

ON THE PLATEAU



July 2011

Volume 4, Issue 6

WASTE & FUELS ACHIEVES LEGACY CLEANUP GOALS

CHPRC's Waste & Fuels Project (W&FMP) team continues to achieve Recovery Act goals for accelerating the cleanup of legacy waste and fuels.

Three of the five waste management Key Performance Parameter (KPP) goals planned for completion by the end of fiscal year 2011 have now been surpassed:

- Retrieve 50 m³ of remote-handled (RH) transuranic (TRU) waste.
 - In comparison to contact-handled (CH) TRU, RH-TRU waste requires additional radiation dose controls (e.g., time, distance, shielding) for worker protection.
 - 84 m³ of RH-TRU waste has been retrieved to date.
- Repackage 850 m³ of TRU waste for certification for offsite shipment to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) for disposal.
 - CHPRC in cooperation with other contractors has also completed 199 TRUPACT-II shipments to WIPP since shipments resumed with Recovery Act funds in March 2010.
 - 1,007 m³ TRU waste has been repacked to date.
- Ship 1,800 m³ of mixed low-level and low-level waste (MLLW/LLW) for treatment, storage or disposal.
 - MLLW/LLW is treated and disposed, this work is reducing Hanford's onsite waste inventory.
 - *1,817 m³ MLLW/LLW 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 W&FMP team."

Ty Blackford CHPRC Vice President of W&FMP



Managing Hanford's legacy waste and fuels

Recovery Act progress to date (as of July 15, 2011)

- Shipped 1,817 m³ of MLLW/LLW for treatment, storage or disposal
- Retrieved 1,655 m³ of suspect TRU waste
- Retrieved 84 m³ of RH -TRU waste
- Repackaged 1,007 m³ of WIPP-certifiable TRU waste
- Dispositioned 1,875 m³ of CH-TRU waste.

** Pending DOE certification*

In this Issue

100 HX Pump and Treat Ready to Roll

With structures safely built and equipment installed, all that stands between the 100 HX Pump and Treat facility nearly ready to begin operations. Once Acceptance Testing Procedures (ATP) are completed this summer, the facility will begin treating groundwater on site, boosting treatment up to 800 gallons of groundwater per minute.

Combined with its companion 100 DX Pump and Treat facility that went online in January, along with existing pump and treat facilities, groundwater treatment capacity across the Hanford Site has more than doubled since 2009. And when the 200 West Groundwater Treatment Facility is completed later this year, more than 150 million gallons per month of groundwater will be able to be treated and improved to drinking and aquatic standards.

Construction of the 100 HX plant began less than a year ago.

“We learned a lot from constructing the 100 DX plant,” said Marie Bachand, CHPRC Project Manager. “While the HX plant was baseline funded, the boost we received in Recovery Act Funds for the DX plant delivered an investment return by helping us expedite and safely build 100 HX through lessons learned on the first project.”

100 HX is not the only project at the ATP stage. Transfer stations at the 200 West Groundwater Treatment Facility are also going through ATP performance tests. As of June 30, the 200 West Pump and Treat Project stands at more than 82 percent complete, on track for completion by year’s end.

Once the 100 HX plant joins 100 DX in operation, DOE is closer to meeting its commitment to contain chromium contamination and prevent it from reaching the Columbia River by 2012.

By 2015, pump and treat facilities across the Hanford Site are expected to treat up to 2.4 billion gallons of groundwater annually.



S&GRP Achieves Drilling Record

The Soil and Groundwater Remediation Project (S&GRP) has drilled a record number wells on the Hanford Site. Many of the wells drilled support the HX and 200W Pump and Treats. The wells will treat groundwater by pumping the water from the ground, removing contaminants, and returning clean water to the aquifer. Other wells will support efforts to detect and monitor the contaminated groundwater.

“Currently CH2M HILL is treating more contaminated groundwater on the Hanford Site than ever before said CHPRC Vice President and S&GRP Manager, Dyan Foss. “These new wells will drive those record breaking numbers even higher.”

