This special monthly edition of On The Plateau outlines the major FY2010 accomplishments of CHPRC’s projects and upcoming challenges.

2nd Anniversary Issue

Shrinking the Cleanup Footprint

CHPRC has completed another year of environmental cleanup at Hanford Site’s Central Plateau.

In two years on the job — since the contract began on Oct. 1, 2008 — CHPRC and its subcontractors have:

• Met all regulatory milestones on or ahead of schedule
• Integrated Recovery Act funding and 2,000-plus new hires into the projects
• Changed the Hanford Site skyline.
The Plateau Remediation Contract is a 10-year contract, nominally valued at $4.5 billion dollars. Recovery Act funding received in 2009 is accelerating $1.3 billion worth of work.

As a prime contractor at the Hanford Site, CHPRC is tasked with:

- Managing wastes and nuclear materials
- Retrieving, treating and disposing of legacy waste
- Remediating contaminated waste sites
- Decommissioning nuclear, radiological and industrial facilities
- Treating contaminated soil and groundwater.

Since the contract startup in 2008, CHPRC’s cleanup activities have expanded across the Hanford Site.

This month’s safety message is from Lead Hanford Atomic Metal Trades Council (HAMTC) representative Jill Molnaa (page 13).

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**ON THE Plateau** is designed for online viewing, part of CHPRC’s commitment to protecting our environment. Project and organizational news stories are shared in page-sized blocks to reduce costs and waste when printing is desired. Contributions are due by the 10th calendar day of the month prior to publication.
This October marks the end of our second successful year on this project. It is an accomplishment made possible by all of you — working as one team, one culture.

Working with, and for, the DOE Richland Operations Office, we are responsible for one of the largest environmental remediation projects in the world and are executing this work safely, below cost and with all fiscal year Tri-Party Agreement milestones met on or ahead of schedule.

Together, we are pursuing the DOE’s 2015 vision to reduce the site’s operational costs, reduce long-term liabilities to the taxpayer and enable the DOE to reinvest the money saved into future cleanup activities.

One look at our remediation maps will show you that we have expanded our cleanup to span the Hanford Site — from the Central Plateau to the outermost edges, from the Northern Slope to the 100K Area and all the way to the Arid Lands Ecology Reserve at Rattlesnake Mountain.

We are helping shrink the cleanup footprint left behind from decades of reactor operations and plutonium production for our nation’s defense.

Thank you all for your efforts to make our project a success, whether you are supporting program efforts and company infrastructure or are in the field removing buildings, remediating waste sites, containing and treating contaminated groundwater, disposing of legacy waste and fuels, or constructing new groundwater treatment systems. Our successes are collaborations; they begin with successful planning and end with safe work execution that is based in safety, worker involvement and continuous improvement.

Let us continue our momentum into fiscal year 2011, our third contract year. The challenges that remain are some of the largest challenges on the site, but through continued safe work performance, we will achieve the mission DOE has set out for us — to clean up the Hanford Site.
Accomplished in FY2010

- Initiated extensive security downgrade following removal of special nuclear material
- Removed inner fence line and miles of razor and concertina wire
- Demolished five access control structures
- Removed 15 fuel storage vaults
- Worked more than 30 consecutive days without a recordable injury or reportable event in electrical, conduct of operations and radiological controls
- Initiated removal of more than 5,500 feet of highly contaminated process vacuum system piping; removed more than 125 feet of piping and more than 150 feet of transfer line
- Completed numerous supplied air entries into 242-Z Americium Recovery Facility and Plutonium Reclamation Facility canyon
- Continued removing asbestos; more than 11,000 square feet removed since contract start
- Removed 55 glove boxes.

Upcoming in FY2011

- Complete ARRA (Recovery Act) key performance parameters
- Remove four glove boxes from Plutonium Reclamation Facility
- Achieve "ready for demolition" status for 2736-Z/ZB Vault Complex
- Complete Plutonium Reclamation Facility canyon floor cleanup and initiate pencil tank removal
- Remove majority of process vacuum system and transfer lines
- Complete fixative application and initiate removal of glove boxes in 242-Z Americium Recovery Facility.
Accomplished in FY2010

