Thank you.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

You're welcome.

[Slide 22]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

All right. This is the part of, um, of the conversation—, I didn't have folks introduce themselves earlier, but my hope is that when you come up to the mike you will say your name clearly and speak slowly, and I'll try to capture the question if we didn't get it, if we didn't hear it. So we are getting those mikes—

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

Do you want me to stay up here Rosemary [Romero].

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Oh, stay up there for just a moment. Any questions that there needs to be some clarification from Craig? We've also got Tori [George] who made a presentation earlier who is available for any clarification on, on the slides also.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Love your tie. [He has on a red, white, and blue patriotic tie.] And let me get you the mike, sir.

[DON BROWN]

Hi Craig. My name is Don Brown. And I had a couple of questions that maybe you might be able to answer. Ah, I know that you said that the CMR facility that's in place now was designed in 1949. Was it constructed in '49 as well?

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

Constructed in '49. Became operational in 1952, I believe.

[DON BROWN]

Fifty-two. Did you have a definitive lifespan on that original design, the design basis? To show how long that facility, uh, ya'know, we live in a finite world, and—

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

Right.

[DON BROWN, CONTINUING]

—we live with finite materials, and I just wonder what the original design basis, uh, showed as far as the lifespan for that facility for safe operations, and how that affects the CMRR project, ah, and, and the need for the CMR facility to keep running, and are we, are we kind of at a risk basis for continuing operations for the CMR facility at this point in time?

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

Okay. I think I understand your question.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

And Craig, if, if, I think, there's other folks in the audience also, so if there's somebody else we can pick on, feel free.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

Absolutely.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

All right.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

I recognize a number of people here. So—

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]
Yeah.

[Craig]
Yeah, that's unlikely that I would have all the answers to your questions,—

[DON BROWN]
Okay.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER, CONTINUING]
—but, uh, given my focus on the construction of this first building. Um, so the answer is “no,” I don't personally have the design criteria for the original construction of the building. I would venture a guess that we do have that at the Laboratory in our records. Um, but whether or not the building was designed to go 60 or 50 or 40, or whatever, generally I would speculate, that, and I don't, because I don't have that data, but the way building [has] been maintained, is that you continue to reinvest in the building over time as a basic engineering practice. And, um, so the life of the building is continually extended through maintenance and upgrades and then it's also continually evaluated for a business decision about how long should you continue to try to renovate or repair something versus just replacing and go on and get a new one. Similar to what you would do with your car.

[DON BROWN]
Sure. The second question I had, I'm gonna have probably three or four questions, is that okay?

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]
Sure, and I can always take the mike away from you.

[DON BROWN]
Okay. Uh, on the different phases, I think Phase A is ML [management level] level two. Is that correct?

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]
It is management level two according to our system. It's actually, we have been in classification of the facility by system, so we've actually got 40-some subsystems of the building and we've evaluated each of those individually and, uh, but the highest level, if you will, is a management level two.

[DON BROWN]
Management level two. That's for A, B, and C?

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]
Uh, for A.

[DON BROWN]
For A. How about B and C?

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

Tim [Nelson], they are “two” as well, would you guess?

[TIM NELSON]

Yes,—uh

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

I’m going to have to hand him the mike while he answers the question.

[TIM NELSON]

I’m Tim Nelson. Um,—

[MORRISON BENNETT, TRANSCRIBER]

Thank you.

[TIM NELSON]

The Phase C, I’m gonna say is ML-1. But we’ll have to go check on that. Um, what Craig’s trying to tell you is, some of the systems in the rad lab are ML-2, but a number of them are ML-3. For those, that don’t, aren’t familiar with the ML system, um, the smaller the number, an ML-1 would mean essentially potentially more impacts, not just in safety, but could be impacts related to program, operations, stuff like that, such that if the system went down, people wouldn’t be able to meet their permit.

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]

[Inaudible few words]

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

It’s a graded approach to quality in management.

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]

[Inaudible few words]

[Don Brown]

Phase C would be an ML-1, this is? Is it subject to a criticality event in, on Phase C?

[TIM NELSON]

This is Tim again. [Laughter]

[MORRISON BENNETT]

Tim is helping. Thank you.

[TIM NELSON]

Um, the amount of material in Phase C, in the building in Phase C, is such that you do have to do criticality analysis relative to that building. Which is different than Phase A, which the amount of material that Craig pointed out on the slide is less than 8.4 grams of plutonium-239 equivalent. And you can’t achieve a criticality event with that small amount of material for Phase A.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]
All right.

[DON BROWN]
Let me just ask one more question.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]
One more question. Sure.

[DON BROWN]
Uh, I know that the subject of concrete has been a lot of controversy around the Laboratory here, and I was the lead auditor for the Los Alamos Transit Mix where I discovered that they actually didn't have any formal processes and they didn't meet NQA-1 [Nuclear Quality Assurance] requirements or 10 CFR 831.20 requirements. And so I probably, I had some other questions, but I'm really concerned about what you are gonna do on that project for Phase A, B, and C, for the concrete that's gonna be placed there because there are ACI [American Concrete Institute] requirements for, ah, nuclear radiological facilities and they are more stringent than the commercial ACI requirements. And I wondered if you're gonna go with those higher requirements. We did not in the past. We didn't do for PF-4 [TA-55 plutonium facility] and we did not do that for TA-55. And I just wondered what your management strategy is now.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]
Well, [pause] Tim [Nelson], you want to go ahead?

[TIM NELSON]
I've got my own [mike].

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]
[Inaudible]

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]
Yeah, I can tackle Phase A. On Phase A, uh, the uh, we will be using Los Alamos Transit Mix. They have, perhaps, since your audit, been audited again. One, they went back and worked on their quality assurance program and developed the necessary processes and procedures and have since been approved by the Laboratory to supply ML-2 concrete, which we have in the first phase of this project. And uh, and we're in the process now of qualifying them to supply concrete via our QA program for Phase A. But, it is my expectation that they'll meet our requirements and be able to supply that concrete.

[DON BROWN]
Do you meet ML-1 requirements?

[TIM NELSON]
Nah, he's talking about the rad lab.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]
No.

[TIM NELSON]
So for Phase C. [Pause]—which is, will answer your question for ML-1. [Pause]
That has not been determined. That went out for a contractor, um, to go build that building
yet.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]
Okay.

[TIM NELSON]
There are alternative— You know, there's a number of things they are looking at, in the
design phases, that's how to make the concrete.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]
Great. Thank you. [pause] I'm gonna hold the mike here. Um, other questions from folks?
And we can always come back. I'm sure there's more in the book.

[DON BROWN]
Yeah, there are.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]
All right.

[GREG MELLO, LOS ALAMOS STUDY GROUP]
Let's see, I've got a couple.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]
Greg, if you would say your name please.

[GREG MELLO]
Greg Mello.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]
Thanks.

[GREG MELLO]
Um, is there, um, five. Um, is there, and I know the likely answer, but see if we can find an
unlikely answer. Is there a publicly available mission analysis for, um, the, for all phases of
the project that would kind of, that would, um, break down the building requirements by
mission sub-element and enable us to see why the buildings are being built the way they are,
and why the cost is what it is, and, so forth? And, so, for example, if the plutonium pit
production mission, um, does not stay here, members of congress have suggested that this
project is, um— well their phrase is “irrational,” or “stupid,” I think, both have been used by
committee chairmen about this project. Um, “absurd” was another one that was used. But, if,
so it would be reasonable for there to be a response to that to show that the mission elements

were robust with respect to possible changes of mission, um, and, so I would like to know whether something like that is available for us.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Steve [Fong] should we give you the mike? And we'll get the other one for you [Craig].

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

Steve Fong will tackle that one.

[STEVE FONG, PROJECT MANAGER, LOS ALAMOS AREA OFFICE, DOE]

Hi Greg. This is Steve Fong with the federal project team with NNSA. So Greg, what's publishably available, available publicly, that gets to your question, in terms of response to that, is the programmatic EIS [Environmental Impact Statement], which assigns the capability and that was 1996, and then the current draft SWEIS [Site Wide Environmental Impact Statement] of '99, and the proposed draft that's coming out. That's what's, uh, basically, uh, develops our mission need for this capability. So that's what we were relying on. There are other sub-tiered project-specific type of documents that go into detail—functional, operational type of requirements, programmatic requirements, but those aren't publicly available.

[GREG MELLO]

How? What class? Are they UCNI-ed?

Are they? What are, what is there? UCNI [unclassified nuclear information]?

[STEVE FONG]

UCNI. For the most part.

[GREG MELLO]

Okay.

[STEVE FONG]

When it gets down to that level, uh, when we get down to specifics.

[GREG MELLO]

All right.

[STEVE FONG]

But they're all summarized within our EIS documentation.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay. You had other questions Greg?

[GREG MELLO]

Um, the, um the CMR makes, you mean, so the CMR is coming to the end of its life. PF-4 is also not as old a building, but it was run very hard in the 1980s and is now the subject of a reinvestment project, um, that the cost of which has not been revealed to congress yet. Um, it, it is being introduced to congress in phases, um, but it has some really scary things in there like electrical, mechanical, roof, um, and it looks to me like that is, I mean Paul Cunningham

used to say, we had \$300 million in deferred maintenance at TA-55. Um, so, is there a document describing the TA-55 reinvestment project which can be made available so that we can see the full scope of the ancillary projects that give meaning and make it possible for the CMRR to fulfill its mission?

[STEVE FONG]

This is Steve Fong again. Um, Greg, I am not aware, being not responsible for those activities on the [TA-]55 reinvestment project. There is a project, you are correct, to do, um, and work off that deferred maintenance as you were speaking of. The— I believe, and I may be wrong, but the, the activities are summarized in the updated SWEIS that's going on at this point. Um, I would check there for that information. I do not know of any other detailed documents that would summarize what's going on out there. Tim [Nelson], do you know of any?

[TIM NELSON]

The only other thing that might be out there, which I'm sure you're familiar with Greg, is the construction project data sheet, the stuff that goes to congress in terms of dollars.

