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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **DOE Requests Proposals for Cleanup of Hanford's Columbia River Corridor**

**WASHINGTON, DC --** The Department of Energy (DOE) has released its final "Request for Proposals" (RFP) for cleanup and closure of Hanford's 210-square-mile Columbia River Corridor. The work spans the 100 Area, where nine plutonium production reactors produced material for nuclear weapons; the 300 Area, where uranium fuel was fabricated and laboratory facilities reside; 400 Area facilities (except the Fast Flux Test Facility); and a phased cleanup of the complex and highly-contaminated 618-10 and 618-11 burial grounds.

"This contract work will ensure that we meet the environmental and regulatory commitments while safely cleaning up the Hanford site," said Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham. "We are committed to progress and we expect the new contractor to meet our goals and targets for cleanup."

DOE published a draft solicitation in December 2003 and invited industry comment. After consideration of those comments and following industry information exchanges, the Final RFP includes substantive revisions, including:

- Strengthening enforceable contractual requirements for small business participation, including:
  - Requiring 60 percent of the work to be subcontracted out – with 50 percent (of the subcontracted work) going to small businesses, resulting in a minimum of three of every ten contract dollars to flow to small business; and
  - Eliminating subcontractor fee sharing restrictions for small businesses.
- Revising its expectation for how the contractor will provide a fair and equitable benefits program, by requiring that:
  - Incumbent contractor employees (Bechtel Hanford Inc., Fluor Hanford Inc., and their subcontractors participating in the Hanford Site Pension Plan [HSPP]), will maintain their participation in the HSPP and the Hanford Employee Welfare Trust for other benefits; and

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- The contractor provide for non-incumbent employee participation in a market-based, industry-competitive program for pension and other benefits.
- Moving from 2007 to 2009 the schedule for the start of demolition of major facilities in the 300 Area still in use by DOE's Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, and requiring a separate DOE decision and authorization for the contractor to proceed with that work;
- Extending the proposal preparation period from 45 to 60 days.

DOE has cancelled the prior RFP, issued March 7, 2002, given the significant changes to the scope and requirements and the passage of time since it was released.

The new solicitation (number DE-RP06-04RL14655) is posted in the Richland Operations Office section of the DOE E-Center Industry Interactive Procurement System at: [www.pr.doe.gov](http://www.pr.doe.gov).

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