



News From

Fluor Hanford

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Fluor Hanford meets milestone in spent nuclear fuel removal from K Basins

More than 60% of Hanford's spent nuclear fuel inventory now safely stored miles away from the Columbia River

Richland, WA – Fluor Hanford, the Department of Energy's Hanford Site cleanup contractor tasked with removing spent nuclear fuel from the K Basins, satisfied an important Tri-Party Agreement milestone this week when it marked a cumulative total of more than 1,252 metric tons – over 2.76-million pounds – removed from the K Basins. The TPA is the legal document that governs Hanford cleanup.

Fluor reached the milestone a few days early when Multi-Canister Overpack (MCO) #237 was removed on May 28. Each MCO holds about 290 individual fuel assemblies, with a cumulative weight of about 5 metric tons. The K Basins, two million-gallon storage pools, are in facilities located just 400 yards from the banks of the Columbia River.

Dave Van Leuven, Fluor Hanford President and Chief Executive Officer, noted the progress, saying, "We're heading down the final stretch of this effort to eliminate risk and protect the Columbia River. I'm extremely proud of the Fluor Hanford workers on this project. Their work in this risk-filled environment has been flawless. I'd also like to acknowledge our Department of Energy partners and all others who have helped us come more than 60% of the way in meeting and overcoming such a difficult challenge."

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