



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Media Invited to Briefing About F Reactor's Five-Year Checkup

- What:** F Reactor's Five-Year Checkup
- Who:** Representatives from the Department of Energy (DOE), Washington Closure Hanford (WCH), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- When:** **Monday, Aug. 18, 10 a.m.**
- Where:** Richland Federal Building, Rm. 142
- Why:** To learn more about the reactor's five-year inspection, obtain a DVD with video footage of the inspection, and conduct interviews with key officials.
- More:** The F Reactor was the third reactor to be cocooned of the nine former plutonium production reactors at Hanford. As part of the facility entry, workers will conduct inspections and make any necessary repairs.

Video footage of the inspection will be shown, and a DVD of the video will be provided to all media outlets at the conclusion of the screening. DOE, Washington Closure Hanford and EPA personnel will be available for interviews regarding what they found during the inspection, how the inspection compared to what they found at previous inspections of other (C and DR) reactors, what repairs will be made as a result of the inspection, and what's next.

Interim safe storage – or cocooning – is the process of demolishing the reactor complex down to the four-foot-thick shield walls that surround the reactor core, sealing all openings with cement or steel plates, placing a

long-lived roof over the remaining structure and installing heat and moisture sensors to monitor for fire and water. The reactors will remain cocooned for up to 75 years until DOE, EPA, and the Washington State Department of Ecology decide on a permanent disposal option.

Best Visuals: Video footage of the F Reactor's five-year checkup; opening of a cocooned reactor; workers preparing for work in a radiological zone

RSVP: Contact Cameron Hardy, DOE, by e-mail at Cameron.M.Hardy@rl.gov or by phone (376-5365) as a courtesy. Badges are not required for the visit.

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