[STEVE FONG]

Yeah, that's—

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

And the information on the EIS or SWEIS are probably on line. He was asking for documentation, so they're probably somewhere where you could find them. I think that's what you referred to Steve?

[STEVE FONG]

That is correct. This is Steve again, and I know Greg probably knows where to get that

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay.

[STEVE FONG, CONTINUING]

and if he doesn't, I'm sure Greg will contact me.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Great. I was just confirming. Thanks.

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]

[Inaudible words]

[GREG MELLO]

I don't think that information is in there,

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay.

[GREG MELLO, CONTINUING]

but I will triple check. Um, okay, I have one, then, the last three questions. One of 'em's about cooling in Phase C, and one of 'em is, two of them are [about] ventilation. Um—

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

Phase C.

[GREG MELLO]

So phase, I guess cooling first. Ah, how is the vault going to be cooled and how is the cooling going to be robust with respect to, um, power failures or other natural disasters.

[STEVE FONG]

Yes, there is cooling in the vault, that is still being assessed and alternatives are, are under way. So I think all alternatives are, are fair game, but I'm not sure if I'd go into the details of any of that stuff. But, indeed that has the attention of our safety analysts as well as the Defense Board to make sure that we come up with the right design solution. So, we're still coming up and weighing alternatives in that area.

[GREG MELLO]

Okay. [Pause] And then,— You are probably, I don't whether you were— There was a project involving a vault that eventually failed because of a lack of a good part, lack of a good cooling solution that, that was compatible with security, and, so forth.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

So Craig, is the encouragement that while alternatives are being developed that really look carefully at the cooling because of other examples?

[GREG MELLO]

Yeeesss. Um, that, a lot, I think about a \$166 million have already been spent on Phase C, and um, the, we don't have solution to the problem which doomed the PF-41, ah, after expenditure of many millions there, and, in general, because the site is cramped, this leads to the idea of cramming more work and more material in a small space, which raises cooling loads and raises concerns about criticality in seismic events. The preferred solution that, at the time that we looked at the nuclear materials storage facility, was, all involved basically spreading plutonium out in a larger area. But this site is a small area, and so it raises, it makes it a difficult design and, um, that's, anyway.

[GREG MELLO]

The third, the last two questions about ventilation. Um, 8.4 grams of plutonium-239 is approximately 10^5 fatal lung cancer doses, and, so, it's a dangerous material and presumably there will be some sort of ventilation zoning in the building even though it was described as commercial, but really surely it's much more than commercial and, um, so, that's my first question. The second question is: will this ventilation be safety class and is the Defense Safety Board, after I know there've been many conversations, dozens and dozens, are, are they happy, ah, with, fully happy with the ventilation system? I'll be at the hearing on the 22nd, so I guess I could ask'em, but, um, [do] you think they are happy?

[STEVE FONG]
I'll let Craig answer the first part of that question.

[Tape being turned over. Several words missed.]

[TIM NELSON]
.... um, the Defense Board interest in the rad lab ventilation system essentially, not the issue that you're alluding to—

[GREG MELLO]
I see it.

[TIM NELSON, CONTINUING]
which is really related to the nuclear facility.

[GREG MELLO]
Okay. Thank you.

[TIM NELSON]
Um, in the context of the rad lab— This is Tim Nelson. In the context of the rad lab and the ventilation system, we've actually exceeded the requirements of the rad lab. What is normally expected, if you went to DOE requirements, stuff like that, by putting in a HEPA [high efficiency particulate air filter] filtration system, similar to what is in the nuclear facility, and it does have zones of negativity for ventilation. That's not a requirement.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]
Okay.

[TIM NELSON]
That's correct.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]
Do you want to add anything Craig?

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]
No.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]
Okay.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]
That answered Greg's question.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]
All right.

[Pause]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

I think this is on, Joni. You just have to introduce yourself, please.

[JONI ARENDS]

Okay. Joni Arends, Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety. I apologize that we were late. This is our third public meeting of the day.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Ahch! You're a good sport then.

[JONI ARENDS]

Um, but Tori, I missed your presentation about the air permits, and I wanted to just clarify, um, it looks like you are preparing the application next year?

[TORI GEORGE]

Get a mike.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

We're gonna get a mike.

[JONI ARENDS]

Or Jackie's there, too.

[TORI GEORGE]

Jackie, you want?

[Pause]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Jackie, you just have to introduce yourself, please.

[JACKIE HURTLE, ACTING DEPUTY GROUP LEADER]

This is Jackie Hurdle, and I'm the team leader for—

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Thanks.

[JACKIE HURTLE, CONTINUING]

LANL's air quality permitting, and, yes, that is true. Um, we do have a timeline.

[Pause]

[JACKIE HURTLE]

Can you get it get it out of that?

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

You have to keep the mike close to you.

[JACKIE HURTLE]

Um, we have a timeline that describes the permitting requirements and what we are planning to do for the rad application and the non-rad application. And they are delayed.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

So we are going to go back to that slide just so you can see the initial presentations.

[Slide 8]

[JACKIE HURTLE]

So on the top half we have, um, the time, basically the sequence of events that'll happen for the non-rad application that'll be submitted to NMED. And on the bottom we have, um, the sequence of events for the rad application to be submitted to EPA.

[JONI ARENDS]

Oh. Okay. So everything's been delayed.

[JACKIE HURTLE]

That is correct.

[JONI ARENDS]

Okay. So, do you think, do you have a timeline for FY08 for, the, prepare the application? I mean, in terms of our planning, in terms of responding to, um, permit application, do you have a month in '08, or—

[JACKIE HURTLE]

I don't have a month in '08, but what I'm doing is, um, every month I'm calling to make sure that we are on schedule with the project, um, and what we'll be able to do is, in September when we're back here in this forum, we'll be able to update this for you.

[JONI ARENDS]

Okay. Um, so to go to Greg's question a little bit, to ask a followup question about the ventilation system, and the HEPA filtration, is that we are concerned about beryllium, um, emissions from the Laboratory, from the rad lab and what's gonna to be done for beryllium emissions?

[Pause]

[STEVE FONG]

Beryllium?

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Steve [Fong], do you want to—

[STEVE FONG]

Sure. Beryllium from the radiological facility, Joni? Yes, the beryllium is, is a particulate and we have controls on the radiological light laboratory that goes through HEPA filters, so, that's the control for contaminants out of the rad lab utility office building.

[JONI ARENDS]

So, have there been any new developments in terms of keeping those particles out of the environment, just because a certain population, a certain percentage of the population is susceptible to, um, getting berylliosis with a very, very small dose, and seeing as how there is a more and more concentrated area where these materials will be used. Um, our concern is that state of the art particulate, ahm, system be installed. Is there a LEED for air monitoring systems?

[STEVE FONG]

This is Steve Fong, again. Joni, the HEPA filtration is the state of art technology for controls of those contaminants. Um, as you are aware, beryllium is a, both used in many processes throughout the U.S. Machining operations, those sorts of things, are of concern out of our facilities here; so those controls were reviewed by the State of New Mexico, found to be appropriate. I'm not sure if they were mandatory or not for beryllium. I don't believe so. Um, but they are there, anyhow. There are many, many sources of beryllium in the environment today from those that occur in, in wood products, burning of woods, to burning of fuels in coal-fired plants, etcetera. So, yes, there is a, there's a lot of concern with beryllium. Uh, we don't take operations with beryllium lightly. We, um, have both worker controls and we also have controls to ensure that exceedances out of our facilities are well within emission limits. Uh, we do not have any special, um, reporting for beryllium such as a sampler in our stacks for beryllium out of the rad lab.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay.

[JONI ARENDS]

That would be something that we would request, is a beryllium sampler in the stack out of the rad lab.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay.

[SCOTT KOVAC]

Sure.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Sure. Just say who you are please.

[SCOTT KOVAC]

Yes, my name is Scott Kovac with Nuclear Watch New Mexico. I had a couple of questions. Um, what was the total quantity of dirt removed for both of those, um—

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]
For the excavated sites?

[SCOTT KOVAC]
Yes, for both of those excavated sites.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]
You could probably go to that slide,

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]
It's approximately about 210 thousand yards, total, with, about 90 thousand yards coming out of the nuclear facility site and about 120 thousand coming out of the RLUOB site.

[SCOTT KOVAC]
And, could you describe the, um, testing that you did on that soil before you shipped [it] off? Did you find any contaminated soil in, in that area?

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]
No. It was evaluated by the functional specialist at the Laboratory, and there were no documented uses of that area and as a result, um, for example, it's not in the database for previously used areas and things like that.

[SCOTT KOVAC]
So it wasn't actually tested? You just went by that—

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]
We did not do any specific sampling of the soil.

[SCOTT KOVAC]
Nobody sampled the soil. Okay. Even though, like right next to it is MDA [Material Disposable Area] C. Right. Okay. Um, has the—

[JONI ARENDS]
And [TA-]55.

[SCOTT KOVAC]
Well, okay. The, ah, has the, ah, preliminary seismic hazard analysis been completed yet? The new one? That's due out soon? Has that been done yet?

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]
No. Um, there's been a lot of work completed on that, and it's nearing completion, but the way that information is released, it comes through our Laboratory engineering standards before it's actually implementable on projects, and that has not happened yet.

[TIM NELSON]
So— This is Tim Nelson here. You are talking about the institutional probabilistic seismic hazard analysis?

[SCOTT KOVAC]

Yeah, yeah. There is a big one, the updated one was due out soon, or last, y'know, soon, right?

[TIM NELSON]

Yeah. We're aware of drafting but I'm not aware of— The last public meeting that we had, we had Mike Soloman come and present.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Um hm.

[TIM NELSON]

He's the person responsible for probabilistic seismic hazards analysis at the Laboratory.

[SCOTT KOVAC]

Yeah.

[TIM NELSON]

Um, I'm not aware that that's been issued, as a final. Not really.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

My guess is that for the next public meeting there's probably gonna be other updates of information.

