



In This Issue

DOE Releases Draft Plan for a Defense Waste Repository for Public Comment

[Page 6](#)

WIPP Prepares for a Late December Reopen

[Page 9](#)

2016 Intergovernmental Meeting with DOE Wrap-Up

[Page 10](#)

Executive Committee

Chair

Councilmember Chuck Smith
Aiken County, South Carolina

Vice-Chair

Mayor Steve Young
City of Kennewick, Washington

Treasurer

Councilmember Rick Reiss
Los Alamos County, New Mexico

Secretary

County Executive Ron Woody
Roane County, Tennessee

Member-At-Large

Councilmember Dick Doss
City of Carlsbad, NM

Past-Chair

Mayor Robert Thompson
City of Richland, Washington



1625 Eye Street, NW
Suite 800
Washington, DC 20006
P: 202-828-2317 F: 202-828-2488
www.energyca.org

twitter
[@EnergyCAorg](https://twitter.com/EnergyCAorg)

ECA PUBLISHES PRIORITIES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NEW ADMINISTRATION

ECA has submitted its transition priorities and recommendations for the incoming Trump Administration in a paper entitled, [*A Roadmap for Successful Local Government and Community Engagement*](#). The document includes nine key priorities, each with their own set of recommendations for the new Administration to adopt as they engage in discussions regarding ongoing U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) operations and performance.

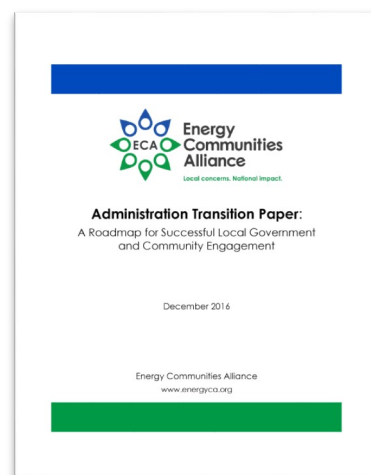
I. Involve local governments in DOE decision making

1. Work with communities and Congress to ensure adequate cleanup funding; and
2. Engage local governments in nuclear waste management and disposal policies.

II. Improve DOE policies and practices

3. Integrate ECA's acquisition reform recommendations and principles;
4. Clarify DOE's existing high-level nuclear waste definition; and

(Continued on page 2)



NEW SECRETARY OF ENERGY PROPOSED - PRESIDENTIAL TRANSITION UPDATE

On December 13, Rick Perry was officially nominated to serve as Secretary of Energy. Perry previously served as governor of Texas from 2000 through 2015 and ran for president in 2012 and 2016. During his 2012 campaign, he infamously pledged to eliminate DOE.

“As the Governor of Texas, Rick Perry created a business climate that produced millions of new jobs and lower energy prices in his state, and he will bring that same approach to our entire country as Secretary of Energy,” said President-elect Trump. “My administration is going to make sure we take advantage of our huge natural resource deposits to make America energy independent and create vast new wealth for our nation, and Rick Perry is going to do an amazing job as the leader of that process.”



(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 1)

ECA Publishes Priorities and Recommendations for New Administration

5. Optimize intra-agency cooperation and communication at DOE.

III. Invest in host communities and the DOE complex

6. Resolve the maintenance and infrastructure backlog;
7. Address succession planning and looming workforce transition issues;
8. Enhance host community support and property transfer; and
9. Support the Manhattan Project National Historical Park.

As the only national organization representing DOE host communities and consisting of local elected officials and community leaders, ECA is uniquely poised to offer expert input on DOE activities and provide a common voice for local communities' "customer" perspective. ECA has a successful track record of working with DOE to achieve solutions which mutually benefit DOE host communities, the federal government's national security and economic interests, and the American taxpayer.

ECA has already met with the DOE transition team to discuss these priorities and recommendations, and looks forward to working with the new Administration on how to improve DOE practices and policies to better serve local communities. ECA also submitted the document to current DOE officials responsible for collecting transition materials.

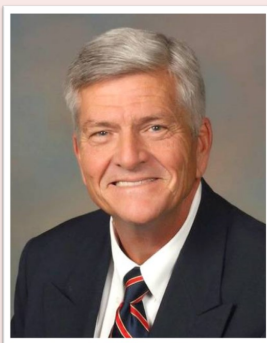
The full document can be read on [page 15](#).

Introducing ECA's New Executive Board

The new Executive Board was voted-in at the annual ECA Board Meeting, November 16, 2016



Chuck Smith, Chair
Councilmember, Aiken County, SC



Steve Young, Vice-Chair
Mayor, Kennewick, WA



Ron Woody, Secretary
County Executive, Roane County, TN



Rick Reiss, Treasurer
Councilmember, Los Alamos, NM



Dick Doss, Member-At-Large
Councilmember, Carlsbad, NW



Robert Thompson, Past-Chair
Mayor, Richland, WA

(Continued from page 1)

New Secretary of Energy Proposed - Presidential Transition Update

“It is a tremendous honor to be selected to serve as Secretary of Energy by President-elect Trump. I am deeply humbled by his trust in me,” said Gov. Perry. “As the former governor of the nation’s largest energy producing state, I know American energy is critical to our economy and our security. I look forward to engaging in a conversation about the development, stewardship and regulation of our energy resources, safeguarding our nuclear arsenal, and promoting an American energy policy that creates jobs and puts America first.”

According to the [*New York Times*](#), Perry is “an enthusiastic supporter” of increasing exploitation of traditional energy sources, making it unclear how his expertise would translate into leading DOE’s nuclear and national security missions. Despite this, two former secretaries told the *Times* they could see Perry adapting to his role.

“There’s a lot of elements to the department that people don’t necessarily know about until you get there,” said former Secretary Spencer Abraham, who served during President George W. Bush’s first term. Abraham frequently called for DOE’s abolition during his one term in the Senate. “You find yourself surprised by what it really entails,” he said.

“Overall, Governor Perry is a sound choice, because you need a strong leader with political stature and a megaphone for the job, and Rick has both,” he said, noting that he and Mr. Perry had often worked together as governors of adjoining southwestern states. But “as a big fossil fuel advocate, my concern is that Perry will get sucked in by the Trump climate deniers and try to dismantle the valuable renewable energy and climate change programs that the department manages.”

Perry’s announcement was met with somewhat more skepticism from New Mexico’s two senators; New Mexico hosts the Los Alamos and Sandia National Laboratories and the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant.

“There’s a lot of elements to the department that people don’t necessarily know about until you get there,” said former Secretary Spencer Abraham.