DOE set a goal to Drill 265 wells by October and the soil and groundwater team managed to complete that goal four months a ahead of schedule and under budget. The additional remaining funds were used to drill almost 40 wells.



A Safety Success Story at 100K



At 100K, the combined workforces of the D&D and S&GRP projects may have bats, deer, and a dozen species of birds to look out for, but they're looking out for safety too. The project teams worked April, May and June without a recordable injury. For D&D, the quarter marks a big achievement in safety improvement.

"We've really been stressing the fundamentals of staying safe on the job – 'plan the work and work the plan' – in our communications, and in some cases we've made use of corrective actions like Enhanced Management Oversight," said CHPRC VP and D&D Project Manager Kurt Kehler. "Our workers have really responded. I'm proud of them."

Working by the River, Balancing 100K's Past and Future

The whole idea behind the ongoing demolition and soil remediation work at 100K is to clean up what the two K reactors left behind and return another section of Hanford's Columbia River shoreline to something like its natural state.

Nature, however, has been getting impatient to have 100K all to itself. Last month, Soil and Groundwater Remediation Project (S&GRP) workers arriving at a site just yards from the K East reactor building found a baby deer curled up in the rebar ("Cozy Amid the Concrete Remains," went the Tri-Cities Herald caption). The deer's mother arrived before Animal Control, and the pair wandered off on their own – but others of 100K's native inhabitants have required a little intervention.

In March, CHPRC D&D Environmental Compliance Officer Brett Barnes had overseen the permitted return of millions of gallons of clean water from K East water facilities back to the river, and in April S&GRP crews had severed 100K's last drainage outfall. Next up were the 181KW and 181KE River Pumphouses, where all that water came ashore. Their demolition would close out Fiscal Year 2011 and the ARRA era by officially pulling the 100K footprint back onto dry land. CHPRC had been sharing plans with regulatory agencies since last fall, and received permission to place river-protective berms around the structures during the Columbia's low-water season in February. In May, demolition was to begin – but 100K's bird population had not been at the schedule meetings.

Protected cliff swallows had already put up nests on 181KE's east wall and guard tower, making the structure off-limits until the swallows' expected seasonal departure in late July. There were no cliff swallows at 181KW, however, and a peek into the guard tower atop the building had revealed why – a family of barn owls. They had apparently taken care of the cliff swallows. Now it was time to take care of the owls. Wearing welders' leathers and a pull-down face shield which met wildlife handling requirements, Barnes rode a man-lift up to the guardhouse and carefully pulled four screaming, hissing owls out by their ankles and placed them one by one into a ventilated wooden box for relocation June 13 to the Blue Mountain Wildlife preserve in nearby Benton City. Two days later, back at Hanford, demolition of 181KW finally began.

"This is life working by the river," said CHPRC VP and D&D Project Manager Kurt Kehler. "We're giving 100K back to nature – and it is important to us to protect nature while we're doing it. These incidents may slow us down a little, but they're nice reminders of who our ultimate customers really are."

Increasing Environmental Responsibility with Biobased Products



Use of biobased products is on the rise at CHPRC. During FY2011 our projects and organizations proactively included them in their Environmental Management System objectives and targets. EMS objectives and targets within EPC and WFMP directly commit the projects to identifying opportunities to replace petroleum and chemical products with bio-based products; the functional organizations initiated a campaign to have bio-based products available in their supply cabinets.



Biobased products are made wholly, or of a substantial portion of biological materials, forestry materials, or renewable domestic agricultural materials; including plant, animal, or marine materials. In general, biobased products do not contain synthetics, toxins, or environmentally damaging substances.

Eva Upchurch, an Administrative Assistant for Contract Management and Facility Services, has taken increased use of bioproducts and recycled products to heart. On any given day, members of her group can find an array of environmentally friendly products in her supply cabinet. She offers the following helpful hints.