[TIM NELSON]

Sure.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

And, as it comes along, so this might be one that there would be additional information or— We'll see.

[TIM NELSON]

Sure.

[SCOTT KOVAC]

That was kinda my question, if anything new had shown up yet. Um, back to the— Can I ask another question?

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Sure. Everybody else is on a roll of three or four.

[SCOTT KOVAC]

Well, there's— Um, the LEED program. The, um, nuclear facility is not, you're not going for any LEED designation on that guy?

[TIM NELSON]

Uh, not at this time.

[SCOTT KOVAC]

Yeah. Um, and then, um, so how is the— Can I ask another question?

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Sure. 'Cause there was information about the LEE—, what was LEED on the handout.

[SCOTT KOVAC]

Yes. What it is, but not that it's, as it applies to the nuclear facility.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Right. Right.

[SCOTT KOVAC]

Okay. Um. How, the budget for the construction of the Phase 3 has been cut this year. I mean for, for fiscal year '08 it's been cut. And the out years have also been temporarily unfunded. How is that affecting the, is that, is that affecting your, you in any way, as this project? I mean—

[TIM NELSON]

So, um, let's try to clarify a little bit. This is Tim Nelson again. Um, the continuing resolution that congress was in, they went essentially, their path forward, if you will, was to use last year's budget less one percent. Our budget for '07, that was requested, was actually a bigger number than that. Um, so you are correct that the budget this year relative to what we were anticipating on getting is less, it's actually what last year's budget was. That has slowed things down a bit in the context of the nuclear facility. Next year's budget being, um, reduced as well, will slow us also, the nuclear facility, down.

[SCOTT KOVAC]

Yeah, the fiscal year, so does that, does that push the finish date for the nuclear facility out any that you know of at this point?

[TIM NELSON]

Yeah, I'd— we're, I would say that we're looking at that, but it has a lot to do with what those out-year budgets would be.

[SCOTT KOVAC]

Yeah.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay.

[SCOTT KOVAC]

Thank you.

[JONI ARENDS]

So, I had a couple of clarifying questions.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

You just have to say who you are again, okay Joni?

[JONI ARENDS]

Joni Arends. Umm. So, on the seismic studies. It sounds like we are talking about two different studies. There's the study that was mentioned in the draft LANL SWEIS where it said that the seismic report would be released soon. I think maybe it said January '07. Um, our concern is that we wanna see that prior to the release of the final, uh, LANL SWEIS. And we wrote about that in our comments, that we think that we need to be able to review that document and have our experts look at it, before that, the final SWEIS is done.

[TIM NELSON]

You are talking about the institutional seismic analysis?

[JONI ARENDS]

I don't know which one I am talking about. But I think that there's two different ones. There's one for, like, right there at 55, TA-55.

[TIM NELSON]

The institution is, let's see if I can help you a little bit. The institution is looking, um, in their update of the probabilistic seismic hazards analysis.

[JONI ARENDS]

Um hm.

[TIM NELSON]

Looking at, I'll say, the [TA-]55 site, relative to numbers there, as well as across the institution.

[JONI ARENDS]

Right. And then in the, in the draft LANL SWEIS on a page, a righthand page, it talked about that they found increased seismic activity in the area of [TA-]55. And I'm sorry, I didn't bring my SWEIS with me, or else I could just quote it verbatim, but, um, or read it, I guess. Um,— We wanna see—

[TIM NELSON]

If I understand your question—

[JONI ARENDS]

Yeah. We want to see that document. And we wanna see the institutional and then we wanna see the site-specific for TA-55. We're concerned about, um, there's some special words in it, again, I apologize, this is my third public meeting today. Um,—

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

So Tim, do you—?

[JONI ARENDS]

About the measurements, the measurements, you know, and if you've taken the measurements in those areas. [Aside to Scott Kovac.] What's the word, Scott?

[TIM NELSON]

This is Tim again. I understand your question. And that's really, um, I'm gonna say, a little less, CMRR project-specific type of response.

[JONI ARENDS]

But we brought up this—

[TIM NELSON]

—the institutions can certainly—

[JONI ARENDS]

Yeah.

[TIM NELSON]

I would expect, release that information at some point in time.

[JONI ARENDS]

And we missed Mike's presentation last time because the draft LANL SWEIS comments were due on the night of the meeting and we would ask that these meetings be thought out a little bit more so it's not our third public meeting of the day. Um, and then it's not on a day when comments are due on an important document.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay.

[JONI ARENDS]

We would appreciate that, that there be a little bit more care for the, for scheduling these meetings.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

So, I've got— Greg, also with a followup.

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]

[Inaudible words]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay. Thanks Joni. [Pause] You just have to say your name again, Greg.

[GREG MELLO]

This is Greg Mello. Um, I'm not gonna' come up with the special words either, but I'm just gonna concur with the importance of it, and— There was a lecture by LANL's lead seismologist in public, uh, where he talked about the findings of the subsequent research since the previous probabilistic seismic hazard assessment, um, and the probability of

earthquakes, of magnitude greater than 6.5, um, that was discussed, um, if you sorta process the numbers slightly, it's, it's, I got, um, I mean, it's slightly interpretive—

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Um hm.

[GREG MELLO, CONTINUING]

—on my part, but it's about 27 times more likely than in the CMRR EIS. And that's more than an order of magnitude, between one and two orders of magnitude, and the, so there are questions about the adequacy of the, certainly the environmental impact statement, and the, the DNFSB [Defense Nuclear Facility Safety Board] has brought up that the project is, there's some risk to the project for going ahead with design prior to the conclusion of the probabilistic seismic hazard assessment. The previous one being so very many years old, I think '96 or, somebody help me—

[GREG MELLO]

'98. Yeah.

[TOM WHITAKER]

[Inaudible before gets mike]

[TOM WHITAKER]

I'm Tom Whitaker. And—I've got some info—kinda working on the seismic hazards assessment update. Ah, we should be having a final report sometime in the May/June timeframe. So there's draft final reports going out for review. We're following a standardized process that DOE has developed with NRC [Nuclear Regulatory Commission], with independent oversight, independent review, as well as informal participation by the Defense Board. So we've had a full vetted process that we've just documented. The report should come out, probably, like I said, May/June time frame. And my understanding is that the report will actually talk, it'll be four or five different locations at LANL will actually have ground motion data, you know, accelerations to earthquakes at each location. We'll have one at TA-16, TA-3, TA-55, and CMRR specific. And as far as the, uh, preliminary data has been generated for the report for the CMRR project, so, the design input for seismic, um, we have a draft final version that is provided to the design team, so the most recent information on the seismic hazards, eh, will be incorporated into the nuclear facility and SFE [special facilities equipment] design. So the information is being incorporated to address those concerns.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay. Sounds like the September meeting is gonna be lots of information coming forward. All right. Others? Yes?

[DON BROWN]

Your comment—

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

You just have to say your name.

[DON BROWN]

My name is Don Brown.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Thanks Don.

[DON BROWN]

Ah, my question is, ah, the selected material that you've chosen for the CMRR replacement, is that material subject to liquefaction?

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

And you're looking right at him, so—

[DON BROWN]

Yeah.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

All right.

[TOM WHITAKER]

I've always been [inaudible]

[TOM WHITAKER]

I'm Tom Whitaker again at NNSA. Ah, they've done an extensive geotechnical site investigation that Craig's talked about a little bit and Tim [Nelson] as well. It's a two-year duration, multi-million dollars, and they've investigated all those, done boreholes, cross-hole geophysical testing, block sampling, and all types of geotechnical analysis and testing, soil-site interaction and modeling. So all that data, we have a very detailed stratigraphic knowledge of the site, and that information is being used in the preliminary design right now. So, I haven't heard of anything. I don't know if they have come with that or not. But they have the seismic data, they have the geotech data, and the geology of the site. And they are evaluating all that right now as part of the preliminary design. So, whatever appropriate design measures will be needed to account for that will be taken into account in the design. That's plan at this point and that's what they are working on.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay. Thank you. Followup question?

[DON BROWN]

Yeah.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

It needs to be turned on, Don. Tori [George] wasn't trying to cut you off there.

[DON BROWN]

Thank you. This is Don Brown again. Um. You know that sounds great, what you are talking about. But the question that I had is that Greg had mentioned that they are using some of the materials from the site now and I wonder if those tests were actually, were performed on actual materials that will be used at the CMRR project.

[TOM WHITAKER]

As far as—Tom Whitaker again. As far as the excavated material that is gonna be reused?

[DON BROWN]

Yes.

[TOM WHITAKER]

Yeah, my understanding is that once we finish construction we'll be, there'll be certain areas that'll be backfilled and compacted, ninety-five percent compaction, around the base of the building. So it's not any load-bearing members, you know, the foundation isn't gonna be on that material. It's gonna be excavated down to tuff. This is just the backfill around the existing basement of the facility basically.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

All right.

[TOM WHITAKER]

It's engineered fill.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

So, Don, you've got another one?

[DON BROWN]

It will be engineered fill?

[TOM WHITAKER]

Yes. So what we have, we have, uh, correct. Geotechnical information, compaction proctors, all that type of information, and that'll be into a design spec that they've submitted for how they will compact that with that fill to meet those requirements.

[DON BROWN]

Yeah.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay.

[DON BROWN]

I was just questioning about the capability of the materials that will be used. if that could be subject to liquefaction during a seismic event.

[TOM WHITAKER]

I don't know. I can't answer that at this point.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay. Anybody who hasn't had a chance to speak? That's dying to speak?

Okay. [Pause] Thank you. You are going to hand these mikes back to me. Other questions?

[Pause] Scott, you ready?

[SCOTT KOVAC]

[Inaudible]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Absolutely.

[SCOTT KOVAC]

[Inaudible]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Excuse me. I'm gonna hand you the mike. Just remember to say your name please.

[SCOTT KOVAC]

I'm Scott Kovac with Nuclear Watch New Mexico. Um, how, in an earlier report it was stated that uh, there's a layer of fragile volcanic ash in this, in that neighborhood under that mesa. How far above that layer of ash would the basement or the bottom floor of the nuclear facility be?

