

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# DOE NEWS

---

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Colleen C. French, 509-373-5985  
DOE Richland Operations Office

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Monday, June 25, 2007

**DOE ISSUES FINAL RFP FOR HANFORD'S CENTRAL PLATEAU CLEANUP**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)'s Richland Operations Office (RL) today released the final Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Plateau Remediation Contract (PRC) to continue cleanup of the central portion of the Hanford Site. Proposals are due on September 21, 2007 and the contract term consists of an initial five-year base period, and could be extended for an additional five year period. The contract will be worth an estimated \$6.3 billion. The final RFP contains specific requirements that mandate at least 17% of the contract work must be performed by small businesses.

The RFP includes a performance-based approach to continue cleanup of Hanford's Central Plateau. Work scope includes treating and disposing of low-level, mixed low-level, and transuranic waste; managing the groundwater/vadose zone project; cleaning up some facilities and waste sites and keeping others in minimum-safe condition; conducting near-term shutdown activities and long term surveillance and maintenance on the Fast Flux Test Facility; cleaning out and closing the Plutonium Finishing Plant; treating radioactive sludge and completing cleanup of the K East and K West Reactor areas; and developing documents for regulatory and other decisions covering groundwater, soil, and facilities.

Incumbent employees will continue to participate in the Hanford Site Pension Plan (HSPP). This "if you're in, you're in" approach means that incumbent employees will remain in the HSPP if they move into the PRC.

After releasing the Draft RFP for the PRC in November 2006, DOE held a public comment period and exchanges with potential offerors. Resulting changes to the Final RFP scope include:

- Adding the removal of water from the K East reactor basin, demolition of the K East and K West basins and superstructures, placing the K East and K West Reactors in an interim safe storage configuration (cocooning), and remediating and closing the remainder of the 100K Area;

- Having the new contractor continue retrieval of transuranic waste and provide support to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant's Central Characterization Project, which will characterize and certify the contact-handled waste;
- Removing the long-term shutdown activities at the Fast Flux Test Facility (FFTF). The scope now assumes completion of short term shutdown activities for long-term surveillance and maintenance (leading to closure in 2030).

Other changes to the RFP include adding a "Community Commitment" Clause requiring the successful contractor to conduct its work in accordance with DOE's policy to engage regional stakeholders in issues and concerns of mutual interest and to recognize that giving back to the community is a worthwhile business practice; clarifying mentor-protégé agreement requirements to ensure meaningful small business participation; clarifying the environmental and regulatory roles, responsibilities and interfaces between Hanford Site contracts; and outlining a process to reach into a contractor's parent organization to tap into diverse experience.

Release of the final RFP continues the Department's cleanup momentum at Richland, building on such accomplishments this year as completing the removal of radioactive sludge from the K East Reactor basin, deploying new technologies to clean up groundwater, completing cleanup of three high-priority burial grounds in the River Corridor, and decontaminating and demolishing highly contaminated buildings at the Plutonium Finishing Plant.

The Final RFP is available on the DOE E-Center Industry Interactive Procurement System website: [www.pr.doe.gov](http://www.pr.doe.gov). The website will be the sole distribution medium for the solicitation and related information.

###

RL-07-0016