"I've added CHPRC's online Green Catalogue to my Intranet 'Favorites' list and placed it on my desktop, which makes finding it easy," said Upchurch, "and I enter Green Catalogue items in the Pacific Supply and Safety (PSS) ordering system's 'Default Shopping List' to make reordering easy. To better track our use of biobased and recycled products, I identify the items as 'Eco Office, Green, or Recycled' in the Notes section of the PSS shopping cart. When those items are entered into the P-Card system, they are readily identified as recycled."



GREEN TEAM June Challenge
CARPPOOL

GREEN TEAM July Challenge
BIOPRODUCTS

... environmentally friendly and often safer for the workplace

- Made from plant, animal, and marine materials
- Most have no synthetics, toxins, or damaging substances
- Found in the Green Catalogue on the EMS Intranet Site
- P-card holders may purchase them through preferred vendors
- Purchase and use:
 - Supports American farmers
 - Reduces harm caused by petroleum-based products
 - Helps DOE meet Executive Order goals
 - Helps CHPRC meet Contract commitments

Win A Prize!
Submit to #EMS your name, the date, and the name of the biobased product you ordered or used. Enter often to increase your chances of winning.
Congratulations to our June winners:
• Howard Blue
• Andrew Migel

CH2M-HILL
Plateau Remediation Company

Riders Needed

Van 239 is looking for riders in the 200E Area. The van starts at Ride Share parking lot at Richland Y, goes to Seven Eleven on Duportail and Wright St., then to Stevens Center, and on to 200E.

Drop off is at the 2750 Area, 2727E near the Patrol Building, B-Plant, and 2025E. Will try to work in and around 200E. Working 8X9's shift. Call Bill Schneider, bill_r_schneider@rl.gov 373-2992 or Tim Heidcamp, timothy_w_heidcamp@rl.gov, 372-9191 or e-mail.



Message from John Ciucci

Chief Operating Officer

CHPRC welcomed John Ciucci to its ranks as the Chief Operating Officer earlier this year. Now you can catch him on InSite (episode May 23) where he tells workers about his experience so far and what he hopes to achieve in the future. Ciucci comes to the Hanford Site with nuclear operations and environmental management experience from Nevada Test Site, Idaho National Engineering Laboratory, Rocky Flats, Oak Ridge, and Sellafield sites.

Coming to work at the Hanford Site is a tremendous opportunity for me and my family. I am committed to this job and we are committed to this community. Bringing experience from other Department of Energy sites, I understand the mission and complexities we face in this type of environmental cleanup. At Hanford, you not only accepted that mission – you took on the challenge and are succeeding in accelerating cleanup with Recovery Act funding.

As Chief Operating Officer, it is my goal to build trust, respect and integrity with the workforce. Trust is what holds the workforce together and it takes the entire team to make it happen. We need field work supervisors who are passionate about safety compliance and who believe in what the workforce does, and a workforce enabled to execute work safely and compliantly.

More importantly, we have a good a safety record but we need a great one. My goal is to ensure we have the right tools, the right papers and everything else to execute work controls, implement work control planning and get the work done safely. Through the Integrated Correction Action Plan and Work Control Mentor Program, we are modifying procedures and engaging the workforce to get teams planning their own work package by bringing the work team into the plan up front.

The only way to do these things is to get out and get to know the workforce and help celebrate our daily successes. I look forward to getting out and meeting our teams, seeing our projects and helping everyone succeed in their work.

Avoid counterfeit items

CHPRC Quality Systems Manager Rick Warriner offers the following tips for protecting yourself against becoming a victim of counterfeit merchandise. He recently authored a paper on the topic based on both his professional and personal experience in purchasing medications and commodities that turned out to be counterfeit.

- **If the deal looks too good to be true... it is!**

Sellers of counterfeit wares know where to market their products to entice buyers looking for brand name goods. Flea markets, street vendors and deep discount stores are havens for counterfeiters.

- **Avoid buying medications over the internet**

If you do buy medications on-line, confirm them through the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy Verified Internet Pharmacy Practice Sites.

- **Only purchase products that bear a manufacturer's name, mark or symbol**

Most manufacturers are proud of their products and value name recognition. Counterfeiters have no interest in name branding.