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

You're on again.

[TOM WHITAKER]

Tom Whitaker. I don't know the exact information, but I think we are looking somewhere in the ballpark of 30 feet or so. So we have, like I said, we have detailed geotechnical analysis and soil samples and geophysical data for those different units, so the designers in preliminary design have all that information. The geotech designers and the structural folks and the computer models that are being run, so, any issues with that layer will be accounted for in the design process and review.

[SCOTT KOVAC]

Thank you. Can I?

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Yes, absolutely Scott.

[SCOTT KOVAC]

Um, the um, during the design process, the DNFSB, um, has stated that they were pushing for a[n] active confinement system, and for the whole facility, nuclear facility. What is the current design? Is it active or passive confinement system?

[TIM NELSON]

So, let's clarify again. So, if you're gonna have a, um, a glove box type operation, and I'm gonna have zones of negativity—in order to accommodate that, in order to make that happen, you're gonna have an active ventilation system. The question that the Defense Board has really is whether or not that ventilation system operates during a design-basis event. Um, and then the connotation associated with that, would that, would that ventilation be safety class? Um, we're in on-going dialog with the Defense Board, in fact I'm sure some of these discussions will come up on the March 22nd meeting. They know what our strategy is, and it's actually not to have a safety class ventilation system. It is an active ventilation system, but not safety class. So such that it's not needed to operate during a design-basis event. Um, it is safety significant and it, and it'll also be what's called "PC-3" [physical containment], such that it does not, during the seismic event, it doesn't fall apart, it stays intact.

[SCOTT KOVAC]

Could you clarify the difference between a safety class system and a safety significant system?

[TIM NELSON]

The major difference relative, since we're safety significant with PC-3, the major difference is what's called a single-point failure criteria, such that, um, if you have safety class, you can't have one possible, um, [pause] I'll pick on electricity, you can't have an electrical power supply, and one those only, such that if that fails, the system wouldn't run.

[SCOTT KOVAC]

Can I ask one more question?

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Um hm.

[SCOTT KOVAC]

What's the, what is your estimated percentage of the design of the nuclear facility are you at, at this point?

[TIM NELSON]

Um, we're supposed to finish preliminary design in June. Um, preliminary design is about sixty percent of the total design.

[SCOTT KOVAC]

Thank you.

[Pause]

[JONI ARENDS]

Oh, so—

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

You have to say again Joni who you are.

[JONI ARENDS]

Joni Arends speaks. Um, so, there was a couple of mentions here about the end of the life of the CMR, but in the last, um, six months or so there's been a lot of talk about how the CMRR [sic] is coming back to life for, um, storage of sealed sources, for transuranic waste issues—

[TIM NELSON]

I'm sorry Joni, did you mean CMR?

[JONI ARENDS]

CMR.

[TIM NELSON]

Okay.

[JONI ARENDS]

Yes. The old facility.

[TIM NELSON]

Right. I thought you said "CMRR."

[JONI ARENDS]

Yeah, I probably did. But. Um, and then, with regard to the CMR, our question was, y'know, where is all of that waste gonna go? When you demolish it. But it sounds like it's getting a second life, or its third life, or its fourth life. Um, what's happening with the CMR?

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

[Inaudible words while offering mike to Steve Fong]

[Tim Nelson laughing.]

[TIM NELSON]

This is Tim Nelson again. Um, the CMR has ongoing operations in it. I'm gonna go back to the 1999 DOE-approved risk management strategy for the existing CMR building. When that risk management strategy was issued, ah, the amount of SNM [special nuclear materials] that was, is used currently, was reduced from when, prior to 1999. It's no longer a Security Cat I type facility, as an example. Um, I'm not aware of anybody, and this is just Tim, Tim doesn't know everything at the Laboratory, I'm not aware of anything at the Laboratory that would change those SNM quantities at the CMR Building. Which probably gets to the crux of your question.

[JONI ARENDS]

I'm sorry?

[TIM NELSON]

That probably gets to the crux of your question.

[JONI ARENDS]

Well, what document was it? Was it the draft SWEIS that said that you were gonna bring in a whole bunch of sealed sources? And that they were gonna to be stored in the CMR? Like a whole bunch of them?

[TIM NELSON]

I'm not aware of that. I know of what sealed sources are, but I'm not aware of a program to do that. That's, I, it could be—

[JONI ARENDS]

Yeah.

[TIM NELSON, CONTINUING]

—because I don't know everything that's going on at the Lab.

[JONI ARENDS]

Yeah. Yeah. Well, it's the Off-Site Source Recovery Program.

[TIM NELSON]

Right.

[JONI ARENDS]

And something said recently like you were going to bring in a whole bunch of them and store them at the CMR. And then there was other talk about doing the RH [remote handled] work in the CMR?

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]

Some GNEP [Global Nuclear Energy Partnership]?

[JONI ARENDS]

Or some GNEP?

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]

Hot cell?

[JONI ARENDS]

Yeah. Some hot cell work with the GNEP? So, you know, let's just put that on the table that it doesn't look like the CMR is going away. It would be good to have an update of the activities at the CMR at the next meeting.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay. 'Cause it doesn't sound like we're gonna get it resolved here; but the next meeting. Okay. All right.

[GREG MELLO]

Let's [becomes inaudible]

[JONI ARENDS]

Don, did you want to renew your question about what the life of the CMR was designed for?

[Don Brown]

Uh, yeah. I'd like to get some results—[speech becomes inaudible]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Oh, hold on Don. Let me—

[DON BROWN]

—with the life span of the original—

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Wait a second, because we do record this, and

[DON BROWN]

Oh.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

So that's why it's important to make sure that we hear the question. And who you are again. Sorry.

[DON BROWN]

This is Don Brown. And, and Greg [sic, Craig], maybe you or someone with the NNSA could take a look and see what that original lifespan was for that facility and, you know, I think we'd all like to feel, ah, secure, that, that we have not expanded that life, that lifespan and that we might be at risk if we try and continue operations.

[TIM NELSON]

So this is Tim Nelson again. In the 1999 risk management strategy, and Craig had this on his slides but he didn't point it out. Um, the planned end of life currently is around 2010 for the CMR Building. Um, with respect to the operations that it has right now. We know that the CMRR nuclear facility can't be build by 2010. That's one of the reasons why the project was split up into multiple phases, such as the rad lab, the radiological lab, the RLUOB that Craig's working on, which was the majority of the presentation tonight, actually will be operating by 2010, and some of the operations from the CMR Building will be moved to that building, um, such that we planned if the Laboratory's intent is reduced, the operating footprint of the existing CMR Building, and reduce that as much as possible until the CMRR nuclear facility comes on line.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

You had a followup to that?

[GREG MELLO]

I did. I think that there's, uh, not, um— There's two things being talked about and they are kinda being conflated. And so, when they are talked about the next time maybe they could be separated. Um, they will have to do with the future of the CMR Building. Um, it could operate as a nuclear facility. And it could operate with different amounts of material at risk,

so that's one type of question about the future. But then it also could operate as a radiological facility and not have more than 8.4 grams of plutonium-239 equivalent. That would be another type of future for the CMR Building, in which case it would somewhat compete with the mission of the rad lab, [for] which we now have an excavation. And then in previous plans it's also been discussed to use the CMR Building for other purposes altogether, um, for an office building, um, for biological work that was also at one time discussed, and so, I guess, this is really to just agree with Joni [Arends] that there actually have been a lot of possible uses for the CMR Building, um, discussed in some relatively recent time frame.

[JONI ARENDS]

So, my understanding was, the next meeting there's going to be more of an update. Is that true?

[TIM NELSON]

Um, I understood what you said. I didn't really get a question out of it.

[GREG MELLO]

Okay, the question is we should, that we're a little bit confused about all these different possibilities—

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSON]

Right.

[GREG MELLO, CONTINUING]

—for the CMR Building and we need it broken out in, I would like it to be broken out in detail. And I don't know, um, I know that we're tending at this point to talk about the next meeting. This is not useful for me.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Yeah.

[GREG MELLO]

I would like all the answers to all these questions now, really. Um, the CMRR EIS was kind of, ah, ya' know, it had 33 different alternatives if you added 'em all up together, it described basically nothing. Ah, so that it was a, you know, kinda this broad envelope approach to EIS that drains the specific content out and follows the letter of the law without actually providing very much useful information whatsoever. So there's a huge information gap which we need to cover, and I know that there's this framework of these quarterly meetings, and so forth, but it isn't enough.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Right. And here's what I've captured, it is, we've got it recorded, but there's some things I didn't think there's answers to that I wanted to make sure that the next meeting, that if we haven't answered it here, and I'm hearing, let's get as much as we can answered here, but if we can't, then there's more information that needs to come forward. There's the next quarterly meeting, but then you're hoping that there'd be even more in between 'cause September is pretty far down the road? Okay.

[GREG MELLO]

You know, by the time you meet quarterly, all the decisions are made and it just becomes a kind of a spectator sport.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay. So, I don't know if there was an answer. Steve?

[TIM NELSON]

I can answer—

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay. Great.

[TIM NELSON]

So one of the things you brought up was using the existing CMR Building as a radiological facility. Um, actually, um, to go back to some factoids associated with the existing CMR Building. It's the largest building at the Laboratory. It's 550,000 gross square feet. To use that building as a radiological facility based on the state of where it is now is not a good business case decision. It actually would cost a lot more money, uh, to upgrade that facility to continue to use it for some extended time period. If you wanted to compare CMRR radiological facility of a design life of 50 years, it's not economical to use that building as a radiological facility.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Steve?

[STEVE FONG]

Very good. I think I also understand your question. This is Steve Fong. I just wanted to state that in the Record of Decision, as well as in our last Critical Decision, NNSA has gone on record to say that we will D&D that facility once the CMR facility, CMRR facility comes on line. So at this point, there is a Record of Decision stating that we will not continue operations in this current CMR facility. Things may change, of course. There might be debate. But, that's our current plans.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay.

