Los Alamos National Laboratory names cleanup subcontractors

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Small businesses will perform up to $100 million in environmental work

Los Alamos, New Mexico, August 14, 2009—Los Alamos National Laboratory today named three small businesses as subcontractors for up to $100 million in environmental cleanup work. The companies will carry out most of the demolition funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, as well as other work.“We have a commitment to small businesses and to Northern New Mexico,” said Everett Trollinger, project director for ARRA within the Department of Energy’s Los Alamos Site Office. “This award is very important to the regional economy.”The three companies, Los Alamos Technical Associates (LATA), Portage Inc., and ARSEC Environmental, LLC (ARSEC), will now use a streamlined process to bid for a number of individual

demolition and cleanup tasks. A fourth company is expected to be named shortly. LATA, headquartered in Los Alamos, and Portage, with a sizeable Los Alamos office and work force, are Northern New Mexico businesses. ARSEC is a partnership of American Remediation Services located in White Rock, NM, and Safety and Ecology Corporation of Oak Ridge, TN.Most tasks will be “fixed price” subcontracts, helping ensure timely work without cost overruns.“We’re making sure taxpayers will get good value for their money,” said Bruce Schappell, deputy associate director of the Laboratory’s Environmental Programs organization.The Laboratory estimates at least 100 jobs will be created or saved in this phase alone of Recovery Act work-- from laborers and heavy equipment operators to engineers and project managers. New employees will undergo specialized training for environmental cleanup, giving them skills that could be used at other sites once Los Alamos work is complete.Additionally, the Laboratory will host a networking event in Los Alamos for other businesses interested in providing goods or services.The Laboratory expects to request bids by the end of August for a separate $100 million “master task order agreement” for transport and off-site disposal of waste and demolition debris.More than 20 unused buildings and structures at Technical Area 21, east of downtown Los Alamos, are slated for demolition. Recovery Act funding will also go to cleaning up the Laboratory’s first waste disposal pits, known as Material Disposal Area B, that were in use from 1944 through 1948.A public meeting to discuss Recovery Act work is scheduled for August 18 in Los Alamos.

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