



Update...

A Word from the Chair...

EFCOG Chair, Michael Lempke
Huntington Ingalls Industries

I am proud of the role EFCOG has continued to play in supporting events and interactions that bring together knowledgeable and experienced personnel to partner with the Department of Energy on sharing lessons learned and best practices for its vital environmental cleanup, national security and scientific innovation missions.

This year marked the eighth National Cleanup Workshop, which EFCOG has supported with the Energy Communities Alliance since its inception. At this year's meeting, we had the opportunity to hear from EM Senior Advisor Ike White and his leadership team on EM's recent progress, as well as the remaining challenges to "clear the decks" to position for continued success. I congratulate all of you who played in a role in the various accomplishments discussed at the workshop, including the demolition of Building X-326 at Portsmouth, the implementation of end-state contracting at the Idaho Cleanup Project, the regulatory discussions over the new Oak Ridge on-site disposal facility and the start of demolition of the Main Plant at the West Valley Demonstration Project.

EFCOG sponsored and helped organize the relaunched House Cleanup Caucus, led by Chair Rep. Chuck Fleischmann (R-TN) and Co-Chair Rep. Susie Lee (D-NV). The Caucus, which had been suspended during the COVID-19 pandemic, provides an excellent forum to educate members of Congress and their staff on EM successes and issues, as well as how EM can aid other DOE missions. I know EFCOG is appreciative of the leadership of Reps. Fleischmann and Lee, and I look forward to continued Caucus events in the new year. EFCOG also helped support an EM workforce summit to provide an opportunity to discuss and tackle one of EM's largest strategic priorities and one many of EFCOG's member companies are well-versed in.

Along with helping to sponsor these events, EFCOG recently launched a new working group focused on improving stakeholder communications. As Ike White outlined in his remarks to this year's Cleanup Workshop, one of EM's top priorities is tied to assuring effective regulatory and stakeholder engagement, which is directly linked to communications.

Events such as these, and the continued work of EFCOG's working groups, provide a variety of forums for us to celebrate what we collectively have accomplished across the DOE complex, discuss how best to tackle remaining challenges and share lessons learned. Thanks to all of you who participated in these recent events and/or serve on the EFCOG working groups!

FEATURED WORKING GROUP REPORT

Training Working Group (TWG)

Chair – Shayne Eyre, Idaho National Laboratory

Vice Chair – Amy Loevy, Brookhaven National Laboratory

Secretary – Melissa Walker, Los Alamos National Laboratory

DOE Liaison – Gabe Pugh

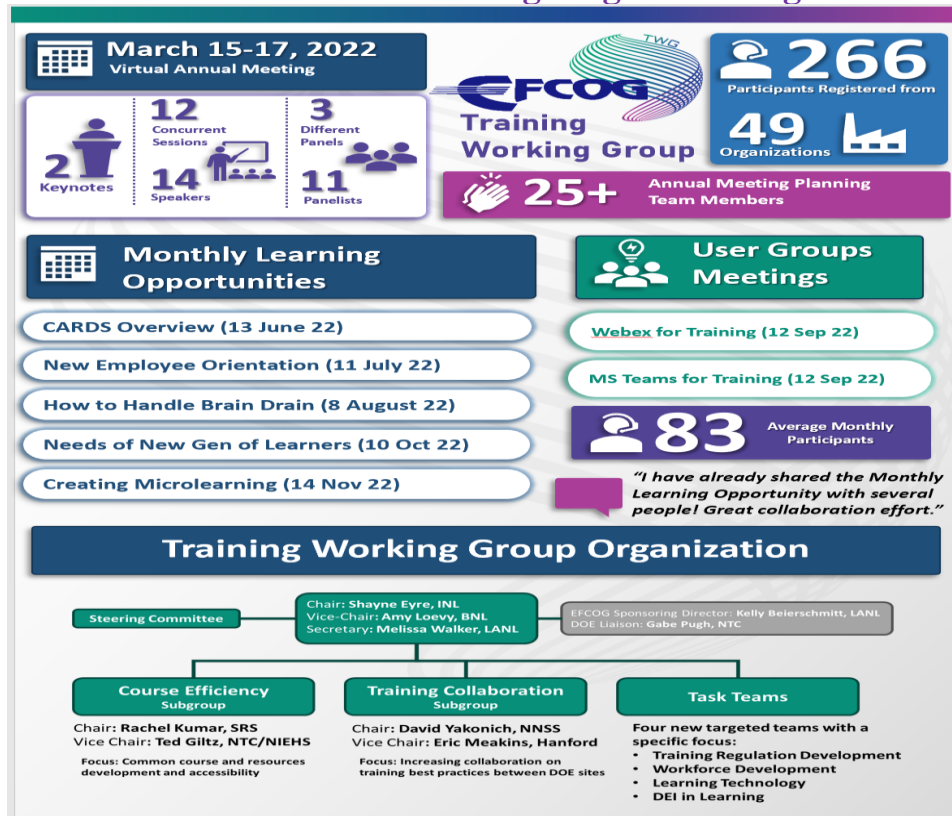
EFCOG Board of Directors Sponsors – Kelly Beierschmitt, Los Alamos National Laboratory