Meanwhile, [*Bloomberg Politics*](#) suggests that Rear Admiral Jay Martin Cohen (ret.) is the leading choice to head the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA). Cohen studied ocean and marine engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and was undersecretary at the Department of Homeland Security in the George W. Bush administration after ending his military career as chief of the Office of Naval Research.



Jay Martin Cohen

Some have started speculating that the nominee to be the deputy DOE secretary could be someone with substantial experience in the nuclear world. Four names have thus far been suggested: Bill Ostendorff, Kristine Svinicki, Scott Campbell, and Donald Hoffman.

ECA members know Ostendorff and Svinicki well. Ostendorff is a former

Navy captain with 26 years of military experience and served six years on the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). Before joining the NRC, he worked for the House Armed Services Committee and served as the deputy at NNSA.

Svinicki has been an NRC commissioner for nearly nine years; her current term expires in June 2017. She worked as a professional staff member on the Senate Armed Services Committee, overseeing weapons and cleanup-related issues and has significant support among Republican leadership.

Campbell worked at DOE during the Reagan administration, heading the Office of Policy, Planning, and Analysis and sitting on the National Petroleum Council. He has consulted U.S. and foreign government agencies, national labs, and energy companies and sat on boards focused on civil nuclear energy trade and nuclear cooperation.

Hoffman is a former American Nuclear Society president and started his own nuclear consulting firm three decades ago. He’s been staff at the NRC and service in the Navy as a senior reactor operator and engineering officer. He’s said to have a budding relationship with the next president.

It is worth noting that no media outlets have guessed the appointee to any position yet.

115th Congress Committee Chairs

Senate

GOP – 52 seats
Dem – 46 seats
Ind – 2 (both caucus with Dems)

Committee on Appropriations

Chair – Thad Cochran (R-MS)
 Ranking Member – Patrick Leahy (D-VT)

Committee on Armed Services

Chair – John McCain (R-AZ)
 Ranking Member – Jack Reed (D-RI)

Committee on Budget

Chair – Mike Enzi (R-WY)
 Ranking Member – Bernie Sanders (I-VT)

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Chair – Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)
 Ranking Member – Maria Cantwell (D-WA)

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Chair – Jim Inhofe (R-OK)
 Ranking Member – Tom Carper (D-DE)

House

GOP – 241 seats
Dem – 194 seats

Committee on Appropriations

Chair – Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-NJ)
 Ranking Member – Nita Lowey (D-NY)

Committee on Armed Services

Chair – Mac Thornberry (R-TX)
 Ranking Member – Adam Smith (D-WA)

Committee on Budget

Chair – Tom Price (R-GA)
 Ranking Member – John Yarmuth (D-KY)

Committee on Natural Resources

Chair – Rob Bishop (R-UT)
 Ranking Member – Raul Grijalva (D-AZ)

DOE NAMES SUE CANGE NEW EM-2

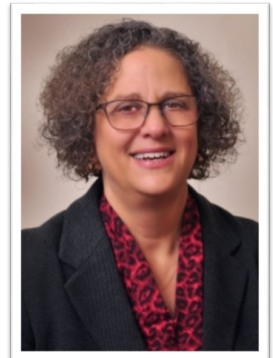
EM [announced](#) on December 8, Sue Cange has been named its Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary (EM -2).

EM Assistant Secretary Monica Regalbuto stated, “Sue is a trusted and effective leader with a deep understanding of EM’s cleanup mission and passion for advancing our mission. With a strong track record of leading organizations to complete cleanup work safely and efficiently, she will be integral to our progress.”

Cange brings to DOE headquarters nearly three decades of experience that includes multiple management roles in Oak Ridge, TN for EM and the Office of Nuclear Energy, the Site Manager under DOE’s Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program, and as an environmental engineer for the Environmental Protection Agency.

ECA extends its congratulations to Sue Cange for her new role at EM. During her time at Oak Ridge, Cange demonstrated an understanding of and regard for the interests of DOE host communities.

Oak Ridge Mayor Warren Gooch said, “I have congratulated Sue on her well-deserved promotion. She is exceptionally qualified to serve our nation in this critical position, and we are very proud of her. I look forward to working with Sue in her new leadership role.”



Legislative Update

On December 19, the Electoral College voted to formally affirm President-elect Donald J. Trump as the nation's 45th president. Trump is set to be sworn into office January 20, 2016.

Congress returned to Washington, DC shortly after the November elections for a truncated lame-duck session. Members completed their work on December 10, after passing a continuing resolution (CR) to fund the government through April 28, 2017, finalizing this year's National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), and passing several new laws.

Continuing Resolution...Again.

The new [CR](#) funds the government through April 28, 2017. This move will allow the new Congress and President to finalize appropriations for the remainder of the fiscal year without having to negotiate with the outgoing Democratic Administration. It will also provide the Senate more time to confirm the first wave of political appointees in the new Administration.

The CR extends funding for operations of federal agencies, programs, and services at the current budget cap level of \$1.07 trillion. DOE was appropriated \$29.7 billion last year and will continue spending at that rate.

On December 4, a [Forbes](#) contributor suggested that the new Administration may not submit a budget request to Congress next year. Although the Congressional Budget Act requires submission of a budget by February 6, incoming administrations have typically submitted requests months after the deadline. The article speculates that the unprecedented decision to not submit a budget request would serve two primarily political purposes: first, it would eliminate any platform from which political opponents may criticize the White House; and second, it would allow the White

House to avoid disclosing how much its tax and spending proposals will increase the federal deficit and national debt. Few others, including the transition team, have commented on this suggestion.



Rep. Mick Mulvaney

On December 16, Rep. Mick Mulvaney (R-SC) was announced as the nominee to lead the Office of Management and Budget in the next administration. Mulvaney was elected to Congress in 2010 and helped found the House Freedom Caucus, the conservative group of members that have taken a hard line against increased spending and raising the nation's debt limit. As budget director, Mr. Mulvaney would help guide the president-elect's promises of a repeal of the Affordable Care Act, a tax overhaul, and a trillion dollar investment in the nation's infrastructure.

National Defense Authorization

The House passed S.2943, the [NDAA](#), for FY 2017 on December 2, by a vote of 375 to 34. The Senate followed-up soon after with a 92-7 vote to pass the bill on December 8. Despite reservations, the Secretary of Defense has urged the President to sign the bill. The President is expected to do so soon.

The NDAA authorizes \$619 billion in spending for national defense, matching the February Budget Request of \$610 billion, and authorizes an additional \$5.8 billion supplemental request for operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Europe. It also authorizes \$12.9 billion for the NNSA, \$5.2 billion for defense environmental cleanup, and \$136.6 million for nuclear energy.

The 115th Congress will convene next year, on January 3, 2017.