- **Purchase only Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) components**

Ask your mechanic or auto repair shop to install only OEM products on your vehicle.

- **Price compare and authenticate products with your smart phone**

With the help of a downloadable application, many smart phones can now read UPC barcodes, providing user with product and price comparison information.

[Link to "Avoid Becoming a Victim to Counterfeit!" to see Rick's full paper.](#)

Workforce Restructuring – Resources

As we progress further down the FY2011 workforce restructuring path, CHPRC would like to remind you of two services that may help you successfully maneuver through the changing times.



Kathy King, CSC Hanford Occupational Health Services

The Employee Assistance Program, offered through CSC Hanford Occupational Health Services, gives Hanford employees eight free sessions of confidential counseling per problem per year. If you are laid off, the service remains in effect for one full year, or until you are hired into a new job. Family members who reside in your home may attend the sessions with you. The sessions

provide you with professional, outside perspectives you may not otherwise receive.

If you believe you may be laid off, here are ten things you can do to prepare:

1. Look into shared housing or room rentals
2. While you have insurance, seek medical or emotional treatment
3. Defer student loans
4. Refinance your home or put a rental agreement in place
5. Avoid debt and spending
6. Set money aside in an emergency fund
7. Create a new budget that will reflect your upcoming circumstances
8. Reassure your children and involve them in solutions
9. Keep a regular schedule
10. Practice positive thinking and good self care.



Richard Poth, Corporate Dynamics

The concluding Change Management Session facilitated by life/career strategist Richard Poth will be held *10 a.m. to noon in Room G108 at the 2704 HV ("Smurf") Building, Thursday, July 21.*

The voluntary, two-hour session is designed to offer support during the current workforce restructuring effort – whether circumstances cause you to remain in your current role or move

on. This final session is open to anyone, particularly those who were unable to attend one of the earlier 18 sessions.

Upcoming Events

July 21	Final Change Management Session
July 28 - August 1	Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notifications are issued: (HAMTC receives notifications as required by the WARN Act.)
August 2-5	Vanguard Educational Seminars
August 3	Group Benefit Meetings
August 19	Job Fair
September 19	Involuntary Reduction of Force Notifications are issued
September 29	Involuntary Reduction of Force Employees are released

Job Search Tools

Find out about employment opportunities by visiting links posted on the [CHPRC Human Resources Workforce Reduction Intranet Website](#).

In the coming month, the Website will be accessible to CHPRC and Pre-select contract employees from off site. Watch for personal identification access information when the site launches.

For more information about workforce restructuring, visit <http://prc.rl.gov/rapidweb/HR/index.cfm?PageNum=10>.



Emergency Notifications

How does the new Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) phone system affect how you receive emergency notifications?

The transition of replacing many of the Hanford Site's old analog telephones with the new phones that use VoIP technology has generated questions about how workers will receive emergency notifications in the event of a loss of telephone service.

The VoIP telephone system provides many advantages for emergency notifications:

- VoIP system is much more reliable
- Emergency notifications are sent to VoIP phones much quicker
- Disaster recovery is faster

Additionally, every building that currently has phone service will have at least one analog phone that will continue to receive emergency notifications even when the power is out. *(This does not include buildings that never had telephone service.)*

Even with the backups and increased reliability, it is possible to lose telephone service. If that happens, we still have several ways to receive emergency messages.

If you lose phone service:

- Your VoIP phone will work for about one hour using the backup power supply.
- If you lose VoIP phones, check to see if the analog telephone(s) in your building still works. If so, station someone to answer the telephone until your VoIP phones are restored.
- Analog phones not requiring building power to function will continue to work during an extended power outage. Remember: phones that require power to operate, such as cordless and some speaker phones, will not work.
- If all phone capabilities are lost, emergency messages still can be relayed in several ways:
 - ◆ Outdoor warning siren tones (*can often be heard inside buildings*);
 - ◆ Computers on the HLAN will receive emergency messages;
 - ◆ Two-way commercial radio announcements and tone alert radios (*where used*) will be used;
 - ◆ You can still use a cell phone to contact supervisors or managers in another building to relay messages; and
 - ◆ If there is an emergency, you can use a cell phone to contact the Hanford Emergency Operations Center (EOC) (373-1786, 373-3876, 376-8612 or 376-4712).

