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# DOE NEWS

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
August 2, 2004

## **Lightening Starts Fire at Hanford**

The Hanford Fire Department and a mutual aid strike team from Benton County are fighting a grass fire on the Hanford Site that began about 4:30 this afternoon following a series of lightening strikes.

The size of the fire is estimated at between 200-250 acres and is considered controlled, but not yet contained. Crews expect to have the fire fully contained in the next hour.

The fire is burning in an area known as the Old Hanford Townsite, which houses some of the last remaining buildings from the area's original communities prior to government occupation of the land. Neither of the historic structures there are currently threatened; cultural resources staff are on the scene and advising crews as needed. No plutonium production or waste storage facilities are present in that area of the Hanford Site.

Although access control points have been established, no protective actions are being recommended for Hanford Site workers or the general public.

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**RL-04-0029**