• Completed Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility (ERDF) Self Perform activities
  - Initiated use of super dump trucks for soil remediation and off-site shipment
  - Completed more than 30,000 shipments to ERDF via roll-on/roll-off containers and super dump trucks
• Completed installation and restart of thin film dryer rotor assembly at Effluent Treatment Facility
• Completed security upgrades at Canister Storage Building Interim Storage Area (CSB ISA) pad
• Initiated commercial repackaging of large container transuranic/transuranic mixed waste
• Resumed shipments of transuranic waste
  - Completed 91 TRUPACT-II shipments since March 2010; 53 completed to WIPP and 38 to DOE’s Idaho Site for compaction and shipment to WIPP
• Reduced legacy mixed low-level and low-level waste (MLLW/LLW) inventory at Central Waste Complex, Waste Receiving and Processing and T Plant to 152 cubic meters
• Achieved and surpassed goals of:
  - Treating 700 cubic meters of MLLW/LLW
  - Repackaging 350 cubic meters of contact-handled transuranic waste
  - Retrieving 15 cubic meters of suspect remote-handled transuranic waste
• Completed turnover of 310/340 facility to the Decommissioning and Demolition Project and began Retention Transfer System operations.

Upcoming in FY2011

• Initiate “in-trench” processing and retrieval activities
• Complete retrieval of 2,500 cubic meters of contact-handled transuranic waste
• Complete repackaging of 860 cubic meters of contact-handled transuranic waste
• Complete treatment of 1,850 cubic meters of low-level and mixed low-level waste
• Complete shipment of 2,000 cubic meters of transuranic waste off site
• Continue effluent treatment
• Complete Waste Encapsulation and Storage Facility roof repairs
• Complete CSB ISA final storage upgrade project.
Accomplished in FY2010

- Remediating more than 350,000 tons of soil, including:
  - More than 200,000 tons of soil from BC Control Area
  - Nearly 10,000 tons of soil from beneath former K East Basin
- Remediating waste sites in 100K Area and across Central Plateau and Outer Zone
- Treated more than 600 million gallons of groundwater
- Continued construction of three groundwater treatment facilities to quadruple site-wide treatment capability
- Completed drilling more than 280 wells
- Completed drilling wells to expand apatite barrier along Columbia River
- Decommissioned 175 wells.

Upcoming in FY2011

- Remediating 77 waste sites
- Treating more than 650 million gallons of groundwater
- Initiating operations at DX groundwater treatment facility and continue construction of two other groundwater treatment facilities
- Complete drilling of 90 wells.
Accomplished in FY2010

- Completed demolition of 212-N/P/R interim fuel storage facilities
- Demolished more than 31,000 square feet and removed 95% of debris sites at the Arid Lands Ecology (ALE) Reserve
- Continued demolition of 183-KW Sedimentation Basin; currently 85% complete
- Cleared major equipment from U Canyon deck
- Demolished five U ancillary facilities to "slab on grade"
- Demolished approximately 43,000 square feet in 200 East Area
- Initiated debris site cleanup on North Slope
- Continued removing/vacuuming debris and sludge at K West Basin
- Sampled K West Basin sludge.

Upcoming in FY2011

- Grout U Canyon process cells
- Prepare U Canyon for first-of-its-kind demolition
- Demolish 209-E Criticality Mass Laboratory in 200 East Area
- Disposition 15 contaminated railcars in 200 North Area
- Demolish nine industrial facilities in 200 West Area
- Complete ALE and North Slope cleanup
- Demolish more than 750,000 square feet at 100K Area
- Complete K West Basin sludge sampling.
Accomplished in FY2010

- Awarded construction contract for 200 West Groundwater Treatment Facility
- Continued construction of DX pump-and-treat system; on target for completion and start-up by end of 2010
- Constructed K Basin mock-up at Maintenance and Storage Facility to accelerate sludge removal
- Constructed container maintenance facility; put facility into service
- Completed removal of settler tube sludge from the K West Basin
- Received Project of the Year award from the Columbia River Basin Chapter of the Project Management Institute for Slightly Irradiated Fuels project.

Upcoming in FY2011

- Complete construction of 200 West Groundwater Treatment Facility
- Complete construction of HX pump-and-treat system and begin operations
- Put 200 East operations complex into service
- Fabricate trench face processing system for next generation waste retrieval.
Accomplished in FY2010

