2014 ITRC PROJECT PROPOSAL
Remediation Projects Only

[Facilitating Public Access to Data Base of Long-Term Stewardship Requirements and Effectiveness]


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Questions can be addressed to Anna Willett, ITRC Director, awillett@ecos.org, 202-266-4933. More information on ITRC is available at www.itrcweb.org.

Please use brief statements or bullet items to input the requested information

PROPOSAL DATE: 13 June 2013

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Proposals Topical Area

Long-term stewardship and land use controls

Proposal Summary

This project will enable members of the public and regulatory agencies ready access to Land Use Manager which is an automated system that tracks all long-term stewardship requirements in effect on the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Oak Ridge Reservation.

Long-term stewardship is the set of activities necessary to return contaminated land to safe and beneficial use. The activities include physical and legal controls to prevent inappropriate exposure to contamination left in place at a site. It is the longest phase of the Department of Energy’s Environmental Management Program and ensures the protection of human health and the environment for varied end uses. At DOE’s Oak Ridge Reservation an automated program has been developed and implemented that tracks the multitude of long-term stewardship activities.

The Oak Ridge Reservation is a large site that currently has over 50 actions requiring long-term stewardship activities. The Oak Ridge Reservation consists primarily of three plant sites, and long-term stewardship will enable these sites to be leased or transferred to private entities (East Tennessee Technology Park), modernized for an evolving national security mission (Y-12 National Security Complex), and revitalized to continue multi-disciplinary research (Oak Ridge National Laboratory).

The varied site end uses of the individual plant sites coupled with the multitude of controls required by leaving contamination in place present challenges. A single remedial action may include surveillance and maintenance activities, media monitoring, property record notices as well as physical controls such as fences and signs. Thus, the array of long-term stewardship activities is complex and intermingled (over 200 inspections each year at various frequencies are required currently) and requires an effective tracking program, termed the Land Use Manager.

The Land Use Manager is a web-based data management application for use by personnel responsible for implementing, maintaining, and verifying engineering and land use controls on the Oak Ridge Reservation. The program is a data entry and tracking tool, as well as a notification tool. The status and performance of engineering and land use controls are checked annually for evaluation in the required Remediation Effectiveness Report, and the automated Land Use Manager collects, maintains, tracks, notifies, monitors, and manages the information necessary to perform this evaluation.
Land Use Manager tracks site information including type of contamination, regulatory requirements, and land use controls; provides information on inspections, certification, and reporting; and provides reports. The Land Use Manager application was developed for the DOE Oak Ridge Office by URS | CH2M Oak Ridge LLC, Restoration Services Incorporated, and MIJARA Corporation to meet the specific needs of long-term stewardship tracking on the Oak Ridge Reservation.

Easy access to appropriate features of Land Use Manager by the public and government agencies is desirable so they can easily identify what land use controls are in effect at different locations and how effective they are being maintained. In order to enhance Land Use Manager to facilitate public access, the following tasks will be performed:

- Identify appropriate groups to represent the needs of the public and government agencies and form an advisory group
- Solicit input from the advisory group on desirable features to be enhanced in Land Use Manager, such as access, graphics, queries, and reports
- Enhance Land Use Manager to include these features
- Test the enhancements with the advisory group
- Prepare a report on Land Use Manager and its public accessibility
- Use Land Use Manager along with its public access as a model for other complex sites or as a tool for a large geographical area, such as the State of Tennessee or Environmental Protection Agency-Region 4

The general project schedule is below:

1. Form an advisory group – three months
2. Solicit input from the advisory group – three months
3. Enhance Land Use Manager – six months
4. Test the enhancements – three months
5. Prepare the report – three months

Completion of this project will provide a model for public access to long-stewardship requirements that can be used on complex sites or for large geographical areas.

**Proposed Personnel**

The Project Team will consist of staff from Restoration Services, Inc. and MIJARA Corporation.

The advisory group is expected to include representatives from DOE, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), the Environmental Protection Agency-Region IV (EPA), the City of Oak Ridge,
Anderson County, Roane County, and the Oak Ridge Reservation Site Specific Advisory Board (SSAB).

Summary of Deliverables

The deliverable for this project will be a report describing the attributes of Land Use Manager, those attributes desired by the public, and how public access is facilitated.

Targeted Users

The users of this project will be the following:

- **Community Reuse Organization of East Tennessee (CROET)** – CROET is responsible for the transfer and lease of DOE land, and easy access to the long-term stewardship requirements and restrictions assist them in deciding which parcels of land to market.

- **DOE-Reindustrialization** – This organization is the counter-part to CROET and is responsible for the gaining approval to transfer and lease DOE land.

- **SSAB** – The Long-Term Stewardship Committee of the SSAB is responsible for oversight of DOE’s long-term stewardship activities. They have been briefed on Land Use Manager and have expressed interest in easy access to it. Access to Land Use Manager will facilitate their role in DOE oversight and in educating the public on the long-term stewardship requirements on the DOE Oak Ridge Reservation.

- **EPA and TDEC** – EPA and TDEC oversee the cleanup of the DOE Oak Ridge Reservation and every five years EPA has to certify that the completed cleanup projects still are protective. The effectiveness of long-term stewardship is critical to these protectiveness statements.

- **Roane and Anderson Counties** – Restrictions on deeds are maintained in these county offices.

- **City of Oak Ridge** – The DOE Oak Ridge Reservation is within the city limits of Oak Ridge. When land is transferred, that land then is zoned. The long-term stewardship requirements play a role on the appropriate zoning of the land.

- **Prospective landowners** – Access to Land Use Manager will facilitate due diligence investigations.

- **Public citizens** – Easy access to the long-term stewardship requirements on the DOE ORR will aid members of the public in understanding the restrictions and why they are in place.