

## OFF-SITE SOURCE RECOVERY (OSR) PROJECT TO RECEIVE PU-239/BE SOURCES FROM AROUND THE U.S.

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS / NEWS

On Tuesday, November 25, 2003, the Off-Site Source Recovery (OSR) Project received two drums containing Plutonium-239/Beryllium sources from the University of California for placement in storage at Los Alamos National Laboratory's (LANL) TA-18. Creation and implementation of this storage capacity at TA-18 was a crucial milestone for LANL and the OSR Project to meet Congressional direction to recover excess and unwanted Pu-239 sources from over 150 universities and research institutions from around the U.S.



Sealed source storage at TA-18 was the first of a two-part strategy, that combined efforts of the OSR Project staff (RRES-CH) and other LANL organizations, including N-2 and DX-5, to establish the required secure storage at both the Nevada Test Site (NTS) and LANL to support secure management of the nation's excess Pu-239 sources packaged for ultimate disposal at the WIPP facility in Carlsbad, NM.

Implementation of these capabilities was the result of the dedicated and aggressive efforts of RRES-CH, N-2 and DX-5 at NTS. With both facilities in operation, rapid removal of the excess Pu-239 sources from the public sector can be accomplished. Once recovered to the institutional controls and security of storage at DOE/NNSA facilities, the risk to public health and safety and the Nuclear Radiological Threat Reduction Task Force concerns associated with a potential terrorist threat from these sources are greatly reduced.

The OSR Project staff wishes to acknowledge the efforts of all involved in creating this storage capability, including the aforementioned staff from N Division and DX-5 staff at NTS, the support from S Division, and the support of our regulators at LASO and the NNSA Service Center in Albuquerque.