- Moved dosimetry operations in-house to reduce dosimetry costs while improving monitoring capability
- Implemented new processes — Condition Reporting and Resolution System and Safety Analysis Center — and improved assessment program
- Continued implementing new Hanford Site Chronic Beryllium Disease Prevention Program
- Maintained safety programs — Get Out And Look (GOAL) vehicle safety program, Safe Zone and Workers Observing Workers
- Completed 2010 Hanford Field Exercise with significant noteworthy practices and no findings
- Initiated Conduct of Work mentor program under the direction of the Chief Operating Officer
- Received three awards — Superior Star, Star of Excellence and Legacy of Star — at Voluntary Protection Programs Participants’ Association (VPPPA) conference
- Established Environmental Management System (EMS) objectives and targets and met EMS performance metrics to earn employee incentive payout
- Passed formal third-party audit that allowed DOE to declare CHRPC EMS in conformance with DOE Order 450.1A requirements
- Updated EMS web page with environmental resources as well as targets and objectives for all projects
- Updated monthly EMS campaign, including Green Gazette newsletter, Green Team Challenge posters and InSite news videos
- Placed more than 200 plastic recycling bins via Pollution Prevention Team Hanford in various locations at the Hanford Site.

Upcoming in FY2011

- Improve subcontractor safety
- Implement Hanford Site Chronic Beryllium Disease Prevention Program changes
- Support established EMS objectives and targets to keep them on schedule
- Document examples of EMS accomplishments.

Share Pollution Prevention (P2) Accomplishments
http://prc.rl.gov/rapidweb/EMS/index.cfm?PageNum=24

Use the online form to share your or your coworkers accomplishments.

EMS Targets and Objectives
http://prc.rl.gov/rapidweb/EMS/index.cfm?PageNum=9

Stay up to date with your project’s objectives.
Accomplished in FY2010

- Definitized approximately $1.3 billion in Recovery Act work
- Continued addressing challenges — unprecedented facility services, human resources and mobilization — presented by Recovery Act increases in resources and staffing
- Implemented training pipeline that channels new workers through introductory, facility-specific and hands-on training
- Provided effective counsel for environmental management matters leading to no significant environmental or Price-Anderson non-compliances or fines
- Established innovative financial process for preselected subcontractors with incumbent and non-incumbent employees
- Processed record volume in procurement, $1.27 billion in new awards since October 2008
- Processed an average per month of 3,000 invoices and $35 million in accounts payable
- Received approval of Contract Performance Measurement Baseline
- Reached agreement — formal agreements between CHPRC and HAMTC — on transuranic characterization and shipping operations and North Slope cleanup
- Completed installation of WiMAX wireless HLAN coverage for Recovery Act mobilization and remediation projects
- Provided CHPRC team with up-to-date computing tools, including more than 2,500 computer setups
- Implemented Employee Incentive Plan with DOE-Richland Operations Office support.

Upcoming in FY2011

- Safely complete Recover Act commitments
- Effectively manage transition to FY2012.
Accomplished in FY2010
- Completed Central Plateau Cleanup Completion Strategy negotiations
- Coordinated and completed River Corridor decision documents scoping
- Completed EMS certification
- Initiated Compliance Advocate and Compliance Assurance programs
- Developed graded approach to risk modeling
- Initiated External Document Improvement Team (EDIT)

Upcoming in FY2011
- Maintain zero accident and injury performance
- Achieve EMS targets and objectives
- Complete Tri-Party Agreement Central Plateau strategy approval process
- Complete Waste Information Data System environmental database enhancements
- Increase compliance margin by using new environmental tools
Almost a year and a half has passed since DOE announced a $1.3 billion award in Recovery Act funds to accelerate CHPRC’s critical environmental cleanup across the Central Plateau and along the Columbia River.

Since that time, CHPRC has put people to work while pursuing the nation’s goals for funding and creating jobs and for investing in small businesses and the local economy.

As of the end of August 2010, CHPRC has awarded $549 million in contracts; $314 million (57%) of that amount to small businesses.

Recovery Act funding is at work across all of CHPRC projects and organizations, changing the state of the workforce and the Hanford Site.

Overall, CHPRC has touched the lives of more 5,298 people, providing them with jobs that are at least partially funded by the Recovery Act.
The past two years have been a challenge in many ways. But through it all, I believe we have come a long way in our accomplishments.

As a company, we have embraced the importance of worker involvement and experienced the benefits the process can bring. We could not have achieved the milestones we have accomplished if we didn’t have management’s commitment and worker involvement in planning our work evolutions.

I’d also like to give kudos to our workers for always having a questioning attitude. We have come a long way in the perception that a “stop work” is a bad thing. During our two years on this project, we have had several of them. But, out of each and every one, I think we can all say we have made our work process, work steps and work procedures a much safer work environment for us all.

Another notable accomplishment was the hiring of the Recovery Act workers. This was a huge endeavor for all of the CHPRC team — from hiring, to training, to infrastructure challenges, to actually getting these folks out in the field to do work.