DOE RELEASES DRAFT PLAN FOR A DEFENSE WASTE REPOSITORY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

In mid-December, DOE issued a Request for Public Comment on the newly-released [Draft Plan for a Defense Waste Repository](#) outlining a path to permanently dispose of the country's defense waste – the high-level waste (HLW) and spent nuclear fuel (SNF) derived from atomic energy defense activities and DOE's research and development activities. The development of a defense waste repository (DWR) would be part of a DOE's integrated waste management system for the storage and permanent disposal of both defense and commercial HLW and SNF.

In parallel with comments made by ECA in the past, the draft plan outlines various advantages to developing a DWR:

- All of DOE's HLW and much of DOE's SNF can be emplaced in a wide range of repository

concepts without further aging or thermal load management considerations.

- The planned and existing canisters for defense HLW and much of DOE's SNF are compatible in size with any mined repository concept.
- Developing a safety case for a DWR can be simplified due to the lower thermal output and overall lower radioactivity of the wastes (compared to commercial SNF).

The plan defines and discusses the principal elements and related activities necessary to develop a DWR (based primarily on technical, rather than programmatic or regulatory constraints), including the proposed siting process, a phased implementation for DWR development, a summary schedule, estimated costs, general risks, the types

(Continued on page 11)

MANHATTAN PROJECT PARK UPDATE – OAK RIDGE APPROVES LAND TRANSFER



On December 13, the Oak Ridge City Council unanimously voted in favor of a resolution to secure approximately 17.12 acres of DOE-owned property, which includes the land on which the American Museum of Science and Energy (AMSE) currently resides, according to the [Oakridger](#).

In June, the City Council authorized City Manager Mark Watson to enter into land transfer negotiations with property developers and DOE. This final agreement between the City of Oak Ridge and DOE is “for the purposes of economic development, at no cost to the taxpayers of the community,” according to a statement issued by Watson.

The property acquired by the city will go to TN Oak Ridge Illinois LLC, a developer responsible for the Main Street Oak Ridge project—a mixed-use, urban-renewal retail development project in the center of Oak Ridge.

In return for the DOE property, the City has agreed to provide DOE with a new home for AMSE: an 18,000 square-foot space free of rent, maintenance, taxes or utilities for 15 years. The space could be used for public outreach and education missions as well as a temporary visitor center for the Manhattan Project National Historical Park. The value of this agreement is estimated at as much as \$4.05 million over the 15-year period.

AMSE is considered a top tourist attraction for the City, and sees roughly 65,000 visitors each year—8.8 million in total since its opening. However, DOE has cited the museum—in its current location—as being “over-sized” and “operationally challenged.” Without the land transfer agreement, DOE may have had to close the museum or cede authority over it to the General Services Administration. Under that scenario, the City would not have had any control over the development of the property.

An article from [Oak Ridge Today](#) notes, “In part, the museum helps tell the history of Oak Ridge. The City was built during World War II as part of the Manhattan Project, a top-secret Federal program for building the world's first atomic weapons.” In its new home, AMSE will continue to educate citizens and visitors of Oak Ridge—serving as a complement to the Manhattan Project National Historical Park.



February 23-24, 2017

The Liaison Capitol Hill Hotel

415 New Jersey Ave., NW; Washington, DC 20001

This meeting is the **first national meeting with the new Administration**, focusing on the DOE Offices of Environmental Management, Nuclear Energy, and the National Nuclear Security Administration. Meeting attendees will have the unique opportunity to hear from the Trump Administration, DOE officials, Members of Congress, and other DC insiders.

When: February 23-24, 2017

Where: The Liaison Capitol Hill Hotel
415 New Jersey Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20001

Who: Open to the public

Registration:

To register for the meeting and for more information on the event, visit [here](#). Please **register by February 20, 2017**.

A selection of meeting topics can be found on [page 8](#).



Meeting the New Administration: Addressing Community Priorities and Securing Progress

February 23-24, 2017

The Liaison Capitol Hill Hotel
415 New Jersey Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20001

Featured Discussion Topics:

- Priorities of the New Administration Moving Forward
- Listening to Local Governments: Regulatory Reform and Infrastructure Revitalization
- Environmental Management Update: Ongoing Cleanup Priorities in the New Administration
- Nuclear Energy Update: Pathways for High-Level Waste Disposal
- NNSA Update: The Future of Weapons Activities
- The Insiders Perspective: Legislative Agenda for the 115th Congress
- FY 2018 Budget and Appropriations Outlook
- The Contractor and Community Perspective: Acquisition Reform
- Workforce Development and Succession Planning
- Economic Development and Long-term Stewardship

Program:

Thursday, February 23: 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM

- Morning session with representatives from DOE, NNSA, and the transition team.
- Afternoon session with Members of Congress and key Committee staff.

Friday, February 24: 7:00 AM – 12:00 PM

- Morning session with private industry leaders and other DC insiders.

WIPP PREPARES FOR A LATE DECEMBER REOPEN

In light of a recent inspection and review of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) in Carlsbad, NM, DOE officials say the facility could reopen as early as the end of the year.

In early December 2016, DOE performed an Operational Readiness Review at WIPP, identifying 21 issues that must be resolved at the site prior to it resuming waste emplacement. As of December 15, six of the 21 pre-start findings have been closed out, and the remaining fifteen all have approved corrective actions by DOE in order for them to be closed out soon. The review further listed an additional fifteen post-start findings that facility operators may address at a later date.



Workers at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant practice transporting waste in anticipation of reopening the site. (SOURCE: WIPP)

Lead of the review team, Ed Westbrook of the DOE Office of Operational Safety, stated at a Town Hall meeting that, “During the review, there were certainly no showstopper issues identified,” reports the [Current-Argus](#).

With no surprise issues to address, DOE Carlsbad Field Office manager Todd Shrader said WIPP workers performed a “dry run” of waste emplacement in preparation for reopening. The [Albuquerque Journal](#) quoted Shrader, saying “It means we are extremely close. We have been saying that our goal is to open in December. If it takes a

little bit longer, that’s okay, but we’re at the end state of the readiness process now.”

WIPP personnel have been working round the clock in preparation for the reopen. Despite what appears to be a dash to the finish line, local government officials are confident the work being conducted is thorough. Following the 2014 accident at WIPP that contaminated a large portion of the mine and forced its closure, City of Carlsbad officials have hosted regular Town Hall meetings for DOE to update City leadership and citizens on the status of the facility and increase transparency of the process.

