

Make it safe. Clean it up. Close it down.

RISS makes progress on closure of site's utilities infrastructure

Decommissioning of nitrogen plant generates savings

By Jackie Powers

As D&D progresses across the site, the need for nitrogen has declined. Currently, B371 is the only building that still uses nitrogen. Nitrogen is used to create an inert environment within gloveboxes. Analysis showed a significant cost saving could be realized by using an outside nitrogen vendor to supply nitrogen to B371 operations. Continued operation of the nitrogen plant would have cost \$372,000 annually vs. \$132,000 annually to purchase nitrogen from an outside supplier. RISS, therefore, made the decision to decommission the Nitrogen Plant (B223).

"Air Liquide America already had a contract at Rocky Flats to supply liquid nitrogen to several facilities. So, the change made sense," said Jerry Cable, RISS Utilities program manager. "Our contract with Air Liquide was modified and a large tank for storage and supply of both gaseous and liquid nitrogen was installed behind B371. The tank was operational on Dec. 19."

Not many people realize that Rocky Flats actually produced its own inerting (gaseous) nitrogen. B223 was built in late 1990 and was fully operational by March 1991. Originally, the plant produced inert atmosphere nitrogen for seven buildings at the site – B371, B374, B559, B707, B771, B776 and B777.

Distribution of the nitrogen to the seven buildings originated at B223 through an underground, closed-loop distribution line. The nitrogen could be delivered in either clockwise or counterclockwise direction, if one side of the loop became inoperable.

The nitrogen plant is for sale. RISS hopes to find a buyer for the plant, which has an appraised value of approximately \$2 million. If a suitable buyer is not found, its components will be sold separately.

DOE submits FY04 budget to Congress

By Bill Badger

The U.S. Department of Energy submitted its Fiscal Year 2004 budget request to Congress on Monday, Feb. 3, 2003. The total DOE 2004 budget request is approximately \$23.4 billion. If approved, the budget will mark an increase of more than 25 percent over the last three years, partly because of increased DOE responsibilities associated with Homeland Security.

The budget submission includes \$7.24 billion for Environmental Management, an increase of \$361 million (5 percent) over the FY 2003 budget and the highest amount ever requested for accelerated cleanup and closure programs. This budget fully supports progress toward closure by 2006 at the Rocky Flats, Fernald and Mound sites. Rocky Flats' proposed budget for



Workers lower the Air Liquide nitrogen tank in place behind B371. Installation of the tank was the first step in the decommissioning of B223.

Crews remove Plainview and United power lines

By Jackie Powers

Removal of the de-energized lines in the Buffer Zone brings it one step closer to becoming part of the Rocky Flats Wildlife Refuge.

RISS Utilities crews completed the removal of the 2-mile-long Plainview 115,000 kilovolt electrical line on Dec. 21, 2002. More than 10 miles of power line wire and 46 70-foot-high power poles were removed. The Plainview Line, which has not been used since the mid-1980s, had been left in place in the event the site needed additional backup power. Xcel Energy recently inspected the line and determined that due to its age, it had become a hazard and required repair or removal.

"We determined that due to the accelerated closure of the site, the line was no longer needed as a backup and should be removed," said RISS Program Manager Jerry Cable. "Based on the contract between Xcel Energy

and Rocky Flats, Xcel could repair the line at the site's expense, remove it or sell it to us for the amazing price of \$1. Since Xcel had no interest in removing the line, Kaiser-Hill and the DOE chose to purchase the line and remove it ourselves."

The United Line, which was owned by United Power, a rural electric company, originally supplied power to Coal Creek Canyon, but was taken out of service many years ago. Like Xcel Energy, United Power had no interest in removing the line. An arrangement with United Power also allowed the site to purchase the United line for \$1. Once the purchase was completed, the line could be removed. RISS Utilities crews removed 38 45-foot-high power poles and 5 miles of power line wire. The last power pole from the line was removed on Jan. 31, 2003.

