



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

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HANFORD FIREFIGHTER RECEIVES TOP NATIONAL AWARD FROM ENERGY SECRETARY

WASHINGTON -- The Secretary of Energy Samuel Bodman honored Hanford firefighter Lonnie Click today with one of the highest awards given to federal or contractor employees – the Excellence Honor Award – during a ceremony in the nation’s capital.

Click, the Assistant Chief of Operations for the Hanford Fire Department, was nominated by Dave Brockman, manager of the Department of Energy’s Richland Operations Office.

“Lonnie’s commitment to excellence in leading natural disaster response teams makes him a tremendous asset to the site, community, and the nation. This award is well deserved,” Brockman said.

The award represents the highest non-monetary recognition that DOE employees and contractors can receive for providing exceptional service to the Department and the American public.

Click was selected from a number of outstanding nominees from across the DOE complex. In his nomination, Brockman noted that Click is a 24-year veteran of the Hanford Fire Department and as Assistant Chief manages all operational activities for the 144-member emergency response organization. Click has served at the Commander, Chief, and Director level during major fires across the country over the past several years. He has been innovative in introducing new fire containment techniques to help fight fires on the Hanford Site, including the 2007 Wautoma Fire that burned more than 64,000 acres.

The Secretary's Awards Program was created in 2007 to continue the Department's long history of recognizing employees whose performance exceeds the call of duty. Under this program, the Secretary personally recognizes federal and contractor employees for

exemplary achievements with Secretarial Honor Awards, Appreciation Awards, and Departure Awards.

The Honor Awards, comprised of the James R. Schlesinger Award, the Excellence Award, and the Achievement Award represent the highest level of internal non-monetary recognition. The Schlesinger and Excellence Awards are given to individuals; and the Achievement Award is presented to groups/teams of employees.

Click had three family members present at the ceremony in Washington, D.C.

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