John Heaton, Energy Development Coordinator and Chair of the Carlsbad

Mayor’s Nuclear Task Force, reacted to the news saying, “From my perspective, the operation of WIPP moving forward will be significantly more sophisticated than in the past. The training of personnel will be competency based and compare to that of nuclear power plant operators—with required constant refresh training. The review of the waste coming to WIPP and any treatment that occurs at the facility will be much more heavily scrutinized to assure the new Waste Acceptance Criteria are met explicitly.”

CONTRACTS

NNSA Set to Extend Security Contract at Nevada National Security Site

In a special notice issued on November 23, NNSA announced it expects to award a contract modification around December 31, 2016 to Centerra Group for security protective force services at the Nevada National Security Site. The current contract, awarded in December 2011 and valued at \$233.9 million, is set to expire at the end of this year. The modification would extend the contract for another six months.



2016 INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETING WITH DOE WRAP-UP

On November 16-18, ECA members joined the National Governors Association, Environmental Council of the States, National Association of Attorneys General, National Conference of State Legislatures, and State and Tribal Government Working Group for the 14th-annual combined Intergovernmental Meeting with DOE.

The meeting provided opportunities for all parties accepted by the ongoing cleanup of the nuclear weapons complex to discuss critical issues with high-ranking official from EM and other relevant offices and Federal agencies. Topics of discussion included the current presidential transition and the anticipated priorities of the new Administration, budget and planning, WIPP recovery and reopening, acquisition and contracting, and long-term stewardship of cleanup sites.

Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of EM, Sue Cange, provided an update on the EM program, assuring meeting attendees that the office is committed to an “aggressive, but achievable cleanup schedule” across the DOE complex. Cange has since been named the permanent Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of EM for the incoming Administration (see [page 4](#)).

David Klaus, Deputy Under Secretary for Management and Performance, will not be staying at DOE in the next Administration, and used his address to reflect on progress made at DOE over the past four years and discuss the direction of the cleanup process moving forward. Klaus noted that discipline and oversight of the project management process has increased during his time at DOE, and that he believes new technology and next-generation workforce development are essential areas of focus moving forward.

ECA was well represented at the meeting, with members constituting close to one-quarter of attendees. Many board members also spoke or moderated panels regarding their site’s unique issues, including Mayor Steve Young of Kennewick, WA, John Heaton of Carlsbad, NM, and Amy Fitzgerald of Oak Ridge, TN.

Prior to the start of the Intergovernmental meeting, ECA held its annual Board Meeting, where Board Members discussed ECA’s list of priorities and recommendations for the new Administration (see [page 15](#)). Members also voted to amend and update ECA Bylaws and elect a new Executive Board (see [page 2](#)).

DOE, NAVY TO BUILD \$1.65 BILLION WASTE FACILITY IN IDAHO

In a joint announcement December 6, the Navy and DOE announced their intention to build a \$1.65 billion Expanded Core Facility in eastern Idaho to handle fuel waste from the nation’s fleet of nuclear-powered warships.

The new facility will support the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program’s mission to keep nuclear-powered aircraft carriers and submarines actively deployed. The Navy and DOE’s decision to construct the facility comes after a lengthy assessment of alternative pathways—including continuing use or renovation of outdated facilities. The option to build a new facility was ultimately selected as it will be able to handle new types of spent-fuel shipping containers used by new warship models.

“This action will provide the instruction necessary to support the naval nuclear reactor defueling and refueling schedules to meet the operational needs of the U.S. Navy,” DOE said in a statement, reports the [Idaho Statesman](#).

This waste facility will be built at the Naval Reactors facility at the Idaho National Laboratory—the nations lead laboratory for nuclear research. Site preparation is set to begin in 2017 and construction in 2019. The facility is scheduled to operate starting in late 2024 through 2060.



20th CBRNE Command’s Nuclear Disabling Team members in a reactor control room simulator determine the necessary steps to safely shutdown the reactor at Idaho National Laboratory, Oct. 23, 2015. Photo Credit: Idaho National Laboratory

(Continued from page 6)

DOE Releases Draft Plan for a Defense Waste Repository for Public Comment

and quantities of waste identified as candidates for disposal, and the various activities associated with implementation of the plan.

Summary Schedule

While the plan emphasizes a phased approach as part of a consent-based siting process, that process is not defined in the draft. (DOE expects to release its Draft Consent-Based Siting Process Design Document by the end of this month.) DOE estimates that once the consent-based siting process is initiated, the preliminary schedule for first disposal of defense waste could occur in “about 22 years.”

Estimated Cost

The report’s total estimated cost for the DWR is \$3.065 billion, which includes program costs from inception to site characterization in a scenario where two sites are identified for screening, but only one chosen for full characterization. However, the report acknowledges uncertainty is large and any cost estimate will be more reliable and complete when the geology, location, waste quantities and forms are defined. That information will depend largely on a potential host community volunteering through the consent-based siting process.

Types of Risks

Barriers and risks to establishing a DWR are divided into two main categories: legal challenges and Congressional actions. DOE also recognizes other significant risks including the potential for a consent-based siting process to fail to elicit potential host community volunteers; failure to negotiate a mutually agreed upon consent agreement; NRC can deny the license for construction or disposal, or a

proposed site is ultimately determined to be unsuitable.

Existing Authority

Finally, the report asserts that DOE has existing authority to develop the DWR under the Atomic Waste Act of 1954, and that plans are consistent with the requirements of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 (NWPA) (as amended). While the plan does not name a site or a preferred disposal medium for a potential defense repository, the plan assumes for the purpose of the draft that the DWR can be developed under existing federal generic disposal regulations, see [10 CFR Part 60](#) and [40 CFR Part 191](#).

The report states how DOE is working with the NRC and Environmental Protection Agency on environmental and regulatory compliance activities, and that DOE will interact with local, state, tribal, and federal agencies to get any necessary permits, licenses, and other regulatory approvals. DOE also notes its plan could be impacted by enforceable consent orders and certain agreements between the DOE and states that host DOE facilities.

Engaging Potential Host Communities

The need to engage potential host states, tribes and communities, as well as national stakeholder groups and interested parties, is noted throughout the draft. While interactions are ongoing, DOE explains that one provision of NWPA requires DOE, during the site characterization and subsequent repository development and operation, to consult and cooperate with the Governor and legislature of the host state and the governing body of any affected Indian tribe “in an effort to resolve the concerns... regarding public health and safety, environmental, and economic impacts of any such repository.” In regards to host communities, the draft states the

(Continued on page 12)



Daughters of
HANFORD

Check out Daughters of Hanford, a project that highlights women’s perspectives of the Hanford nuclear site. The project offers a cross-section of politicians, leaders, and environmental cleanup advocates - all women who were part of history and the future talent putting their minds on the nuclear site’s toughest problems. Click [here](#) for more information .