[GREG MELLO]

Yeah, yeah.

[STEVE FONG]

And also, this is a CMRR project update. We are focused on this capital investment that's outlined here. Um, you're just catching a bunch of project guys talking about programmatic stuff that we are aware of, but we, we don't spend our day-to-day, basis y'know trying to figure out what's going on in the CMR facility.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay. And, Don, I'm gonna come back to you.

[DON BROWN]

Um,—

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

And you are?

[DON BROWN]

I'm Don Brown.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Thank you.

[DON BROWN]

I've just a quick comment, and you don't necessarily need to respond to this, but, ah, I was the lead auditor for the KSL audit, the first audit, and when we discovered that Criterion 9, from NQA-1 out of the criteria that we were looking at, that we had major problems, almost a non-existent in the field quality assurance program for special processes or welding. And the CMR facility, it was targeted to look at the oldest existing facility in the Laboratory that was safety related. And, it was kind of "Open Pandora's Box" because, I wasn't part of the actual team that did the evaluation, but I was told that, you know we did a first evaluation on one quarter, found about 63 [or] 64, suspect welds that were, had visual indications that they would be unacceptable and then that, uh, the investigation, we had that much in one, in one area, you have to expand your population size. And then I think the last number that I heard, there were over 20— or was it 20,000 suspect welds in the CMR facility. And some of the discussions that took place, uh, after that, said that some of those welds were in critical places and would be hard to get to and hard to fix. And part of the decision was, it was better to not fix them even though they showed porosity, slag, all kinds of inclusions, problems with, with welding, by visual indications; no non-destructive examinations were performed. But I would be concerned about using that facility and how would it be used, given some of the problems that exist. And I'm sure the way we looked at welding, but I'm sure there are similar concerns for electrical, mechanical, other types of things. The facility is just reaching its, its end. Um, none of us have psychic abilities and we don't know when that facility will become unsafe to operate, but I think we should be asking those questions and we should be looking at those because we all are stakeholders in the future here at the Laboratory and for this community.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Good. Thanks Don.

[Pause]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

I can always give you the mike back.

[DON BROWN]

I had one more question.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

All right. I'm gonna let you go for it.

[DON BROWN]

I guess this question— This is Don Brown again. I guess question really goes to Greg [sic, means Craig]. Greg [sic], there's, uh, it sounds like you are trying to do some prudent things from the management perspective, but, um, as a project manager, there are some unanswered questions, and you know we would all like, in the QA world and the design world, technical world, we would like some of those answers before we start construction, before we start fabrication. But we don't live in a perfect world, So, and I'm really asking for your opinion now.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

To Craig?

[DON BROWN]

To Greg [sic, means Craig].

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

I understand.

[DON BROWN]

Uh, do you believe that, that given the unknowns in Phase B and C, to start on Phase A in the construction, that you're really operating under what we would simply refer to as "an at-risk state" on Phase A because of the unanswered questions that we've heard here today and some others that, that I'm sure loom around. Uh, are you operating on a little bit of risk that you're, you're making assumptions that may prove to be, you're gonna have to re-design in Phase B and C?

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

Um, I understand your question, I think. Um,

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Thank you.

[CRAIG BACHMEIER, CONTINUING]

I think that it is possible that there could be some uncertainties related to that, but I think they are largely bounded by the contract documents that we're using for the project where these things were analyzed up front and the interfaces between our project and the other building, one, were largely designed to be separated or controlled to very specific points. And so, I think the bulk of the uncertainty [has] been managed. I think we are actually in a very reasonable position to go forward.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Craig, could you just say who you are so we don't think it's Greg Mello on the tape?

[CRAIG BACHMEIER]

This is Craig. Craig Bachmeier.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Thank you. Thank you. Only 'cause we kept looking at Greg. All right. Others?

[Pause]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Here's what I've been doing. As, as folks know, I'm gonna put this mike back here. Um, these sessions are recorded and they are actually, um, written up verbatim. And so some of the cryptic notes I took were just to refer back, when we look at some of the things that we need to pull out of, there's followup, and I know Deb's [Hall] been taking really good notes also.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Some of the issues for the September meeting. I heard a couple of things, which are, there's the September meeting which is a followup, which is one of the public meetings, and that will be updating folks. Greg [Mello], I also heard there's, that's way down the road and maybe there's something in between and I'm not sure if that's possible. But, um, one of the things that I always do, was trying to capture some of the things that needed to come back to the September meeting. Um, Joni [Arends], the issue about scheduling the September meeting so it doesn't coincide with other meetings, may be a little hard to judge now, but this is something we should keep an eye out for, is if there's, if there's a date that's like a Tuesday rather than a Wednesday that makes a difference on the number of meetings that folks attend, that would make a difference. Um, I'm sure there's others in here, but I wanted to make sure that, here's some of the other ones, was, um, an update of the next, for the next meeting, one of the updates would be on the timeline or schedule. You know, where are we? And I'm sure that folks know that that's one of the things that needs to come back. Um, the lifespan of the CMR Building. I wasn't sure if that was quite where you were heading Don [Brown], but it was more information on this issue of lifespan, CMR, where we are now, and I think there's been quite a few questions related to that. There's others in here. Anything that I'm gonna pull out. But others, other things that we might talk about in September, agenda items? Don?

[Pause]

[DON BROWN]

I would like to simply ask, and then next meeting, y'know—

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Thank you.

[DON BROWN]

Hi. This is Don Brown again. Uh, I would like to, to ask this simple question, and maybe we can answer it here. Maybe we need it for the next meeting to get that answer. But, is the CMRR replacement, especially the Phase C, or anything that could be affected by a criticality, is the design-basis, a containment structure design, so that if there should be a criticality event, that the, the effects of a criticality would be contained into, in that structure—

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay.

[DON BROWN, CONTINUING]

—and not released to the environs?

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

So let's see. Is it possible to answer that now, on the issue of criticality for Phase C? And if not, that's, and if not, then we bring that back to the September meeting?

[DON BROWN]

And if the design basis contained a, a criticality event.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay.

[DON BROWN]

Some type of containment structure.

[TIM NELSON]

So, describe a criticality event.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

[Inaudible]

[DON BROWN]

Uh—

[TIM NELSON]

I, uh, there's a— I'm not trying to be facetious right now. I'm trying to understand what you think a criticality event is. This is Tim Nelson.

[DON BROWN]

Yeah. And this is Don Brown again. And, Tim [Nelson], what I was asking about, you had said that, that this facility was subject to a criticality event. I'm not sure what that criticality event would be as in a design basis. But, have you, do you have a containment structure strategy for that facility?

[TIM NELSON]

So what I said was, we are doing criticality analysis, right? Um, we would not, we would not, um, I'll say, think that we have, on a normal occurrence, a criticality event. But that's a different discussion. So, a criticality event is not an explosive situation. You don't blow things up. It's not a thermonuclear weapon, if you will. Um, and if you looked at the events historically that have occurred relative to criticality, um, the emissions associated with that are essentially more locally contained, but relative to the question that you are asking, the structure and the other parts of the facility that do containment, um, would, would essentially limit any off-site dose consequence, which I think is what you're really asking.

[DON BROWN]

Yeah, that's, that's a part of it. And the reason I asked that question, ah, I was kinda surprised when we looked at TA-18. The risks of TA-18 have been removed. But I was, you know, from my background in nuclear, I was surprised that the Defense Board's own estimates showed a thousand rems off-site exposure at the center of White Rock that you did not have a, some type of a containment structure that, which would mitigate those consequences on TA-18. Therefore, I ask the question today, if we have the capability of a criticality incident, which could occur at the CMRR building, and not knowing what those values would be, uh, do you have any provisions for the design, especially in Phase 3, or B or A, if they could—if those, if that facility should have some type of a containment structure. That's my question.

[TIM NELSON]

We do.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay. And I'm not adding it to the next-time list. It's what it sounds like. Greg?

[GREG MELLO]

Um, one for the next time, and then I have a question for—

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay.

[GREG MELLO, CONTINUING]

—for the next time, um, I wasn't satisfied with the answer that the functional requirements for, that are determining the nature of these building were not public information. I think they should be. And I think they can be. And I think a way, even though they may be at the moment contained in documents which are UNCI, uh, when I worked at the Environment Department, every well log that came from Los Alamos was stamped "UCNI." And, uh, in my office they all went in the same drawer. But um, we, I think we need to think about how to communicate the functional, the detailed functional requirements and operations within these buildings, and so that we can know what's going to happen in here, and whether it should happen, and why it should happen. You know we've ah, so—

[GREG MELLO]

Then my next question, my real question for tonight, is, this: the rad lab building would house 350 office spaces. How many workers are anticipated to be in the nuclear facility, and how many workers are in, um, the other buildings of PF-4 approximately, today?

[TIM NELSON]

This is Tim Nelson again. Um, essentially analysis associated with the existing CMR Building showed about 350 people in that building. That's where the office number came from. So there is a lot of those people that are in support functions. Secretaries, administrative, and stuff like that. So it's not 350 people that would necessarily work in the nuclear facility building. But that would give you an upper limit.

[GREG MELLO]

So, 350 for both? For both buildings?

[TIM NELSON]

Yeah. The people's office space is actually in the rad lab. We didn't put their office space in the nuclear facility.

[GREG MELLO]

Okay. And today, in PF-4 there are? [Pause] And, but there's all these other, there's an office building to the north, and— It's kinda complicated—

[TIM NELSON]

Yeah. I understand your question. I'm, um, I would only be guessing to say what the number is. It's, I would say more, probably would be the best I could do.

[GREG MELLO]

Thank you.

[TIM NELSON]

There's more people at TA-55 than what we're putting [in there].

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Good guess. All right. Joni [Arends]?

[JONI ARENDS]

Ahm, so Greg, —

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

You just have to say "Joni Arends."