Little from the demolition of the two lines went to waste. A few of the power poles were used elsewhere on site, and those not needed were donated to the Rocky Mountain Wildlife Conservation Center. The poles will be used to build sturdy cages for tigers and bears living at the sanctuary. (Watch for a related story in an upcoming *Endvision*). The power line wire was sold as scrap metal.

FY04 is approximately \$665 million.

The continued commitment by DOE, Congress and the current administration to clean up the legacy of more than 50 years of nuclear defense work allows Rocky Flats to safely continue on schedule, reducing risk to the public and the environment.

The DOE budget goes beyond cleanup and closure plans with a provision for creating a new Office of Legacy Management, which will be responsible for administering the department's obligations after the sites have been cleaned up and closed. Said DOE Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham, "We want the people living in communities near the cleanup sites to know that the department will never abandon its responsibilities to them."

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TGA measures Pu moisture content

By Don Dustin

A new analytical system to support the Plutonium Stabilization and Packaging System (PuSPS) has been started up successfully in B371. The PuSPS operation is concerned with stabilizing and packaging plutonium metal and plutonium oxides for long-term storage in accordance with DOE Standard 3013. This Standard requires that stabilized oxides be analyzed for moisture before being packaged in a

3013-compliant container. The moisture content must be less than 0.5 weight-percent.

To date, only the relatively high purity oxides have undergone stabilization. To determine the moisture content of the stabilized oxide, a technique known as Loss On Ignition (LOI) has been used. By this method, a small sample of the oxide is weighed, heated to 1050 C, cooled to room temperature and reweighed. Any loss in weight is reported as moisture, and as long as the moisture content is below 0.5 weight-percent, the material is suitable for packaging. If the sample is determined to have more than 0.5 weight-percent moisture, the entire batch of stabilized oxide (typically 4-5 kg) has to be restabilized.

The LOI method for moisture determination was suitable for high purity oxides, those having greater than 80 percent plutonium, but for the lower purity oxides, the LOI results could be complicated by weight gains and losses from reactions other than just the loss of moisture.

Therefore, an alternative moisture determination method was required.

The analytical method that will be used for oxides having less than 80 weight-percent plutonium has been dubbed TGA/IR, which is a combination of a thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) system and a Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) spectrometer. This method continuously monitors the weight changes as the temperature of the sample increases to 1000 C. The

TGA instrument can accurately measure weight losses for any given sample while the FTIR spectrometer can differentiate between moisture loss and other chemical processes that might be occurring during analysis. The instrumentation for both phases of the analysis is controlled by a computer.

The TGA/IR system underwent extensive field testing at the Colorado School of Mines and proved to be more than adequate for determining moisture content and for providing the analytical basis for pass/fail decisions on cans of plutonium oxides that will be sent to the Savannah River Site for long-term storage.

Development of this method started about one year ago as a joint effort between Rocky Flats, Los Alamos and Hanford. Before this time, no suitable method existed to accurately determine low levels of moisture in relatively impure plutonium oxides.

The TGA/IR system was installed in a new glovebox in Room 3701, immediately adjacent to the PuSPS facility. The TGA/IR operation will be conducted by Randy Bell and Karen McHugh, process specialists, under the supervision of Foreman Mark Duling. B559 Analytical Laboratory personnel Yvonne Mazza and Mark Brugh will oversee the TGA/IR operations and verify the analytical results. The system will operate until about June 2003 when PuSPS operations are expected to be completed. The installation of the TGA/IR system allows PuSPS to begin stabilizing and packaging more than 1,000 kilograms of remaining plutonium oxides.



Process Specialist Randy Bell prepares a TGA/IR sample of plutonium oxide from a PuSPS stabilization run.

Congratulations, Joan and Larry

By Jackie Powers

Every year since 1995, Richard Walker of the Site Independent Safety Review Committee has recognized a technical writer or maintenance planner for quality work in the development and revision of site procedures.