(Continued from page 11)

DOE Releases Draft Plan for a Defense Waste Repository for Public Comment

siting process assumes “opportunities for potentially interested host communities to obtain grants to support their acquisition of sufficient knowledge of the implications of hosting a DWR and allow them to evaluate their interest in going farther.”

It remains uncertain what the next administration will do in regards to the current DOE effort to implement a consent-based siting process and develop an integrated waste management system. The draft specifically states that the plan may change if legislation, regulations and policy change. While many are calling for the Yucca Mountain project to resume, current capacity for Yucca does not cover all the defense waste for which DOE is responsible. Still, it is worth noting that the opening of Yucca Mountain could reduce the estimated cost of a DWR and abbreviate the project schedule mentioned in the draft report.

See the Request for Comment in the Federal Register [here](#). The document’s 90-day comment period will end March 20, 2017. Interested parties may submit comments no later than March 20 by any of the following methods:

- **Email:** Comments may be submitted by email to DWR@hq.doe.gov. Please include “Response to DWR RFC” in subject line.
- **Mail:** Comments may be provided by mail to the following address: **U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Nuclear Energy, Response to DWR RFC, 1000 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20585.**
- **Fax:** Responses may be faxed to **202-586-0544**. Please include “Response to DWR RFC” on the fax cover page.
- **Online:** Responses may be submitted online at <https://www.regulations.gov/>.

Read ECA’s comments on DOE’s *Draft Summary of Public Input Report on Designing a Consent-Based Siting Process* submitted in October 2016, [here](#).

DEMOLITION BEGINS AT HANFORD’S PLUTONIUM FINISHING PLANT

After nearly 20 years of preparation, work began in early November 2016 to demolish the Hanford Site’s Plutonium Finishing Plant (PFP).

The demolition effort is history-making. While in operation, the PFP produced approximately two-thirds of all U.S. plutonium during the Cold War. When production stopped in 1989, facility workers began the long process of stabilizing and removing excess plutonium in preparation for the facility’s disposition.

According to the [Tri-City Herald](#), the most recent work in the cleanup effort involved cleaning and dismantling highly contaminated equipment from inside the facility.

“This plant is one of the most hazardous buildings at Hanford, and its demolition will be a major watershed in the Hanford cleanup,” said Alex Smith of the Washington State Department of Ecology.

Tom Teynor, DOE manager for the PFP project commented that the first of four structures that make up the facility will be demolished “in small bites,” and is expected to be gone by spring 2017. A [time-](#)



Shears remove an airlock that once serviced the Plutonium Reclamation Facility. Aerial and ground-based dust suppression equipment will control particulates during demolition

[lapse video](#) shows demolition of part of that structure.

Waste from the demolition will be packaged on-site, as generated. The most contaminated debris will be held at Hanford until it can be shipped to and safely received by WIPP, which is currently closed but set to reopen by the end of the year (see [page 9](#)).

LANL TO REPACK 60 RADIOACTIVE WASTE DRUMS

Following an investigation in to the 2014 explosion at WIPP in Carlsbad, NM, the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) will repackage 60 drums of radioactive waste. The drums were found to contain a similar packing material as the drum that exploded at WIPP—also packaged at LANL.

[The Los Alamos Monitor](#) reported that the 60 drums, which are currently stored in “Area G” of LANL, are scheduled to be repackaged in spring of 2017 in preparation for their eventual shipment to WIPP. Many expect WIPP to reopen in late 2016 (see [page 9](#)). Repackaging will consist of mixing the contents of the drums with water and other materials to neutralize the reactivity of the waste.

Los Alamos EM Office Manager Doug Hintze said, “We are continually monitoring these drums to ensure safe storage while we evaluate and test treatment methods to render the contents safe for long-term storage and disposal. We are confident in our ability to execute these operations in a safe and efficient manner.”



Special facility and equipment capability was required to vent high-activity unvented drums before repackaging (Photo from permalink.lanl.gov)

WESTERN GOVERNORS APPROVE RESOLUTION ON NUCLEAR WASTE STORAGE AND DISPOSAL

Western Governors approved a [new policy resolution](#) on the storage and disposal of radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel (SNF) at the 2016 Winter Meeting of the Western Governors Association. While the resolution does not specifically address DOE’s consent-based siting initiative, the first policy statement reads:

“In the event that centralized interim storage, either private or federal, is deemed necessary, no such facility, whether publicly or privately owned, shall be located within the geographic boundaries of a Western state or U.S. flag island without the written consent of the Governor in whose state or territory the facility is to be located.”

Other policy statements in the resolution include:

- Any proposal to store or dispose of Greater-Than-Class C (GTCC) and high-level radioactive waste (HLW) and/or SNF must be viewed as being part of an integrated program that considers all aspects of necessary operation,

including transportation and logistical considerations.

- The Governors support efforts by the federal government to examine alternative waste acceptance options, but the search for alternatives must not detract from the imperative to develop a permanent solution.
- The Governors strongly encourage DOE and the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to work cooperatively with the states to implement a policy that ensures the safe management, transportation, storage, and disposal of SNF and HLW, and comply with agreements entered into by a state’s Governor regarding these matters.
- Commercial SNF should remain at reactor sites until:
 - One or more storage and/or disposal sites are operational or reprocessing is deemed viable by an independent review.

(Continued on page 14)

(Continued from page 13)

Western Governors Approve Resolution on Nuclear Waste Storage and Disposal

- o DOE and the nuclear utilities have consulted with states along the waste transportation corridor and implemented mutually acceptable transportation plans.
- o DOE and the nuclear utilities have put into place adequate infrastructure capacity to handle, store and dispose of this waste.
- o DOE, the US Department of Transportation and nuclear utilities ensure and fund adequate state and local emergency and medical responder training and resources in case of an accident or terrorist attack.
- The federal government has responsibility to ensure adequate preparation for shipments to interim storage sites, must coordinate with states, and provide adequate federal funding to reimburse states for costs associated with

shipments to publically or privately-owned interim storage facilities. The Governors consider it to be entirely appropriate to use the Nuclear Waste Fund for these activities.

- Any decisions regarding the identification of an existing or planned site to dispose of GTCC and GTCC-like waste must consider any authority of the regional low-level waste compacts, and comply with all applicable low-level waste compact and NRC requirements for certification to accept commercially generated waste.

The new resolution outlines a number of reasons that Western governors are “concerned that the Western states may be disproportionately impacted by radioactive waste transportation and disposal activities,” noting that more than 80 percent of SNF has been generated in the eastern United States, much of the nation’s HLW is temporarily stored in western states such as California, Idaho, New Mexico, and Washington, and more than 90 percent of transuranic waste is located in the west.