EFCOG Training Working Group Reaches New Milestones in 2022

Through innovation and offering more opportunities for learning and networking across the complex, the EFCOG TWG continues to see a steady increase of its membership. The organization is now 266 members strong representing 49 different organizations.

This is due, in large part, to the committed TWG steering committee’s drive to find innovative solutions by connecting its members and facing challenges together. Along with continued commitment to Training Collaboration and Course Efficiency subgroups, the steering committee added new task teams to address other emerging issues such as learning technology; diversity, equity and inclusion in learning; and workforce development. Monthly learning opportunities offer members relevant topics where they can share best practices and be heard. Take a peek below at some of the data from 2022 and the organizational structure of the group.

2022 At-a-Glance: Tackling tough issues together.



TWG Plans 2023 In-Person Annual Meeting Can you guess the location?

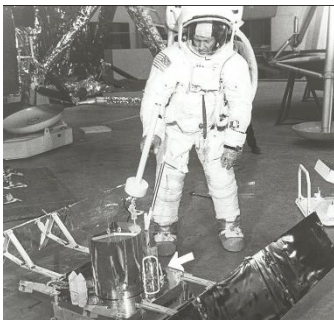
2023 brings hope of gathering in person for the next Training Working Group (TWG) Annual Meeting. It will be a great time to catch up with colleagues and embrace new members. With COVID-19 precautions the TWG has held its past annual meetings virtually. This upcoming year, TWG plans to meet at one of the DOE contractor sites.

Can you guess the location based on the clues below?

Clue 1: In 1950, President Harry S. Truman authorizes construction of the new site. Six towns were moved to make way for the new construction to begin.

Clue 2: Most of the roads on site are identified by an alphanumeric designation, such as Road 2 or Road C. Unnumbered secondary roads are named for nearby places, like Hog Barn Road.

Clue 3: Recently, this site stabilized and shipped the last of its neptunium inventory to provide a source of power to satisfy the nation's space program needs for the next 20-30 years. It will be loaded into reactors to produce plutonium 238 for NASA's deep space probes.



Clue 4: The site is surrounded by a working pine plantation, planted with long leaf, loblolly and slash pines. The U.S. Forest Service was asked to plant trees on the thousands of acres that farmers had used for generations to plant their crops. When the planting process began in 1953, it was the largest mechanized planting program in the United States, with 400,000 trees planted per day during the first two years. The 100 millionth pine seedling was planted in 1968 and roughly one million seedlings have been planted every year since.

Last Clue:

In June 2022, this site announced the establishment of the Regulatory Center of Excellence (RCE), a capability designed to bring together the site's enhanced core competencies and Battelle partners' world-class capabilities to reduce environmental risk and liability across the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Environmental Management (DOE-EM) complex.

The Regulatory Center of Excellence was created to help DOE sites address stakeholder and regulatory challenges frequently associated with DOE missions and DOE-EM's goals to accelerate cleanup and reduce environmental risk and liability.

Answer: Savannah River

For more fun facts and cool pics, click on the links below:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/51009184@N06/24967647367/in/album-72157631519552151/>

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/51009184@N06/5228276930/in/album-72157631519358714/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

<i>EFCOG Worker Safety & Health Subgroup Meeting</i>	October 24-27, 2022
<i>EFCOG Occupational Medicine Task Team Meeting</i>	October 26-28, 2022
<i>EFCOG Cybersecurity Working Group Annual Meeting</i>	October 31-November 1, 2022
<i>EFCOG Regulatory & Enforcement Technical Subgroup Meeting</i>	November 8-9, 2022
<i>EFCOG QA/ISM Fall 2022 Meeting</i>	November 14-17, 2022
<i>EFCOG Safeguards & Security Working Group Annual Meeting</i>	May 2-4, 2023
<i>EFCOG Annual Meeting</i>	June 21-22, 2023
<i>Additional EFCOG Working Group, Subgroup & Task Team meetings can be found on the EFCOG home page: www.efcog.org</i>	