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# DOE NEWS

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DOE Office of River Protection

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**DOE ISSUES FINAL RFP FOR HANFORD'S TANK WASTE CLEANUP**

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of River Protection (ORP) today released the final Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Tank Operations Contract (TOC) to continue cleanup of the central portion of the Hanford Site. Proposals are due on September 17, 2007. The contract term consists of an initial five-year base period, and could be extended up to an additional five years. The contract will be worth an estimated \$8.2 billion. The RFP contains specific requirements that mandate at least 15% of the contract work must be performed by small businesses.

The RFP includes a performance-based approach to tank farm operations for Hanford's Central Plateau. Work scope includes storage, retrieval and treatment of Hanford tank waste, storage and disposal of treated waste, and closure of tank farm waste management areas to protect the Columbia River.

Incumbent employees will continue to participate in the Hanford Site Pension Plan (HSPP). This "if you're in, you're in" approach means that incumbent employees will remain in the HSPP if they move into the TOC.

After releasing a draft RFP for the TOC in November 2006, DOE held a public comment period and exchanges with potential offerors. Changes to the RFP scope include:

- Adding the early feed and operation of the Low Activity Waste facility, Balance of Facilities, and the Analytical Laboratory at the Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant;
- Removing the scope that created an Organizational Conflicts of Interest, as well as the related solicitation provision and contract clause.

Other changes to the RFP include adding a "Community Commitment" Clause requiring the successful contractor to conduct its work in accordance with DOE's policy to engage regional stakeholders in issues and concerns of mutual interest and to recognize that giving back to the community is a worthwhile business practice; clarifying mentor-protégé agreement requirements to ensure meaningful small business participation; clarifying the environmental and regulatory

roles, responsibilities and interfaces between Hanford Site contracts; and outlining a process to reach into a contractor's parent organization to tap into diverse experience.

Release of the final RFP continues the Department's cleanup momentum at Hanford, building on such accomplishments as completing the removal of pumpable liquids from underground single-shell tanks, completing the retrieval of sludge and saltcake waste from seven single-shell tanks, developing and deploying new technologies to safely retrieve waste, and completing the construction of the state-of-the-art Integrated Disposal Facility.

The RFP is available on the DOE E-Center Industry Interactive Procurement System website: [www.pr.doe.gov](http://www.pr.doe.gov). The website will be the sole distribution medium for the solicitation and related information.

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