NNSA AWARDS \$2.6B SANDIA NATIONAL LABORATORIES M&O CONTRACT

NNSA announced that it has awarded National Technology Engineering Solutions of Sandia (NTESS) with the management and operating (M&O) contract for Sandia National Laboratories. NTESS is a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International. Northrop Grumman and Universities Research Association will support NTESS in the performance of this contract. The award is valued at \$2.6 billion annually over 10 years, if all options are exercised.

“The Sandia bid generated unprecedented interest from across industry, demonstrating that our improved acquisitions process is attracting high-quality competition and the best talent to serve NNSA’s mission,” said Lt. Gen. Frank G. Klotz (ret.), Under Secretary for Nuclear Security and NNSA Administrator.

In addition to NNSA’s improved selection criteria, the solicitation for the SNL M&O contract incorporated a number of governance initiatives launched by DOE following recommendations from the Congressional Advisory Panel on the Governance of the Nuclear Security Enterprise, Commission to Review the Effectiveness of the National Energy Laboratories, and the Secretary of Energy’s Advisory Board.

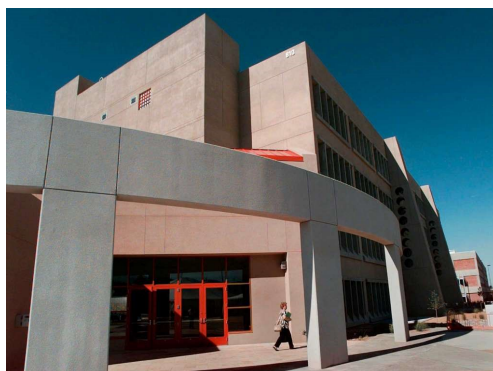


Photo shows the exterior of the Center for National Security and Arms Control at Sandia National Laboratory in Albuquerque, N.M. Federal officials announced on Friday, Dec. 16, 2016, that National Technology and Engineering Solutions of Sandia, a subsidiary of Honeywell International, has won the \$2.6 billion contract to manage the Laboratory.

SNL is responsible for non-nuclear engineering development of all U.S. nuclear weapons and for systems integration of the nuclear weapons with their delivery vehicles. SNL's national security responsibilities include design, qualification, certification, and assessment of the nonnuclear subsystems and system qualification of nuclear weapons.



Administration Transition Paper:

A Roadmap for Successful Local Government
and Community Engagement

December 2016

Energy Communities Alliance
www.energyca.org



1625 Eye Street, N.W.
Suite 800
Washington, D.C. 20006-4374
P (202) 828-2317
F (202) 828-2488
www.energyca.org

TO: PRESIDENT-ELECT TRUMP TRANSITION TEAM
FROM: ENERGY COMMUNITIES ALLIANCE
DATE: DECEMBER 12, 2016
RE: ADMINISTRATION TRANSITION PAPER: A ROADMAP FOR
SUCCESSFUL LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT

The Energy Communities Alliance (ECA) is the national association of local governments of communities that host or are affected by U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) facilities.¹ ECA works with DOE to achieve solutions which mutually benefit the health and safety of the communities in which DOE performs its work, the federal government's national security and economic development interests, and the American taxpayer.

ECA's views on DOE programs represent local communities' "customer" perspective of ongoing operations and performance, budgeting, cleanup prioritization, and mission integration.² Below are ECA's priorities which we believe are crucial to the success of DOE as new department leadership will face both significant challenges and opportunities. Of primary importance to ECA is that the new Administration and DOE:

I. Involve local governments in DOE decision making

1. Work with communities and Congress to ensure adequate cleanup funding; and
2. Engage local governments in nuclear waste management and disposal policies.

II. Improve DOE policies and practices

3. Integrate ECA's acquisition reform recommendations and principles;
4. Clarify DOE's existing high-level nuclear waste definition; and
5. Optimize intra-agency cooperation and communication at DOE.

III. Invest in host communities and the DOE complex

6. Resolve the maintenance and infrastructure backlog;
7. Address succession planning and looming workforce transition issues;
8. Enhance host community support and property transfer; and
9. Support the Manhattan Project National Historical Park.

¹ ECA's mission is to bring together leadership from DOE-affected communities to share information, establish policy positions, and advocate for common interests in order to effectively address an increasingly complex set of environmental, regulatory, and economic development needs. ECA board members include local elected officials and community leaders from communities across the DOE complex.

² ECA focuses on issues related to the Offices of Environmental Management (EM) and Nuclear Energy (NE), and the NNSA. An archive of ECA publications regarding these agencies and offices can be found on the ECA website, <http://bit.ly/2h8hAjb>.



Administration Transition Paper: A Roadmap for Successful Local Government and Community Engagement

ECA encourages the new Administration and new DOE leadership to support strong relationships with partner organizations, particularly local governments and their elected officials. Strong communication and relationships built on trust can endure transitory moments of disagreement or difficulty. More importantly, these relationships provide all interested parties with the information needed to make educated decisions that can ensure progress toward our shared goals.

ECA members and staff are available as expert resources to all involved in the Administration transition. Questions and requests for appointments may be directed to Megan Casper, ECA Program Manager, by phone 202-828-2410 or email meganc@energyca.org.

Enclosure



Administration Transition Paper: A Roadmap for Successful Local Government and Community Engagement

I. Involve Local Governments in DOE Decision Making

Maintaining partnerships and providing opportunities for meaningful engagement between federal decision makers and local elected officials are vital to ensuring a unity of purpose that advances mission priorities.

DOE should engage local governments in actual decision-making processes, not simply call on them to provide responses during public comment periods. Local governments are responsible for the health, safety, and economic welfare of their communities, including the well-being of DOE employees and contractors. Local government input and support should not be taken for granted as ECA has found that meaningful, ongoing engagement by site managers and headquarters officials can alleviate confusion, build trust, and save DOE hundreds of millions of dollars. The highest levels of DOE leadership should ensure that every site manager and prime contractor actively engage local government officials on a regular basis.

Recommendations:

- DOE and NNSA decision-making processes should involve consultation with local elected officials on a *pre-decisional* basis when any impact on the local community is possible.
- DOE and NNSA should continue to have meaningful engagement with local governments when developing programmatic proposals and environmental impact statements in order to educate interested parties and avoid mistrust and controversy.
- DOE should sign, reaffirm, and abide by the *Statement of Principles Outlining the Relationship Between the U.S. Department of Energy & Local Governments* that has informed DOE's relationship with ECA members.
- DOE should proactively seek local government input when renegotiating federal facility agreements for environmental cleanup, as local communities and their citizens are most impacted by a decision's lasting economic, environmental, and public health effects.

