



UCOR
URS|CH2M
Oak Ridge LLC

Newsline

Vol. 3, No. 2

January 21, 2014

ORNL hot cells fogging reduces radiation risk

UCOR's ORNL Surveillance and Maintenance team has completed one of the final steps to ensuring the safety of the Building 3038 Alpha Handling Facility (AHF), which contains five inactive hot cells. All materials were removed from the hot cells years ago, but the internal surfaces are highly contaminated.

To reduce the hazards, the team applied a fixative to the internal surfaces to encapsulate the radioactive contamination. Workers used a fogging process in which the fixative material was blown into the interconnected hot cells to plate the interior surfaces.

Two coats of fixative were applied to the cells. After drying for 10 days, workers took smear samples to determine the effectiveness of the fogging process. A long pole with a pad attached to the end was inserted into the hot cells to collect the smears.

The results showed great success. Radiation levels that once measured more than 1 million dpm/cm² were reduced to as low as 25 dpm/cm².

The hot cells fogging activity was the last of several tasks performed using American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding. The fogging agent was also applied to the barricade area, a section of the attic, and floor areas in the building. In addition, electrical modifications were performed, legacy waste was shipped for disposal, combustible materials were removed, a new roof was installed, and a linear heat detection system was installed to eliminate the need for the fire protection system. These tasks will result in minimal long term surveillance and maintenance costs for the building.



A worker uses a pole with a smear pad attached to the end to collect samples.

Today is the deadline for Derivative Classifier training sign up

ETTP Limited Derivative Classifier Training and Certification Program will be conducted at ETTP for ETTP Limited Derivative Classifier nominees from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday, Jan. 28-29. To enroll in the training, complete Form-2269 and fax completed nomination forms to 576-899 by the end of the day today. Note that completion of web-based Module 6033 CMPC training is a prerequisite (Contact Jon West at 241-0291 for details).

To obtain information regarding the training session, contact Teresa Fancher, teresa.fancher@ettp.doe.gov, 241-5318, or Carolee Meredith, carolee.meredith@ettp.doe.gov, 574-8327.

Mobile mammography to be at ETTP Jan. 23

UT Medical Center's Mobile Mammography will provide screenings at ETTP from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. this Thursday, Jan. 23. You must be at least 40 years old with no current breast problems, no implants, and no personal

history of breast cancer. You must also have not had a mammogram within the past year. To schedule an appointment, call 305-9753. Insurance will be filed for each participant.

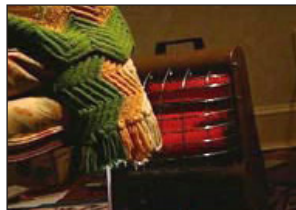
Tips for staying safe when temperatures dip

Bundle up: A high wind can quickly lower your body temperature. Check the weather forecast for windy and cold days. On those days, try to stay inside or in a warm place. If you have to go out, wear loose layers of clothing. The air between the layers helps to keep you warm.



Stay warm inside your home: for older individuals, thermostats should be set at 68 degrees or higher. Older individuals, especially those with health problems, may have special problems keeping warm.

Use caution with space heaters: When using a space heater, be sure to keep anything flammable at least three feet away, such as clothing, bedding, paper, or rugs. Also, be sure to turn off and unplug space heaters before leaving the room or going to bed.



Prevent pipe freeze-ups: Keep cabinet doors open near pipes to allow warm air to circulate around them. If necessary, let faucets drip to prevent them from freezing when temperatures drop in the teens or lower.



Keep your car well maintained: Check your vehicle's tire pressure, as it can drop with falling temperatures. Watch the battery. The cold weather can drain the battery and make it more difficult for the vehicle to start. Keep emergency supplies in your vehicle, including blankets, jumper cables, windshield wiper fluid, water, snacks and a flashlight with extra batteries.



Wellness Corner *ETTP Health Services*

Tennessee among states with high flu rate

Tennessee is currently experiencing high levels of the flu. H1N1 is the predominant flu in Tennessee, and the cases of serious disease complications, some resulting in death, have occurred mostly in children, young adults, and pregnant women. However, influenza can cause life threatening illness in a person of any age. H3N2 is circulating as well but is not the predominant strain and is mostly affecting the older population. Vaccination is the single most important thing you can do to prevent the flu. Every year in an average flu season, about 36,000 people die from complications of the flu. Antiviral treatment is available from your medical provider for those at high risk of complications of the flu if a family member comes down with it.

You may still be vaccinated against the flu this season. Health Services still has a few doses available. Go to the CDC site for more information about the flu and high risk groups: www.cdc.gov/flu/.