This year, he has chosen two people for their exemplary work: Joan Novy, who bore the brunt of the DBIO-mandated procedural re-writes, and Larry Quinn, who according to Walker is the best planner on site.

Art Geis, manager of Nuclear Safety and Licensing, stated in a letter of commendation, "These people help to make Mr. Walker's and my job easier, faster and less prone to errors. They make their projects look good when the assessors and auditors arrive at their facilities."



In memoriam



By Robin Piers

Former Rocky Flats employee Scott Shaw was fatally injured in a tragic airplane accident on Saturday, Jan. 18, 2003, in Edgewater, Fla. Scott worked at Rocky Flats for 12 years in Employee and Labor Relations functions. While at Rocky Flats, Scott earned his undergraduate degree from Metro State and his master's degree from Regis University. An avid outdoorsman, Scott was an accomplished scuba diver, mountain climber, biker, hiker and nature enthusiast.

He left Rocky Flats in April of 2002 to pursue his lifelong interest in aviation and to become a commercial pilot. He and his wife, Lisa, were wed in March of 2002 and shortly thereafter moved to Sanford, Fla., where he enrolled as a student at Comair Aviation Academy. He had recently completed the program and was going to be an instructor at the Academy while he continued to build up his flying hours.

envision

is published every other Wednesday for the benefit of all Rocky Flats employees. We invite your letters to the editor, story suggestions and comments. The deadline for approved stories is 10 a.m. on the Monday following AWS-Friday.

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**Rocky Flats Photography Department
Rocky Flats Trucking Department**





Team of the Year goes to Washington

On the eve of President Bush's State of the Union address, the DOE Security Police Officer Team of the Year was personally congratulated by Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham at DOE Headquarters in Washington, D.C. Secretary Abraham thanked the Wackenhut Services team for being an example of the high quality of security found in the DOE Complex, most notably at a closure site. Pictured, from left, are Chris Wieseler, Lt. Todd Harrison, John Devico (Tactical Training Specialists), Jim Krause, Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham, Chris Duran and Randy Irmer. Not pictured are Mutalahar Dickson and TTS trainer Marc Brooks.

Ariba has arrived

By Bill Badger

This Valentine's Day marks the second anniversary of the Ariba system on site. Ariba is a convenient and compliant way for requisitioning and ordering commodities on site. It has streamlined the procurement process at Rocky Flats while also ensuring that we buy needed items responsibly. The system gives employees online access to more than 189 listed suppliers and more than 200,000 items all in one Web site. Ariba has made it easier and faster for employees to order and receive items. It used to take an average of 17 working days to process a requisition; now it takes an average of 10 hours to get a purchase requisition approved and processed. Nearly 135 requisitions are processed through Ariba daily – up from 18 a day before the launch of Ariba. More than 24,000 requisitions have been processed since the debut of Ariba.

Government vehicle drivers need to follow these rules

By Clarice Bruce

Government regulations make all drivers responsible for the security and condition of government vehicles and heavy equipment. Please remember the following requirements the next time you are in the driver's seat of a government vehicle:

- No vehicles/heavy equipment should be left unattended with the engine running.
- Unattended vehicles/heavy equipment windows must be closed, doors must be locked, and the keys should be in the possession of the driver/operator.
- Vehicles should be parked in a safe and secure manner, with automatic transmissions in park and the parking brake set.
- Operating government vehicles, as well as personally-owned vehicles, should be done in accordance with established Traffic Safety guidelines that incorporate good common sense for the road, traffic and weather conditions.

To ensure the above requirements are met, random checks of vehicles and heavy equipment are performed by Protective Force personnel on a routine basis. If you have any questions, please contact the Safeguards and Security Awareness Program at x5250 or x5203.

Moving on

Résumés and cover letters that open door to future employment

By Pat Buffer

How many of you have ever had a fantasy of standing on a street corner and being discovered by some slick Hollywood agent, immediately launching you into super-stardom?

