



For Immediate Release
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Moab Project Management Receives DOE Secretary's Achievement Award

(Grand Junction, CO) — This week, as part of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Secretary's Honor Awards program in honoring exceptional service by its employees, the Federal Project Director and the two heads of the contractors for the Moab Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action (UMTRA) Project were presented with the Secretary's Achievement Award.

Secretary of Energy Steven Chu presented Donald Metzler, Moab Federal Project Director; Craig Niemeyer, Deputy Project Manager for EnergySolutions; and Joe Ritchey, Senior Program Manager for S&K Aerospace with this prestigious award at a ceremony on October 27 at DOE Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

"The employees recognized today have gone above and beyond the call of duty, demonstrating an exceptional commitment to public service," said Secretary Chu. "Their dedication, knowledge, and skills have served to strengthen our nation's economic and energy security and the work of the Energy Department."

There are three categories of Honor Awards, which represent the highest internal nonmonetary recognition given to DOE employees and contractors for providing exceptional service to DOE and the American people. The Secretary's Achievement Award is given to groups or teams for their outstanding accomplishments and contributions. The Moab Project was one of nine teams that received the award this year, which is the third time the Secretary of Energy has given the awards.

Among other achievements, these Moab Project recipients have demonstrated leadership and project management skills that resulted in more than 4.5 million tons of uranium mill tailings being safely excavated from the Moab site in Utah, transported by rail, and placed in an engineered disposal cell 30 miles away. The disposal of 4.5 million tons of tailings represents 28 percent of the total estimated 16-million-ton mill tailings pile.

"Thanks to our dedicated, well-trained, and hard-working federal and contractor employees, we are ahead of schedule and our safety record is exemplary," said Metzler. "We are proud to accept these awards on behalf of the entire workforce."

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