A special thanks to our seasoned HAMTC workers who took the time to mentor our new craft.

One of the challenges ahead of us is an environment of constant change and possible unknowns. Whether it is digging up unknowns or sampling for chemicals and beryllium, we need to stay focused on our work practices, our task at hand, and always have that questioning attitude.

Finally, perhaps the most important thing is we need to watch out for one another. We all have a right and responsibility to go home the same way we came to work. One of the ways we can achieve this is by participating in the Workers Observing Workers program and embracing the mentality that safety takes everyone’s watchful eyes and careful work.

Hamlet, HAMTC Lead Safety Representative

CHPRC Safety Representatives Contact Information

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Central Washington Building Trades Council

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Events
on the Plateau

Oct. Event
1 Hanford Day Off
12-13 Professional Development Education with Steve Hegele and Joe Estey (speakers), offered by Columbia River Basin Chapter, Project Management Institute; $399 for members, $499 for non-members (if registering by Aug. 30). Visit http://www.crb-pmi.org or call Terri Fookes at 509.528.0662.
15 Hanford Day Off
15 American Society for Quality (ASQ) visit to GreenWood Tree Farms with presentation by Don Rice, a managing director; Boardman, Ore. Networking–9:30 a.m.; tour/presentation–10 a.m. Cost: $15 – ASQ members; $20 – non-members. Space limited to 25 reservations, due by Oct. 7. Send an e-mail to panda_2@charter.net with name(s), phone#(s), company(s) and reservation type or call Alvin at 371.2221. Visit www.asq614.org to learn more.
19 Free QMAP classes; Hammer, Rm. 16. QMAP Basic Orientation: WIDS and Wells (7:30 a.m.–noon) and Environmental Data Access: QMAP wells, plumes, Virtual Library. Envirodash and Well Information Data Lookup (noon–4 p.m). To register, contact Sherree Christman at sherree_a.christman@rl.gov.
29 Hanford Day Off

Nov. Event
9-11 Project Management Professional (PMP) certification prep class, offered by Columbia River Basin Chapter Project Management Institute; Hampton Inn, Richland. $900 for members; $950 for non-members. Contact Steve Norton at vp-education@crb-pmi.org.
12 Hanford Day Off
24-25 Thanksgiving Holiday
26 Hanford Day Off

Dec. Event
10 Hanford Day Off
22-23 Christmas Holiday
24 Hanford Day Off

Notes of Interest

Safety Corner — 2nd Anniversary Recap

Activity/Event

Official Holiday

Hanford Day Off

OCTOBER

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ON THE Plateau • Vol. 3, Iss. 10 • Oct. 1, 2010
Tri-Cities Charity Golf Tournament Another Driving Success

Area golfers recently enjoyed a day of sun and sport at the Metal Trades (HAMTC) and Building Trades 6th Annual Tri-Cities Charity Golf Tournament. Since its inception, the annual event has raised more than $100,000 dollars for the Tri-City Union Gospel Mission.

CHPRC was the main sponsor of this year's tournament, which was held Sept. 13 at the Horn Rapids Golf Course. Highlights of the day's events can be seen in the Sept. 20 episode of InSite.

InSite Video
http://prc.rl.gov/rapidweb/Communications/index.cfm?PageNum=88

(top): Bill Engel (second from left), CHPRC labor relations, helps organize the annual Tri-City Charity Golf Tournament. Engel is shown with (from left): Patrick (Brad) Brannan, Washington River Protection Solutions; Ben Engel, Washington Closure Hanford; and Lou Alcala, Washington River Protection Solutions.

(middle, from left): Golfers Fred McClure, HAMTC vice president; Don Porter, Tri-City Union Gospel Mission executive director; and John Lehew, CHPRC president and chief executive officer, are all smiles at the end of a long day.

(bottom, from left): CHPRC volunteers and golfers included: Katie Jones, Grant Monrean, Kris Stave, Marc Venohr, Monica Daniels, Nick Smith, Nancy Petersen, Mary Cole, Dianne Whitten, Kyle Jennings, Maple Lee, Carol Clark, Thane Burnight and TJ Woffinden.
A team of CHPRC safety personnel recently attended the Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) Participants’ Association’s national conference, held the week of Aug. 23 in Orlando, Fla. They participated in meetings and workshops about occupational safety, health and environmental management systems. Three CHPRC projects received VPP recognition — Waste and Fuels Management, Plutonium Finishing Plant Closure and Soil and Groundwater Remediation. Congratulations! Thanks, everyone, for helping to enhance CHPRC’s VPP efforts.