Most of us carry that same fantasy into our attitudes about searching for a job. We know how talented and motivated we are. Surely that high-powered executive shuffling through the stack of résumés on her desk will stop, awestruck, at your résumé, and jump up and shout, "This is it – this is the one!" Well, maybe in the movies . . .

Of course, we all know lucky people who've been hired without even preparing a résumé or by using an old, outdated one. However, by diligently preparing your résumé, you will have increased your ability to determine your career.

The competition for jobs in today's economy is overwhelming. According to employment agencies, it takes an employer approximately 12 seconds to read a résumé and decide whether the applicant is worthy of an interview. That's why your résumé must be focused and why you must make every word count. The résumé acts as a ticket onto the interview stage. Everything on it must be brief and direct. It should stimulate the employer's interest in you. A résumé communicates a message about you, like the "coming attractions" do for a movie. Your résumé must stand out in the crowd and leave a mark that impresses.

A résumé that sells is brief, focused and effective. It is job-specific. It gives you credit for what you've learned and accomplished, regardless of where, when or for how much money. Keep it simple. No one expects your life story, so it does not include personal information that is irrelevant to the job such as age, marital status, hobbies, height or weight.

Know the exact type of work you're looking for, then write a résumé that fits the job description. Don't get creative or cute – keep the résumé neat, factual and straightforward. And keep it to one page only, with paragraphs that

are no longer than eight lines. Your résumé should be simple, organized and conservative in appearance, regardless of the job you're after.

Never include a picture of yourself and never, ever list your current salary. Print the résumé on a neutral shade of paper, in black ink and in a type style that's easy to read.

Even though some job seekers leave off "References upon request," it's still a good idea to insert it at the bottom of your résumé. This lets the employer know that you don't mind the company verifying your information. Make sure you line up your references ahead of time and ask their permission to refer employers.

Enlist a professional or someone already working in the field you want to enter to read your résumé and offer their suggestions.

– Please see RESUMES on Page 4

February Anniversaries

5 Years

Lane Butler, K-H
Carol Darrow, RFCSS
Allen Headrich, K-H

10 Years

Kenneth Arnold, SSOC
Mary Ely, CSS
Sherry Licari, K-H
Richard Minardi, RFCSS
Robert Richardella, K-H
Eugene Wade, K-H
Janice Weller, SSOC

15 Years

Steve Chestnut, K-H

Grover Holmes Jr., K-H
Thomas Manzanares,
RFCSS

Jerry McCaughey, K-H
Francis Medina, K-H
Charles Staudinger, K-H
Loren Womochil, K-H

20 Years

Clyde Christman, WSLLC
Patricia Deshazer, K-H
Patricia Dorsey, K-H
Connie Filipi, K-H
Diane Jensen, SSOC
Daniel Mayfield, K-H
Jeffrey Poole, K-H

Kerry Smith, RFCSS

25 Years

Gary Carnival, K-H
Paul Castillo, K-H
Richard Castillo, K-H
Donald Clark, K-H
Thomas Neihart, K-H
Billy Noble, K-H
Stephen Orendorff, K-H
Gary Simpson, K-H
Michael Smith, K-H
Barbara Swenson, K-H

30 Years

Albert Gonzales Jr., K-H



RESUMES

continued from Page 3

Proofread your résumé as if your potential job depended on it.

Remember, a résumé cannot get you a job. And it doesn't negotiate salary, benefits or job tasks for the position – you must wait for the interview for that.

Cover letters

Keep cover letters accurate, concise, brief and interesting. Individualize each letter by expressing interest in the specific position and the company. Write a one-page, three-paragraph letter that features your background and explains your value to the company. Include your name and address at the top of the page. Make sure you're spelling the employer's name correctly and confirm the address. Type the letter neatly with good sentence structure, spelling and punctuation in a format consistent with that of your résumé. Avoid overuse of the word "I."

In the final paragraph, ask the employer to call you for an interview, or give a specific date when you will call the prospective employer to arrange for an interview. Be compelling about why you should get an interview. End with an

appropriate closing and your signature in black ink.

