



# EM Recovery NEWS FLASH

July 27, 2011

## Workers at Hanford Site Achieve Recovery Act Legacy Cleanup Goals Ahead of Schedule

**RICHLAND, Wash.** – The Hanford Site recently surpassed American Recovery and Reinvestment Act goals to accelerate the cleanup of legacy waste and fuels.

Workers recently achieved three waste management goals ahead of a Sept. 30, 2011 target. The three goals focus on reducing Hanford’s onsite waste inventory as part of the work funded by \$1.6 billion the Richland Operations Office received from the Recovery Act.

### The three goals are:

- Retrieve 50 cubic meters of Remote-Handled (RH) Transuranic (TRU) waste. Workers have retrieved 84 cubic meters of the waste to date. Compared to contact-handled TRU waste, RH TRU waste requires additional radiation dose controls (e.g., time, distance, shielding) for worker protection. TRU waste consists of materials contaminated with radioactive elements that have atomic numbers greater than uranium, including tools, rags, protective clothing, sludge and soil.
- Repackage 850 cubic meters of TRU waste for certification for shipment to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) for safe, permanent disposal. More than 1,000 cubic meters of TRU waste has been repackaged through mid-July 2011. DOE contractor CH2M HILL Plateau Remediation Company has worked with other contractors to complete 199 shipments of TRU waste to WIPP since March 2010.
- Ship 1,800 cubic meters of mixed low-level and low-level waste for treatment, storage, or disposal. More than 1,810 cubic meters of this waste has been shipped to date.

“ I am proud to say that all of this work was completed safely and compliantly and is a testament to the talent and dedication of the Waste & Fuels Project team. ”

*Ty Blackford, Waste and Fuels Project Vice President at DOE contractor CH2M HILL Plateau Remediation Company*

“ Thanks to Recovery Act funding, we were able to continue cleanup of this hazardous and radioactive waste. By taking care of this waste now, we can save on future storage and surveillance costs, and we completed the work at today’s prices instead of paying higher costs for cleanup later. ”

*J.D. Dowell, Assistant Manager for the Central Plateau, DOE Richland Operations Office*



Top photo: Workers secure a shipment of mixed low-level waste at the Hanford Site.

Middle photo: Workers load mixed low-level waste into a shipping container.

Bottom photo: Workers surpassed three goals in the expedited cleanup of legacy waste and fuels at the Hanford Site.

For More Information on EM Recovery Act Work, Visit Us on the Web:

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