LANL selects local small business for post-Recovery Act cleanup contract

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Company will remove buried waste pipes from historic Cold War site

LOS ALAMOS, New Mexico, December 14, 2010—Los Alamos National Laboratory today announced it has selected a local small business, Los Alamos Technical Associates (LATA), to perform follow-on cleanup work through 2014 at the site of the world's first large-scale plutonium processing lab.

The approximately $8 million contract calls for removal of more than 5,000 linear feet of underground waste pipes, excavation of contaminated soil, and demolition of concrete slabs where buildings once stood.

“This work picks up where the Recovery Act leaves off,” said Michael Graham, LANL’s associate director for Environmental Programs. “The Recovery Act was a huge boost to our cleanup efforts, and we’re seeing that momentum continue.”

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act provided more than $60 million to demolish 24 buildings and structures at the Lab’s Technical Area 21. Demolition of the 24th building has begun, but cleanup is not complete until below-ground contamination is remediated.

“We’re moving from investigations—finding where the problems are —to remediation. This small business contract keeps the same focus,” said George Rael, Environmental Programs manager for the National Nuclear Security Administration’s Los Alamos Site Office.

Work performed under the LATA contract will support two major milestones—one in 2011 and another in 2014—in DOE’s cleanup agreement with the state of New Mexico.

LATA’s primary teaming partners on this project include The Lakeworth Group, LLC, a new Los Alamos small business; Environmental Dimensions, Inc. (EDi), Environmental Restoration Group, Inc. (ERG), Vector Resources, Inc. (VRI), and Recycled Materials Company, Inc. (RMCI).

Cleanup of legacy waste at Los Alamos is a partnership between NNSA, which oversees LANL operations, and DOE’s Office of Environmental Management, which funds the cleanup.

In the spring of 2011, the Lab expects to request bids from prequalified companies on up to $1 billion in additional cleanup work through 2015. All of this work will be set aside for small businesses.