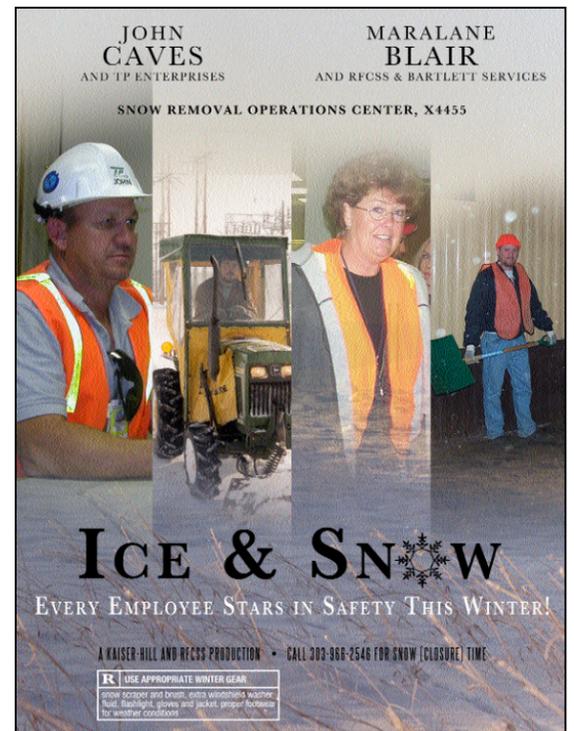
Never staple and fold your cover letter and résumé so that they fit into a letter-size envelope – mail them flat in a 9x12 envelope. Not only will this make your correspondence easier to read, a large envelope stands out in a pile on a prospective employer's desk.

And you might spend a little extra time on delivery. You may want to send your résumé and cover letter via priority mail or overnight express. If it will give you an edge, send it by messenger service.

Keep an accurate file of all queries and responses, interview dates, etc., and record the outcome and status.

If you know your skills and enthusiastically research the job of your interest, writing an effective and powerful résumé will succeed in procuring you a ticket to the interview theater. From there, a possible star may be born, and it may be you.

For more information regarding résumés and cover letters, contact the Career Transition Center, x8400, or <http://rfetshp/CTC/>



declassifieds

ANIMALS

AQHA bay gelding, 7 years old, quiet, broke, sound, easy keeper, loads and shoes great, very gentle horse, has been used in 4-H. Karen, 303-216-0261, before 9 p.m.

AUTOMOBILES/MOTORCYCLES

1982 Volkswagen Rabbit convertible, new top, re-upholstered seats/interior, straight body, good mechanical condition, new rotors/brakes and AC compressor, garaged, \$1,300. Bob, 303-776-3132.

1996 Nissan 200SX SE, 85,000 miles, 5-speed, CD player, good condition, green with black interior, \$4,500 or best offer. Rochelle, 303-941-3189.

1999 Chevy Silverado Z71 off-road package, 5.3L, mint condition, lots of upgrades and only 26,000 miles. Sherry or Chris, 303-781-2255.

2002 Hyundai Accent, white, 5-speed, 4-door, AM/FM stereo, cassette, excellent condition, 1,210 miles, best offer. Mison, 303-403-9270.

2002 Nissan Xterra, automatic everything, 25,000 miles, 4-wheel drive, V6, CD, excellent condition, retail \$24,000, selling for \$21,500. Tara, 720-339-1809.

2002 Honda Metropolitan (scooter), brand-new, only has 90 miles, \$2,300 or best offer. Wendi, 303-274-9192.

Two new chrome, tube-style running boards for newer Ford Super-Duty Crew Cab truck, off a 2003 F350 Crew Cab Lariat truck, \$250 or best offer. Dave, 303-651-1384.

LOST/FOUND

Lost: One pair of men's brown metal frame eyeglasses. Frank, x6293.

