



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

**Richland Operations
Office**

DOE News Release

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**Department of Energy Honors Hanford Site Contractor for Employee
Involvement and Management Leadership in Safety and Health**

CH2M HILL awarded Voluntary Protection Program Star Status

RICHLAND, Wash. – The [Department of Energy](#) (DOE) today recognized [Hanford Site](#) contractor [CH2M HILL Plateau Remediation Company](#)'s (CH2M HILL) pursuit of excellence in health and safety by awarding the company Star status in the Department's [Voluntary Protection Program](#) (VPP). DOE awards VPP Star status to companies that demonstrate outstanding cooperative efforts among employees, management and DOE to continuously improve safety and health programs.

VPP has three levels of recognition: Demonstration, Merit and Star, with Star being the most prestigious level of recognition. CH2M HILL has been a Merit site since 2011. In awarding CH2M HILL Star status, DOE recognized strong employee involvement and management leadership in health and safety programs, established programs in hazard identification and hazard reduction, and an effective training program.

“The Department of Energy is proud to recognize CH2M HILL employees for their sustained dedication to supporting each other and creating a safe and productive work environment,” said Matt McCormick, manager of DOE’s Richland Operations Office. “The safety and health of contractor and federal employees are fundamental to getting cleanup done here at Hanford.”

DOE implemented VPP in 1994, and has since demonstrated that cooperation between government, industry and labor can achieve excellence in worker safety and health. Requirements for DOE VPP participation are based on comprehensive management systems, with employees actively involved in assessing, preventing and controlling potential health and safety hazards.

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The Department of Energy's Richland Operations Office is responsible for several major cleanup projects on the Hanford Site, including cleanout and demolition of the high-hazard Plutonium Finishing Plant, demolition of excess facilities, excavation of contaminated soil and solid waste, and treatment of contaminated groundwater, as well as Hanford Site infrastructure. The office oversees approximately \$1 billion in annual funding for Hanford Site work that is conducted by a federal and contractor workforce of approximately 4,300 personnel. Visit www.hanford.gov.