This is the monthly newsletter of the LANL Engineering Standards Program. The Standards are mandatory documents that define the minimum design criteria, fabrication, and installation practices for the alteration, repair, and construction of LANL facilities and the programmatic and process equipment within them. [PD342]

Topics this month:

- **IBC Access**
- **Standards Intro Class May 12**
- **Design-Build No More?**
- **LANL Standards Issued in April**
- **DOE Technical Standards Actions**

The Standards Homepage: http://engstandards.lanl.gov/

IBC ACCESS

As noted in the March Update ("2009 I-Codes – Just Say No"), the 2009 International Building Code has been issued but is not being used at LANL. To access the LANL-adopted 2006 I-Codes through the Library's IHS national standards subscription, be sure to uncheck the default "Most Recent Revision" filter criterion in the left frame so the 2006 codes are also presented.

STANDARDS INTRO CLASS MAY 12

Introduction to LANL Engineering Standards Course 24140 will be next taught on May 12. This four-hour course provides familiarity with national and LANL engineering standards for anyone performing, reviewing, or managing design activities. Taught by Tobin Oruch, Standards Manager, on Tues, May 12, from 8am - noon at White Rock Rm 118. Registration should open Monday or Tues (if not, contact Victor Rutherford). Reserve online here or call 667-0059 or e-mail Central Training at esh-registration@lanl.gov. After signing up, if unable to attend, please cancel with Central Training.

DESIGN-BUILD NO MORE?

Design-build is a project delivery (contracting) approach whereby the design agency and constructor team up to jointly design and build a structure under a single contract. This can reduce overall project schedule and cost in some situations.

LANL has used this method for new buildings almost exclusively for several years with mixed success. The effect on the Engineering Standards was that, when there were design or quality problems resulting from the fact that the AE in design-build is beholden to the fixed-price constructor, not LANL, the design reviewers spent a lot more time wrangling with AE issues, and the Standards were revised to be more prescriptive and close poor design opportunities. This was never an issue in traditional design-bid-build where the AE worked for LANL.

Now, many in the know say design-build is unlikely to be used at LANL in the future, so it's back to traditional design-bid-build and many in Engineering and the FODs will be glad of that. In addition, LANL is slowly increasing efforts to self-perform or direct-hire; here, LANL manages the craft or sub-tier subcontractors themselves. This will also have challenges. For the Standards Program, the main issue is that the LANL Master Specs are written not so much for ourselves but for a third party constructor (and all the submittals and oversight that entails). This spec approach can't be completely changed to in-house-only, nor should it be, because there will likely always be some mix of direct-hire and fully subcontracted projects – and sometimes the decision on approach can change after the project specs are complete. How to best handle this issue, perhaps with specs rewritten to indicate what's N/A for self-perform, will get worked out over time.

LANL STANDARDS ISSUED IN APRIL

None.

DOE TECHNICAL STANDARDS ACTIONS
New or Revised DOE Tech Stds this past month: None.

LAST MONTH'S UPDATE TOPICS
Miss an issue? The archive is at "Monthly Update" on the Standards homepage. Last month's Update topics were:
- **Appendix I for Construction Subcontracts**
- **Calibration and Standards**
- **LANL Standards Issued in April**
- **DOE Technical Standards Actions**

To request a change to this newsletter's distribution, please contact me.

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