MISCELLANEOUS

Solid oak Captain bunk-bed unit with desk, book shelf and 4-drawer chest, purchased from Kasey Fine Furniture, great condition, \$450 or best offer. Carol or Eva, 303-287-4472.

Townhome for sale by owner, great 3-bedroom, 3-bath, brand new kitchen and hardwood floor in living room, furnace and refrigerator 2 years old, new brick entry, very quiet, excellent price. Lynn, 303-254-6616.

Bunk-beds, dark wood, bedding & quilts, \$300; chest of drawers with mirror, \$100; matching desk with drawers & end table, \$100; car dolly, \$500; refrigerator, \$100; new Johnson Dobro, \$450; equipped aquarium, \$100; need roommate to share

Lafayette house (basement), 2 rooms plus utility plus bathroom, share kitchen & main floor, furnished or not, \$750/mo. Includes utilities. Kathy, 303-665.0141.

Captain's twin bed with two drawers below the bed, complete, excellent condition, \$350. Tom, 303-499-0894 after 6 p.m.

Gold gym, 4-station, 2-weight stack, good condition, must sell, \$200. Dave, 303-469-1240.

Copper Mountain lift tickets, 4-pack deal, 4 days skiing, transferable, normally \$80, asking \$50. Jason, 303-274-0505.

Nokia 5185I cell phone (Verizon), phone and battery in perfect condition, includes car and home charger, manual and box, \$40. Dave, 303-526-1983.

1966 model wooden Selmer Signet Special clarinet, appraised at \$500-600, good condition, \$450 firm. Daniel, 303-451-8973.

French Provincial-style living room set plus accessories, 50-plus years old, \$3,000 or best offer. Wayne, 303-421-4398.
Eleven-piece dining room set, good condition, 66-inch table, 14-inch leaf,

2-piece china buffet, sideboard, 6 chairs (Singer blonde), new \$4,000, asking \$1,200. Emma, 303-420-3909.

TRAILERS/CAMPERS/BOATS

1997 Dunlap utility trailer, 5-foot by 9-foot tilt bed, 3500-lb. axle, 15-in. tires, see e-mail for picture at greenes@colbi.net, \$575 or best offer. Mike, 970-535-4012.

VANPOOLS/CARPOOLS

Looking for vanpool/carpool in the Mississippi/Havana/Quebec/Leetsdale, Mississippi/South Parker Road area, will pay wages. Robert, 303-636-0020 or x4699.

Drivers/riders interested in carpooling from Cold Springs Park & Ride (Green Mountain area), flexible days and schedule. Karin, 303-988-4663 or x3560.

WANTED

Room to rent for male non-smoker, kitchen privileges nice but would not use much. Don, 303-421-7010 after 6 p.m.

X-country 3-pin ski boots. Steve, 303-467-0749.

Declassifieds

- Only Rocky Flats Site employees are eligible to place ads.
- Please use the form at right to submit your ad. Or send your ad via e-mail to Heidi Noguez, or via the Intranet (Home Page/News & Info/Communication Division/Declassifieds).
- Ads should be no more than 20 words.
- Check category in which the ad is to be included.
- Home phone numbers must be used in the ads, except for items in the Lost/Found and Vanpools/Carpools categories.
- Site extension must be included (in case information needs to be verified).
- Only one ad per issue (ads will not be re-run unless they are resubmitted).
- Ads for garage sales or personal businesses will not be run.
- Ads for real estate can be placed only by owners and will include the phrase "for sale by owner."
- No ads for guns/other weapons will be accepted.
- Mail or bring ads to T117A, Cube 74.
- Declassifieds are accepted on a first-come basis.
- Deadline is six working days before the desired publication date.
- Employees who submit fictitious ads will be subject to disciplinary action based on company standards of conduct.

Category (check one)

- Animals
- Automobiles/Motorcycles
- Lost/Found
- Miscellaneous
- Trailers/Campers/Boats
- Vanpools/Carpools
- Wanted

Text:

Name (first and last): _____

Home phone: _____ Site extension: _____