1. Work with Communities and Congress to Ensure Adequate Cleanup Funding

DOE must work closely with local governments and Congress to ensure the environmental cleanup budget is funded at levels that allow for significant progress toward fulfilling the federal government's responsibilities.



Administration Transition Paper: A Roadmap for Successful Local Government and Community Engagement

It is imperative that DOE's budget requests and congressional appropriations meet the requirements of regulatory agreements with states, address the concerns and priorities of local government partners, and do not shortchange the health and safety of DOE's workforce or citizens of local communities. ECA urges the new Administration to engage local elected officials, communities, and other stakeholders at every stage of the budget process to ensure local priorities are addressed, working relationships are strengthened, and transparency is increased. ECA also urges the new Administration and Congress to provide financial resources for education, outreach, and feasibility studies on the impacts associated with the implementation of vital DOE operations.³ Local elected officials and communities can be powerful allies in the budget and appropriations process if engaged early and often.

Recommendations:

- DOE should engage local elected officials and other stakeholders at every stage of the budget development and appropriations process to create a budget that will meet cleanup needs.
- DOE leaders should work with the Office of Management and Budget to develop regulatory-complaint budgets.
- DOE and NNSA should provide funding for education, outreach, and feasibility studies of vital DOE operations, including those related to nuclear waste disposal facility siting.
- DOE leadership must avoid the consequences that inadequate, unsustainable, unpredictable, and non-compliant budgets can have on the cleanup mission, trust with partners, and health and safety of communities.

2. Engage Local Governments in Nuclear Waste Management and Disposal Policies

Local governments of both current and potential DOE host communities should be engaged to ensure priorities and concerns are addressed throughout siting processes.

The federal government has failed to meet its obligations under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act, which provides a process and funding for siting, constructing, and operating nuclear waste facilities. DOE has begun and is expected to continue a broad public education effort regarding alternative initiatives to site a consolidated interim storage facility for spent nuclear fuel and high-level nuclear waste, deep boreholes, and a permanent deep geologic repository. The engagement of current and potential host communities and their local governments will build trust, reduce the potential for lawsuits, and allow local governments to identify the financial, oversight, and legal terms that will allow them to consent to hosting a nuclear facility as part of a flexible, resilient, integrated waste management system.

Recommendations:

- DOE should build on the successful engagement and education of local governments to develop any new nuclear waste facility siting process.

³ See "The Politics of Cleanup," *Energy Communities Alliance*, 2007, p. 47, <http://bit.ly/2ghbnVg>.



- New DOE leadership must consider new legislation or amendments to current legislation to formalize any new process to site new nuclear waste management, storage, or disposal facilities.
- DOE should continue the Yucca Mountain licensing review process, in accordance with Federal law, alongside the exploration of other waste disposal alternatives.

II. Improve DOE Policies and Practices

3. Integrate ECA's Acquisition Reform Recommendations and Principles

Local communities hosting DOE missions should be recognized as faithful customers who have the highest stake in the performance of cleanup contractors.

Local governments are responsible for the health and safety of their communities, and are thus committed to helping DOE accomplish the safe, effective cleanup of the nuclear weapons complex. ECA urges DOE to continue to address ECA's acquisition reform recommendations and statement of principles.⁴ DOE and local communities are best served when there is strong competition for prime contracts and an emphasis on the long-term nature of the acquisition process and work scope. ECA also urges DOE to communicate timeframes, the nature of site projects, and contract work scopes with communities before formal solicitations are released. This will allow for a more informed dialogue and understanding of priorities. Finally, DOE must return to proven contract types that incentivize the safe and speedy cleanup of sites and ensure opportunities for local small businesses and healthy subcontracting.

Recommendations:

- DOE should reaffirm the Community Commitment clause and include in all contracts requirements for incentivized community engagement.
- Contractors should be encouraged to support local small businesses via subcontracts and other means as a display of good corporate citizenship.
- NNSA and DOE program offices should reconsider use of centralized supply chain management systems that bypass local or small businesses.
- DOE should place emphasis on contract vehicles that have proven successful and beneficial to host communities in the past.

⁴ See "Changing Course: The Case for Sensible DOE Acquisition Reform," *Energy Communities Alliance*, June 2015, <http://bit.ly/2hbqUTG>.



Administration Transition Paper: A Roadmap for Successful Local Government and Community Engagement

4. Clarify DOE's Existing High-Level Nuclear Waste Definition

ECA continues to advocate for the clarification of the high-level waste (HLW) definition to reflect the nature or composition of waste rather than origin.⁵

Some defense HLW at Hanford, the Savannah River Site, the Idaho National Laboratory, and in West Valley, New York meet the current specific definition of transuranic waste and, as such, are not truly HLW as defined under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act. DOE should pursue a legislative clarification by partnering with ECA to educate Congress, states, tribes, and others about how this will spur progress on DOE cleanup missions and lead to lower DOE costs for storage and reduced risk to human health and the environment.

Recommendations:

- DOE should support the clarification of the HLW definition based on its composition, not its origin.
- DOE, in partnership with ECA and other stakeholders, should help educate Congress on the benefits of a reclassification of HLW.

5. Optimize Intra-Agency Cooperation and Communication at DOE

DOE Offices of Environmental Management (EM) and Nuclear Energy (NE), and the NNSA must improve communication with one another and their local partners.

Lack of intra-agency communication leads to bureaucratic confusion and inconsistency, and can slow mission progress at the site level and at headquarters. More efficient and consistent communication will create a unity of effort at DOE and assure progress toward other DOE and ECA goals.

Recommendations:

- DOE headquarters officials must ensure that meetings and other communications across offices at both the project and management level occur on a regular basis.
- Site managers must ensure that local decisions are made with input from local officials and in coordination with all local DOE programmatic offices.

⁵ See "Fact Sheet: Clarifying Nuclear Waste Definition to Reflect Composition Can Create Additional Disposal Paths, Expedite Cleanup," *Energy Communities Alliance*, <http://bit.ly/2h1uBNK>.



III. Invest in Host Communities and the DOE Complex

6. Resolve the Maintenance and Infrastructure Backlog

Infrastructure improvements should not be ignored by the new Administration or Congress, but must be made a priority to ensure the safety of workers, communities, and the country.

DOE's and NNSA's missions are critical to national defense and are important economic drivers in host communities. These missions cannot be accomplished, however, unless problems of aging infrastructure, maintenance backlogs, and deteriorating facilities are addressed.

