

CH2M HILL PLATEAU REMEDIATION COMPANY AWARDS \$10.8 MILLION SUBCONTRACT TO LOCAL SMALL BUSINESS

Facility Supports Moving Highly Radioactive Waste Away from the Columbia River

RICHLAND, WASH. – May 17, 2012 – [U.S. Department of Energy](#) (DOE) contractor [CH2M HILL Plateau Remediation Company](#) (CH2M HILL) has awarded a subcontract worth nearly \$11 million to [Federal Engineers and Constructors](#) (FE&C), a small business headquartered in Richland, Wash.

FE&C will modify an existing facility at the Hanford Site in southeast Washington State that is critical to moving highly radioactive waste, called sludge, out of the K West reactor storage basin. Sludge is a combination of dirt, sand, debris and spent nuclear fuel corrosion products that formed during years of storing spent reactor fuel underwater in the basin. The reactor basin is located about 400 yards from the Columbia River.

CH2M HILL is responsible for retrieving and treating the highly radioactive material. Removing the sludge from the K West Basin is a major step toward demolishing the basin and achieving DOE's goal of completing cleanup along the Columbia River in the next few years.

“Making these modifications will help us support DOE's commitment to move this very hazardous material to a facility in the center of the site, away from the River,” said Ty Blackford, CH2M HILL vice president with responsibility for the Sludge Treatment Project. “It's a top priority for Hanford cleanup.”

FE&C will help CH2M HILL prepare to move the sludge by modifying a facility called the K West Annex. The Annex is a support building attached to the K West reactor basin where the sludge is stored in underwater containers. The existing annex is a framed steel structure on a concrete foundation with metal siding.

FE&C will modify the annex to house equipment for retrieving the sludge from containers in the K West Basin and transferring the sludge into storage containers for shipment to Hanford's Central Plateau, located in the center of the Site. The sludge containers will be transported to Hanford's T Plant and stored temporarily until a treatment method is developed and a disposal method is determined.

Once the sludge is transported to T Plant, the modified annex will be demolished along with other buildings around the K West Reactor along the River that are no longer of service. To date, CH2M HILL has removed 57 support structures near the K West and K East Reactors.

The annex modification project is expected to take approximately one year. FE&C is a small, locally owned business specializing in nuclear and industrial construction; deactivation, decontamination, decommissioning and demolition; hazardous and nuclear environmental remediation; and engineering and technical services.

The contract award is consistent with CH2M HILL's program goal to award at least 49.3 percent of its work to small businesses. Since contract inception, CH2M HILL has awarded 50 percent (\$955 million) of procurement volume to small businesses, with 70 percent awarded to companies in Benton and Franklin counties.

Headquartered near Denver, Colorado, USA, employee-owned CH2M HILL is a global leader in consulting, design, design-build, operations, and program management for government, civil, industrial and energy clients. The firm's work is concentrated in the areas of water, transportation, environmental, energy, facilities and resources. With US\$6.4 billion in revenue and 30,000 employees, CH2M HILL is an industry-leading program management, construction management and design firm, as ranked by Engineering News-Record and named a leader in sustainable engineering by Verdantix. The firm has been named a FORTUNE 100 Best Companies to Work for five times. Visit us at www.ch2mhill.com, www.ch2mhillblogs.com/water, twitter.com/ch2mhill and facebook.com/ch2mhill.

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