Notes of Interest

2011 CHPRC Company Picnic



New ITEM Web Portal Improves Online Training Capabilities

The Integrated Training Electronic Matrix or ITEM, as you know it, is about to be a thing of the past. Acceptance testing is already underway for improvements slated to be launched July 24. The move transitions online training capabilities from a single database program to a “one-stop-shop” suite of tools easily accessed through a new ITEM Web Portal. Powered by an industry-standard program called Enterprise Learning Management (ELM), the new suite of tools will provide improved training planning, tracking, and scheduling.

“Think of ELM as a library full of information and the ITEM Web Portal as the tool to access it,” said Shayne Eyre.

You will find the following tools in the new ITEM Web Portal:

- HSWET – Web-based system used to determine if personnel are trained, qualified, and medically cleared for work
- Training Reports – Crystal Reports used to determine personnel training / qualification
- Online Training – Web links to major companies’ web-based training menus
- Training Selection Tool – Application that helps managers identify an employee’s required Individual Training Plan elements
- Facility Training – Links to onsite facilities’ training web sites
- Other Links – Commonly used web sites, such as Docs Online and Site Forms

For more information, select the ITEM Web Portal on the CHPRC Training website at: <http://prc.rl.gov/rapidweb/training/index.cfm?pagenum=1&CFID=26166421&CFTOKEN=24551213&jsessionid=9c307d8824c306c274121715334768522a12>

JULY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

July Events

- 21 *President’s Summer Safety Challenge*
- 22 *Hanford Day Off*
- 22 *HAMTC, Tri-City Union Gospel Mission Charity Golf Tournament; Horn Rapids Golf Course.*
- 29 – 31 *Tri-City Water Follies Hydroplane Racing; Columbia Park, Kennewick.*

August Events

- 1 *Worker Adjustment & Retraining Notifications (WARN) issued*
- 2-5 *Vanguard Educational Seminars*
- 5 *Hanford Day Off*
- 5 *ARC of Tri-Cities Partners-N Pals Horseback Riding Day; Richland Riders Club. Volunteers needed. Contact Mike Jennings, mike_j_jennings@rl.gov at 372.1502 or Mary Cole mary_e_cole@rl.gov at 372-8711, or visit [http://www.arcoftricity.com/Services/ ChildrenYouth/partnersnpals.html](http://www.arcoftricity.com/Services/ChildrenYouth/partnersnpals.html)*
- 19 *Job Fair at TRAC*
- 22 *Hanford Day Off*

- Hanford Day Off
- Activity, event or deadline
- Holiday



Visit **INSITE** each week for the latest news about the work we are doing at the Hanford Site.



<http://prc.rl.gov/rapidweb/Communications/index.cfm?PageNum=88>

On the Plateau is published monthly for CHPRC employees. Submit comments and contributions to CHPRC Communications at chprcc@rl.gov. Contributions are due by the 10th calendar day of the month prior to publication.

Editor-in-Chief:

Andre Armstrong, 509.376.6773

Writing Staff:

Andre Armstrong, Jenna Coddington, Andrea McClurg, Dee Millikin, Karin Nickola, Frank Pellegrini, Tania Reyes

Graphics: Wally Williams

Employees have a duty to report possible fraud, waste, abuse, misuse, corruption, criminal acts, or mismanagement relating to DOE programs, operations, facilities, contracts or information technology systems, and to report possible reprisals against employees who report such information. Allegations should be reported to an appropriate authority, such as the Office of Inspector General (OIG) at:

800.541.1625 • 202.586.4073
(OIG Hotline numbers)

Visit www.ig.energy.gov/hotline.htm to learn more or call the Director of Internal Audit at 372.0779.