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## **Rocky Flats' team wins 'Secretary' Award**

**GOLDEN, Colo., May 21, 2002 – The prestigious Secretary's Award of Achievement was presented to the Rocky Flats Building 371 Residue Elimination Project team at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. on Tuesday, May 20. A second Rocky Flats team, the Building 771/774 Closure Project team, received an honorable mention for Glovebox Decontamination efforts in Buildings 771 and 776.**

**The Secretary's Award of Achievement is presented to a team that has demonstrated outstanding results in completing a project within cost and schedule constraints. "These cleanup teams provided innovative solutions to unique challenges," said Department of Energy Rocky Flats Manager Gene Schmitt. "Their efforts accelerated cleanup work and saved substantial taxpayer dollars."**

**The Residue Elimination Project team completed the repackaging of 106,000 kilograms of plutonium residues ahead of schedule and more than \$11 million under budget. The project team included current Rocky Flats Field Office employees Gregg Nishimoto and Greg Moore, former Rocky Flats Field Office employees Carl Sykes and Matt McCormick, and Kaiser-Hill employees Beth Conrad, Kenny Ferrera, Mike Swartz, Richard Getty, Mike Rivera, Donald Thorp, Doug Fisher and Donald Dustin. This team used innovative technologies as well as new approaches to overcome the challenges to accomplishing their goal. Repackaging of these materials greatly improved worker and public safety and reduced environmental risks.**

**The 771/774 Closure Project Team, nominated for ground-breaking Glovebox Decontamination success in Buildings 771 and 776, included RFFO employees Gary Schuetz and James Brothers, Kaiser-Hill employee Joel Zarett, and DOE Headquarters, Office of Environmental Management employee Jane Powell. Innovative techniques used to decontaminate gloveboxes and other contaminated equipment during decommissioning significantly improved safety, reduced costs and accelerated the Site Closure Project schedule.**

**Lessons learned and technologies employed at Rocky Flats are expected to benefit other DOE sites in their cleanup and decommissioning efforts.**

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