[JONI ARENDS]

Joni Arends. Ah, Greg Mello. They said at the, um, during the negotiations for these meetings to be set up that they were gonna to bring people from, in the office space at [TA-]55 over as well. Into this office building. So, but I don't know how many people are in those, in those buildings. But, um, Rose, Rosemary, so it looks like, um, I wanted to say

thank you for your, for your work, because it appears that the tension that we had before about acknowledging the agreement that, um, brought these meetings forth—

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]
Yeah.

[JONI ARENDS, CONTINUING]
—has changed. And we appre— we assume that you've been instrumental in that and we appreciate it very much. And we appreciate getting the documents, the PowerPoint® and the, um,—

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]
Good.

[JONI ARENDS, CONTINUING]
—summary from the September meeting about a month ago. So, that was really great. And so we acknowledge the work of the Laboratory to move things forward, um, in terms of public outreach.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]
Good.

[JONI ARENDS]
Thank you.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]
Thank you. Appreciate it. All right. So it looks like September is gonna be a really full schedule. And my sense is that we'll bring other people in as we need to. You know on the agenda, by golly I'm sure that you'll be part of the agenda, um, in September. But it seems that, um, as we start to come up with information we'll build the agenda with maximum input. I think there's enough time. Um, I think Lorrie [Bonds Lopez] has also done some conference calls with folks, but there's plenty of time to check in to see if there's other things that we need to add to this list. Um, is it advertised well enough for folks to see it? I mean, I think a notice goes out, and then there's advertisements in the newspaper, so, that seems to be working. Okay.

[UNIDENTIFIED PERSONS]
[Inaudible]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]
No? Nope?

[GREG MELLO]
No.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]
No. Okay, so what else would work, Greg?

[GREG MELLO]

The *Los Alamos Monitor* didn't know about this meeting.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay. So part of our homework is to figure out Los Alamos—

[TIM NELSON]

[Inaudible]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

The reporter was here.

[GREG MELLO]

[Inaudible]

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay.

[GREG MELLO]

Because I told him.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay.

[GREG MELLO]

Today.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay. We will remind earlier rather than later. Okay, good. That's good to know. Thank you. All right. Anything else from folks? There is an evaluation. I'm hoping that you signed in. There's an evaluation that is helpful to us, to help guide the meetings. So I hope that you'll fill that out. Um, any closing words? Really appreciate the presentations, Craig [Bachmeier] and Tori [George]. Um, and others, um, as, who interjected as you needed to. So, anything else from folks before we close? Greg?

[GREG MELLO]

Um, I'd like to thank all of you and the project people too. You know, we don't want you to build this project, but we do appreciate that you are trying to do the best you can under the circumstances. And, um, when I lived in Livermore as a kid, my dad was project engineer on various projects at Livermore, and so this is a long time for our family. Um, and we, the other side of that, is we all live in a quite absurd situation and have to deal with the absurdity of our work in, from many different directions, relative, say to, global climate change. And so we're all in different aspects of this together. And I know that you don't take it personally even though we don't wanna—our organization doesn't want this building to be built.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay. All right. Thanks to the audio. This is great. I heard that the tapes work well for folks. So, it's important to make sure that we capture your name. Those are available, Deb [Hall], I'm looking to you. Those are available—

[DEBORA HALL]

In CD form.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO, CONTINUING]

on CD form, which is terrific. Um, do people contact you for that?

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

Okay. And I heard earlier that those do work really well and that you can make copies of those. So there's not a per se summary; there is actually even a written document, written transcript. All right. Thank you all for taking your personal time, Joni [Arends], three meetings in a row, ackh! Appreciate folks coming out to give input and direct the next public meeting in September.

[ROSEMARY ROMERO]

All right. Thanks.

[The meeting then adjourned.]

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct transcription of the audio recording of the public meeting on the Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Replacement project at Fuller Lodge, Los Alamos, New Mexico, on March 14, 2007.

/s/ Morrison Bennett

Transcription completed May 7, 2007

IV. Slides

Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Replacement (CMRR) Project

Welcome

CMRR Project Update

Fuller Lodge, Los Alamos, New Mexico
March 14, 2007

Rosemary Romero, Meeting Facilitator

Agenda

6:30	Welcome Ground Rules Background and Purpose Briefing on Public Comment Provisions Introductions	<i>Rosemary Romero</i>
6:45	CMRR Project - Environmental Protection - Overview & Project Update	<i>Tori George</i> <i>Craig Bachmeier</i>
7:25	Question and Answer	<i>Rosemary Romero</i>
7:30	Public Comment	
8:15	Requests for Topics	
8:25	Thank You and Adjourn	<i>Craig Bachmeier</i>

Ground Rules

- Listen respectfully
- Share the airtime with other participants
- Wait until you are called upon to speak
- Turn cell phones off or place on mute
- No personal attacks
- Please speak slowly and clearly

Background and Purpose

- Settlement allowed for air permitting to be segmented to match phased project development and for public involvement
- Parties included
 - New Mexico Environment Department
 - Department of Energy
 - University of California
 - Concerned Citizens for Nuclear Safety
 - Nuclear Watch of New Mexico
 - Peace Action New Mexico
 - Loretto Community
 - TEWA Women United
 - Embudo Valley Environmental Monitoring Group
 - New Mexico Environmental Law Center
- Meeting is held every six months to update the public on CMRR construction progress

Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Replacement (CMRR) Project

CMRR Project Update

Fuller Lodge, Los Alamos, New Mexico
March 14, 2007

Presented by
Tori George, LANL
Craig Bachmeier, LANL

LANL Environmental Policy

It is the policy of Los Alamos National Laboratory that we will be responsible stewards of our environment.

Our Commitment:

- Manage and operate our site in compliance with environmental laws and standards and in harmony with the natural and human environment;
- Meet our environmental permit requirements;
- Use continuous improvement processes to recognize, monitor, and minimize the consequences to the environment stemming from our past, present, and future operations;
- Prevent pollution and foster sustainable use of natural resources; and
- Work to increase the body of knowledge regarding our environment.

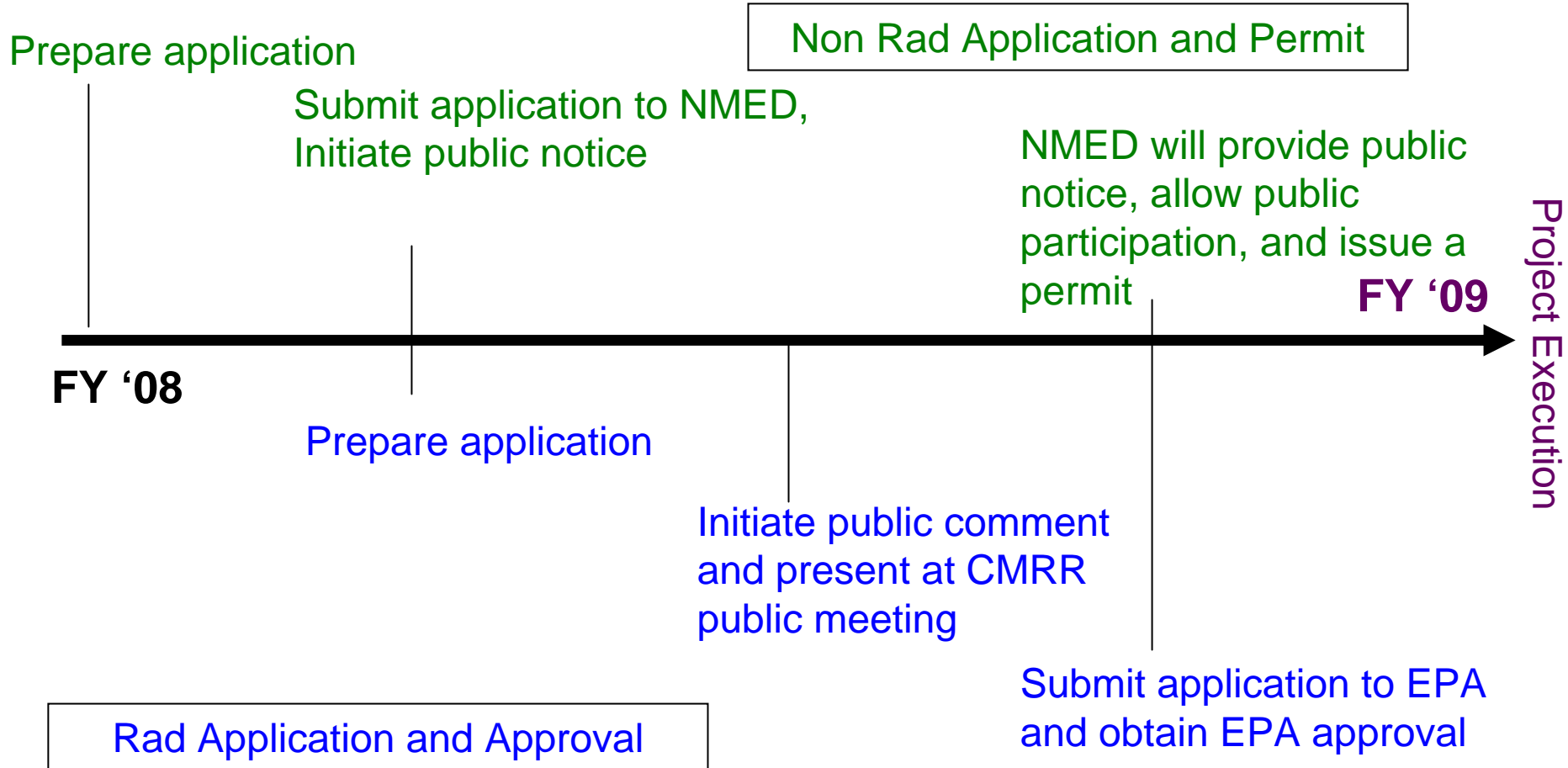
Radiological Lab, Utility, Office Bldg. (RLUOB)

Environmental Protection Activities

- Review of NEPA, Cultural and Biological Resources completed:
 - Environmental Impact Statement/Record of Decision
 - Recovery Plan and excavation of small homestead site
 - ESA consultation with USFWS on potential spotted owl impacts
- Review of Water Quality Permitting
 - Site permitted under NPDES General Permit for Storm Water Discharges from Construction Activities
 - Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan implemented
 - Post-construction storm water controls included in the design
- Review of Air Quality Permitting
 - Radioactive and non-radioactive air emissions

All major
environmental issues
have been identified and
resolved.