Recommendations:

- DOE, and NNSA especially, should continue work to modernize the entire national security complex.
- NNSA must resolve maintenance and disposition issues across the complex, prioritized by need.
- DOE and NNSA should avoid framing complex-wide needs as false dichotomies, i.e., weapons modernization versus infrastructure support, as both are vital to the long-term success of DOE's and NNSA's missions.
- DOE, NNSA, and their contractors should avoid circumventing state and local tax laws by creating non-profit entities charged with improving agency and infrastructure modernization.

7. Address Succession Planning and Looming Workforce Transition Issues

It is imperative that DOE and contractors commit to securing a workforce for the future.

The DOE workforce is aging and many workers will retire during the course of this Administration, taking their technical skills and institutional knowledge with them. Yet cleanup at certain DOE sites is still decades away from completion. DOE partnerships with local universities and technical colleges have proven successful in the past through creating opportunities for workforce education and talent recruitment while simultaneously benefiting local communities by enhancing economic and educational opportunities. Local elected officials have seen the success of workforce development grants from DOE in South Carolina, New Mexico, Tennessee, and Washington State; these grants should be continued and expanded. Further, DOE should encourage its site leaders and contractors to support community education and workforce development by personally and regularly participating in community-sponsored events.

Recommendations:

- DOE should continue to request appropriations for, and expand grants to local educational institutions to train the next generation of DOE workers.



- DOE should encourage the support and participation of site and field office leadership in local education events, workforce training programs, and other mutually beneficial opportunities.
- DOE should coordinate with local universities and technical colleges to create apprenticeships and internships wherever possible.
- DOE, NNSA, and their contractors must work with local communities to develop and support STEM curriculum for K-12 education as to secure local, sustained streams of workforce talent able to assist in the decades-long cleanup processes at DOE sites.

8. Enhance Host Community Support and Property Transfer

DOE must support those communities that have been good stewards of DOE site missions, but remain vulnerable or underserved.

Host communities and their elected officials are faithful customers of DOE and NNSA. In some cases, however, local governments have not been sufficiently engaged or have not experienced the benefits that they should receive as major stakeholders and contributors to DOE's success. In fact, some communities have declining population growth rates or have lost business opportunities because of negative perceptions associated with DOE's facilities or activities. DOE must support those communities through whatever means appropriate, e.g., community commitments, payments-in-lieu of taxes, economic and educational grants, technical assistance grants to build trust, or other benefits.

In addition, many DOE sites have reduced their operational footprints, and therefore are in possession of excess or underutilized real property. The federal government should divest itself of these properties and give local governments priority for their transfer. Doing so will reduce the federal obligation for maintenance, while providing economic diversification opportunities in local communities.

Recommendations:

- DOE must ensure impacted communities receive support for educational development, economic diversification, and other programs to demonstrate DOE's commitment to their local government customers.
- DOE should, upon request, provide local governments with grants for third-party assessments of DOE proposals so communities can independently assess the economic and social impacts
- DOE should engage local officials in the transfer of excess real property as to provide local communities with economic development potential.

9. Support the Manhattan Project National Historical Park

The Manhattan Project National Historical Park will require ongoing DOE attention as many visitor attractions and points of historical interest exist alongside active DOE operations.



The Manhattan Project National Historical Park was established in November 2015. Congress has directed the National Park Service and DOE to work collaboratively in the development and operation of the Park across its three separate sites: Oak Ridge, TN, Los Alamos, NM, and Hanford, WA. The communities of and around the Park take great pride in the important role they played in World War II through their participation in the Manhattan Project. Their unique stories are now preserved through the Park for the educational benefit of future generations. As the Park exists alongside retired and active DOE sites and facilities, DOE must remain actively engaged in the Park.

Recommendations:

- DOE should reaffirm its commitment to supporting the Manhattan Project National Historical Park, preserving historical documents and sites, and cooperating with local communities and the National Park Service.
- DOE must request funding through the appropriate program office to support DOE's responsibilities to the Park.
- DOE's Offices of Legacy Management and Environmental Management must work with the local communities and the National Park Service to ensure nationally significant sites are included in the Park and accessible to visitors.





2017 Congressional Calendar



Both chambers in session
 Both chambers in recess
 Senate only in session
 House only in session

January

M	T	W	T	F
2 New Year's Day (observed)	3 115th Congress Convenes	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16 MLK Jr. Day	17	18	19	20 Inauguration Day
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

February

M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20 Presidents' Day	21	22	23	24
27	28			

March

M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

April

M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14 Good Friday
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

May

M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29 Memorial Day	30	31		

June

M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

July

M	T	W	T	F
3	4 Independence Day	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

August

M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

September

M	T	W	T	F
				1
4 Labor Day	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21 Rosh Hashanah	22
25	26	27	28	29 Yom Kippur begins

October

M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9 Columbus Day	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

November

M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10 Veterans Day (observed)
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23 Thanksgiving	24
27	28	29	30	


December

M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13 Hanukkah begins	14	15
18	19	20 Hanukkah ends	21	22
25 Christmas	26	27	28	29

Credit CQ Roll Call: <http://troutmansandersstrategies.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/CQ-2017-Congressional-Calendar.pdf>



2017 Upcoming Events

January 3, 2017	Beginning of 115 th Congress
January 20, 2017	President-elect Trump Inauguration
February 23-24, 2017	ECA's "Meeting the New Administration: Addressing Community Priorities and Securing Progress." See page 3 for details. For more information on registration or sponsorship, please contact meganc@energyca.org
March 5-9, 2017	Waste Management Symposium; for more information, visit www.wmsym.org
April 28, 2017	Continuing Resolution Expires
May 31-June 2, 2017	ECA Peer Exchange in Richland, WA on the Manhattan Project National Historical Park; for more information, contact meganc@energyca.org
September 13-14, 2017 	Save the Date: Third Annual National Cleanup Workshop
November 2017	Intergovernmental Meeting with DOE

ECA Articles

Devon Hill, Program Director
 Megan Casper, Program Manager
 Kara Colton, Director of Nuclear Energy Programs

Layout and Design

Sharon M. Worley, Administrative Assistant

Energy Communities Alliance (ECA) Bulletin

1625 Eye Street NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20006

All Rights Reserved © 2016 by the Energy Communities Alliance. No portion is to be reproduced without credit and written notification to the Energy Communities Alliance. The Energy Communities Alliance Bulletin is published monthly via a printed and electronic version. If you would like to subscribe to the Energy Communities Alliance Bulletin, please send your name and address to the address above, fax it to us at 202-828-2488, or email Bulletin@energyca.org

Thank you to the Department of Energy's Environmental Management Office for its support of the ECA Bulletin through cooperative agreement No. DE—EM002400