



Release date: August 30, 2001
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NEW CONTRACTOR SELECTED FOR PERSONNEL SECURITY SUPPORT SERVICES AT HANFORD

The U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (DOE-RL) intends to award a sole source contract to Westech International, Inc., for personnel security support services at the Hanford Site. The estimated contract value over four years, including options, is \$3 million. Fluor Hanford, Inc. (FHI) and RL agreed in June 2001 to remove the personnel security work scope from the FHI contract so a small business could perform the work. The anticipated contract start date of October 1, 2001, is contingent on successful negotiations between RL and Westech.

The Federal Acquisition Regulation provides for sole source contracting with certain classes of small businesses. "This is a win-win situation for RL and Westech", said Bob Rosselli, RL Deputy Manager for Business Services. "This will help RL meet its small business goals by contracting with a qualified firm with excellent past performance history. Westech will have the opportunity to expand its business base in the Tri-Cities area."

DOE's Albuquerque Operations Office currently contracts with Westech for support services, as does FHI.

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RL 01-072

Historical Note: The U.S. Department of Energy's Richland Operations Office manages the Hanford Site in southeastern Washington State. Hanford was established during World War II as part of the top secret Manhattan Project to produce plutonium for nuclear weapons. Weapons material production was halted in the late 1980s. The Hanford Site is now engaged in the world's largest

cleanup effort to deal with the legacy of radioactive and hazardous wastes that resulted from the plutonium production era. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Washington State Department of Ecology regulate Hanford's cleanup program under a long-term compliance contract called the Tri-Party Agreement. This agreement sets the framework and timelines on the cleanup work so that Hanford meets environmental standards. Hanford cleanup is focused on three outcomes: restoring the Columbia River Corridor for other uses, transitioning the Central Plateau to long term waste treatment and storage, and preparing for the future.

[\[Hanford Home Page\]](#) [\[Press Index\]](#)

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