CMRR Nuclear Facility – Air Permits



CMRR Mission Need Statement

“The CMR Replacement (CMRR) Project seeks to relocate and consolidate mission critical CMR Capabilities at LANL to ensure continuous support of NNSA stockpile stewardship and management strategic objectives; these capabilities are necessary to support the current and directed stockpile work and campaign activities at LANL beyond 2010.”

- 1999 CMR Risk Management Strategy-DOE approved and DNFSB concurred
- 2002 CMRR CD-0 (Critical Decision-0) approved
- 2004 CMRR EIS Record of Decision signed
- 2005 CMRR CD-1 approved
- 2005 CMRR Phase A, RLUOB, CD-2/3 approved

1949 CMR Construction Site

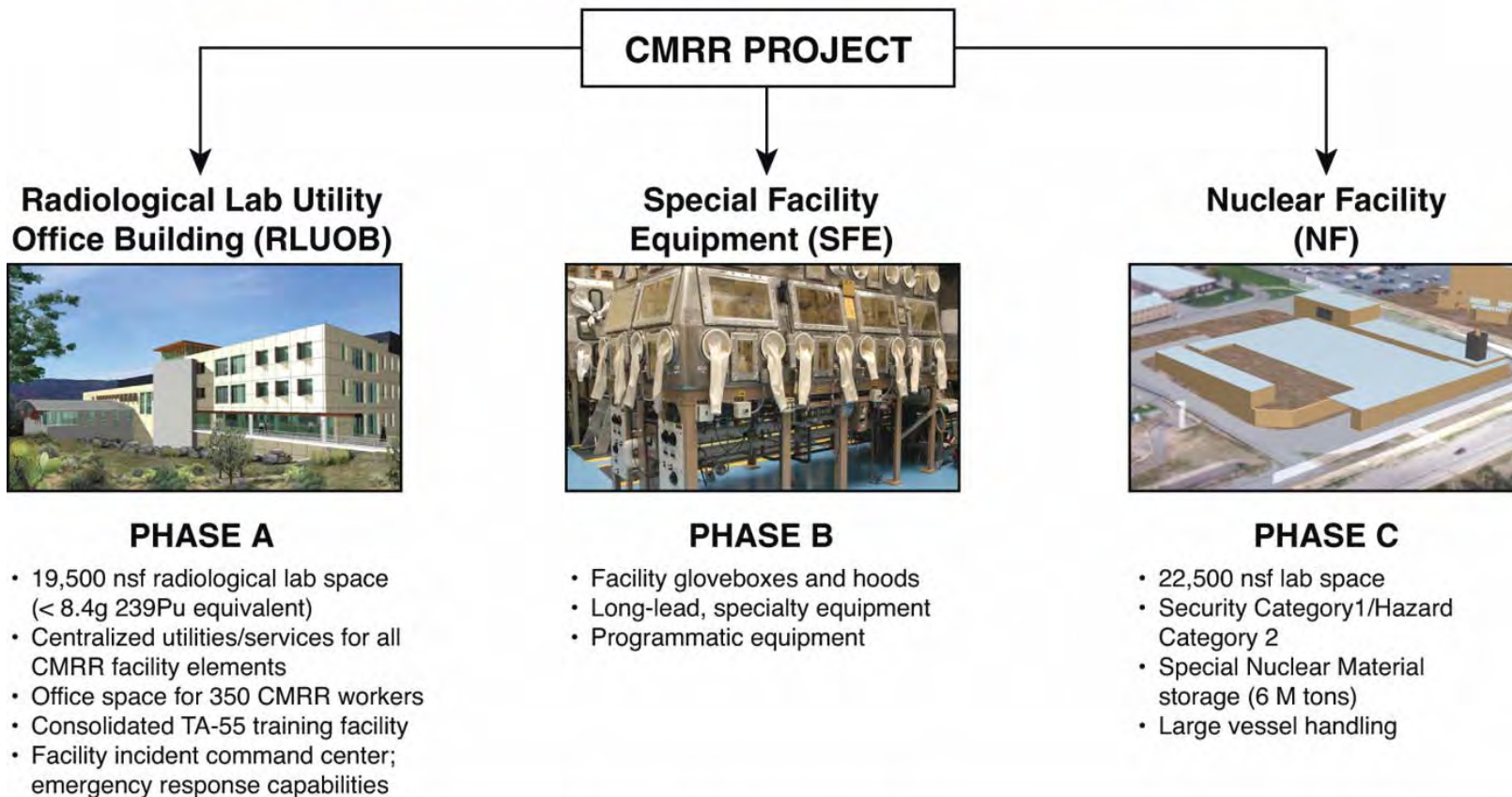


Existing Chemistry and Metallurgy Research Building



CMRR Project Phasing

(CD-1 TPC: \$745M – \$975M; CD-1 Schedule: 8–12 years)



- Design/Build Contract Final Design Submitted
- Facility Haz Cat Completed
- Radiological/Low Hazard Contractor Construction Safety Plan Approved
- Integrated Work Documents Developed

PROJECT STATUS

- Preliminary Design Complete
- Independent Technical Review
- External Readiness Review (OECM)

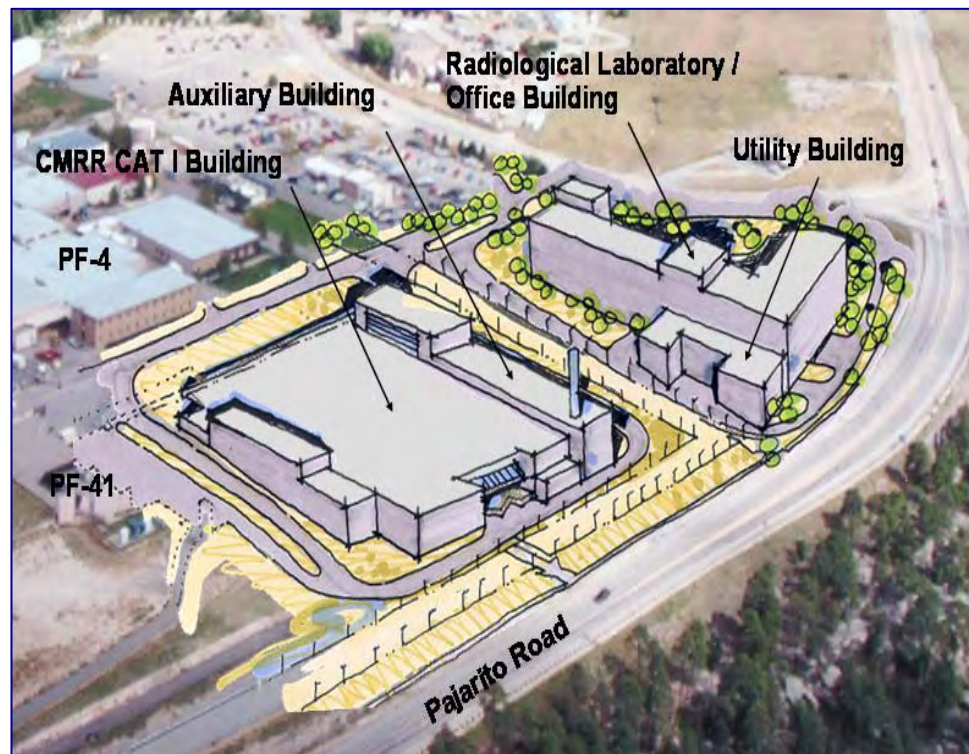
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- Draft Preliminary Design June 07
- Safety-in-Design DNFSB Public Meeting March 07

Radiological Lab, Utility, Office Bldg. (RLUOB) Project Update

The following topics will be discussed in more detail:

1. RLUOB Project Update
2. LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Certification



Phase A – RLUOB Project

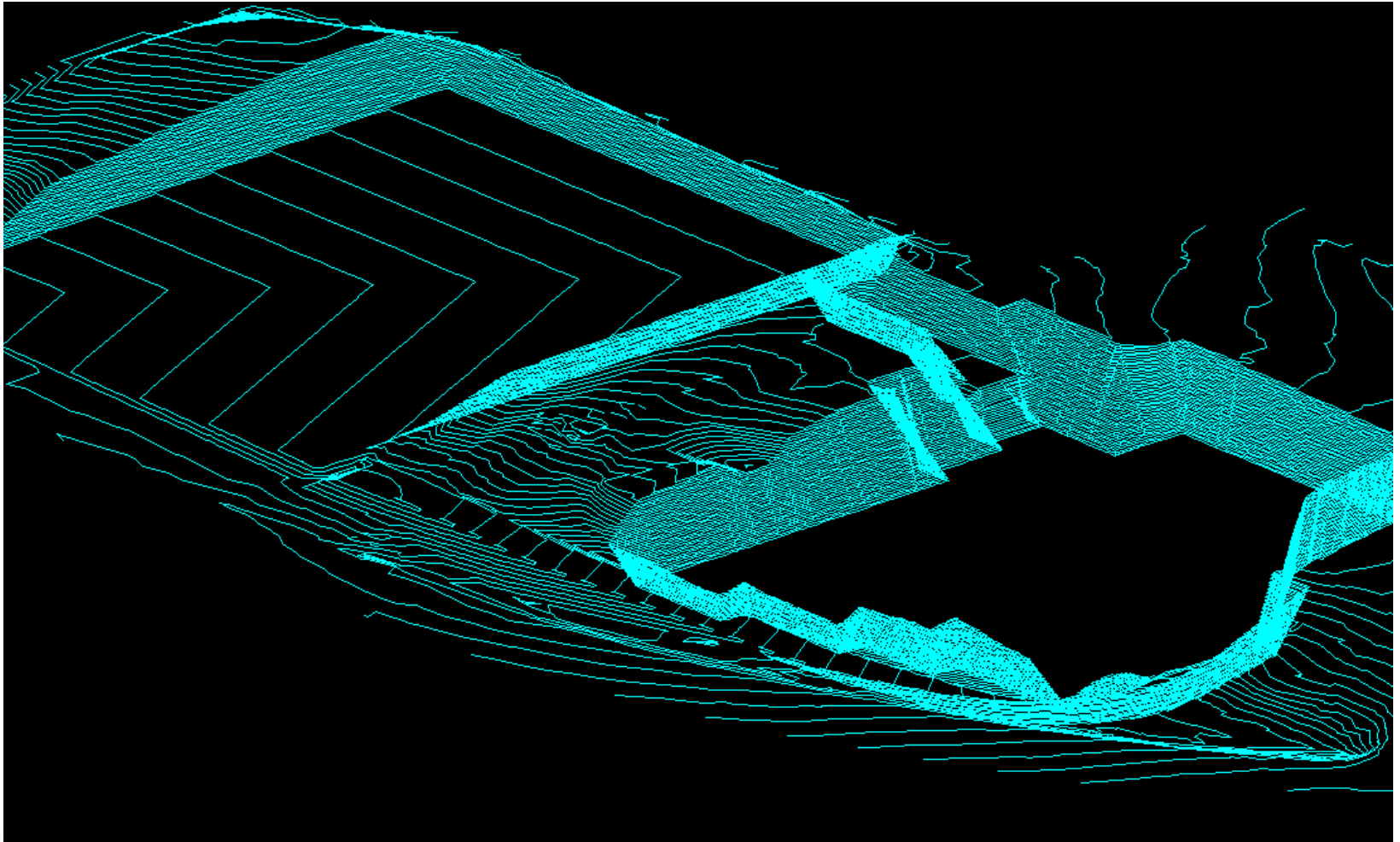
- RLUOB is a Much Lower Cost, Long Term Support facility for the TA-55 Complex targeted to be operational in 2010, which reduces operations for the existing CMR.



CMRR & Related Construction Sites



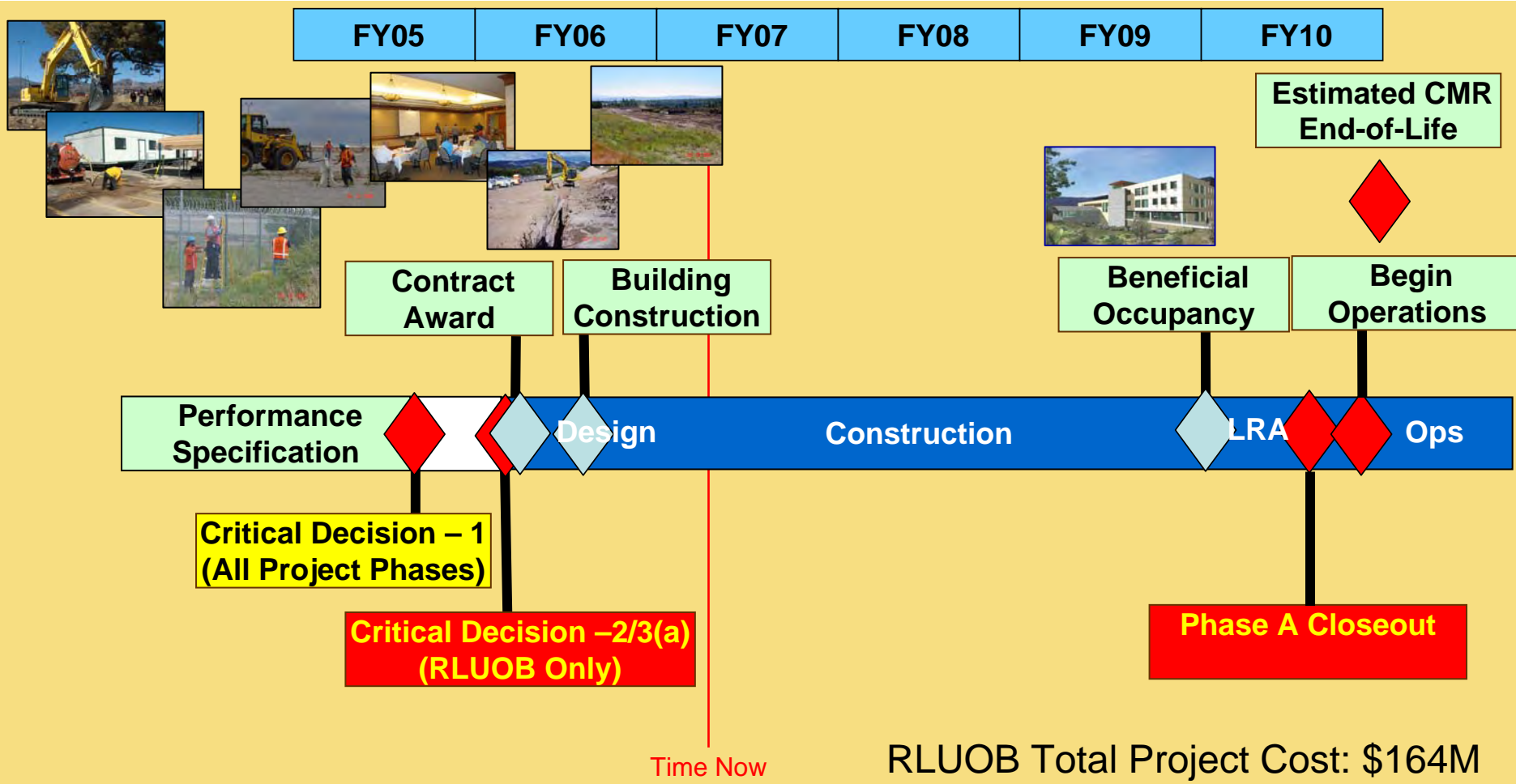
Foundation Excavation



16% Complete

CPI - 1.00	
SPI - .96	
As of January 2007	

Phase A – RLUOB Project Timeline



RLUOB Total Project Cost: \$164M

Site Mobilization



Groundbreaking



Contractor Mobilization



Site Clearing

JUL 13 2010



Site Clearing

JUL 27 2010



Site Clearing

JUL 27 2010

Design Reviews



Current Activities



Equipment Mobilization



Mass Excavation

LEED Update

- The LEED Green Building Rating System® is a voluntary, independently verified, consensus-based national standard for developing high-performance, sustainable buildings.
- The LEED V2.1 Green Building Rating System for New Construction criteria is being applied.
- The most recent “Sustainability Rating Analysis” found that 36 of the necessary 33 LEED points are achievable through the present design status. An additional 11 possible points require additional design effort. The project is well on its way to achieving the desired Silver Certification.

<http://www.usgbc.org>

LEED Update

- Recent RLUOB project construction activities that contribute to LEED Silver Certification include:
 - Recycling of all woody plants as wood chips and mulch.
 - Reuse of all excavated dirt for other Lab projects (e.g. parking lot).
 - Reuse of asphalt from old parking lots as base for project haul road.
 - Hiring of subcontractor (Recycling and Waste Reductions RWR) to manage and track volumes of all materials recycled from the site.

CMRR Project — Summary

- CMR is approaching the end of its operational life
- CMR capabilities support core NNSA mission requirements
- CMRR represents responsive infrastructure
 - Supports modernization of a key nuclear capability
 - Increases operational efficiencies, reduces operational costs
 - Enhances security posture and reduces security costs
 - Enhances safety and environmental compliance
- Integration of safety and environment into design is key

***CMRR will be a safe, secure, and modern facility
to meet the Nation's requirements.***

CMRR Project – Q & A

Questions?

CMRR Project

Public Comments

Next Meeting

Requests for topics?

CMRR Project

Thank you for attending.

V. Flipchart Notes

CMRR Public Meeting
March 14, 2007
Los Alamos, NM

COMMENTS

One participant asked if the **age of the current facility** was any indication of the building lifespan which would affect the lifespan of the new building. Staff noted that the lifespan of the current building is 2010.

Mission analysis for all phases of the building that would indicate why the buildings are built the way they are. Is there planning for plutonium to be stored in any of the buildings? And if so could the buildings be moved? Staff responded that the mission of the buildings is developed through the SWEIS.

Cooling in Phase C of the building – One participant noted that, because of the amount of materials to be stored in the buildings, the cooling of the facility could be an issue and asked if the cooling in the vault was being evaluated from a safety perspective? Staff noted that analysts are looking at alternatives and other examples. The participant noted that if ventilation was a consideration, there are safety issues about cancer causing agents such as Beryllium entering the air through ventilation systems. Staff noted that the RLUOB has specific requirements that have been exceeded.

One participant asked if sampling had occurred in the excavated sites. Staff responded that this had not occurred.

September Meeting Agenda Items:

- Update on project timeline (due to budget cuts, the building construction has slowed down).
- Seismic data should be updated and provided. The data should be site specific to the building site.
- Schedule meetings so that they do not coincide with other public meetings
- Lifespan of current CMR building
- Detailed information on “function” of buildings
- Remind all newspapers about the September meeting

VI. Sign-in Sheet



Wednesday, March 14, 2006

CMRR Public Meeting @ Fuller Lodge, Los Alamos - SIGN IN SHEET

NAME (please print)	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE NUMBER	E-MAIL	WOULD YOU LIKE TO SPEAK?
SUSAN TERP	LANL	665-8889	ssterp@LANL.GOV	NO THANKS
Deve Yanicoll	NMED WR J993 D&E UB	672-0448	syanicoll@lanl.gov	Ø
Scott Kovac			scott@ WUKewatch.org	
Chuck & Billie Shull	LOS Alamos	662-6829	b.cshull@yahoo.com	
David Stephenson	40 Twisted Pine Cerrillos N.M.	679-5434	davestephenson@wildblue.net	No