

# Facility Stabilization Project

## Expectation:

Safely deactivate contaminated buildings to reduce risk to workers and the environment while decreasing cost to taxpayers.

## Status Update:

- Issued a new Plutonium Finishing Plant (PFP) project baseline. It improves the schedule for disposition of PFP nuclear materials and processing facilities, shaving more than \$1 billion from the prior project lifecycle cost profile.
- Safely vented Tank 361, an old concrete settling tank once used for PFP effluents. No pressure or flammable gases were detected.
- Continued thermal stabilization of plutonium-bearing materials at PFP.
- Transferred seven cask loads of spent fuel without incident from the 327 Building storage pool to the K Basins, bringing us another step closer to 327 Building cleanup.



*Spent fuel moved as part of the cleanout of the 327 Building is lowered into the K Basins.*

# Facility Stabilization Project

## Status Update (continued):

- Cutting on one of two remaining highly contaminated equipment racks inside the 324 Building's B Cell is 95 percent complete. The final two-story rack will also be dismantled this year. B Cell, a three-story heavily shielded concrete room used for vitrification experiments, once held 12 such racks.
- Fast Flux Test Facility (FFTF) workers continued to maintain the facility in safe standby condition, achieving a million safe work hours in the process. On May 4, Energy Secretary Bill Richardson tasked the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory for an FFTF Program Scoping Plan by August.



*The remnants of the next-to-last rack in B Cell rest on container 136 (center). Using remotely operated cutters and manipulators, workers cut the two-story racks, then put the pieces in 55-gallon drums to ultimately be removed from the Cell, packed with grout and taken to Hanford's Central Waste Complex.*

# Facility Stabilization Project

## Future Focus Areas:

- Sustain safe quality performance while stabilizing plutonium-bearing materials at PFP. Start prototype calciner operation to begin stabilizing plutonium solutions.
- Collect samples from PFP's Tank 361 to learn more about its contents.
- Dismantle final B Cell rack in the 324 Building.
- Repair the 309 Building dome exterior, removing deteriorating, asbestos-laden insulation.



*We vented the former PFP settling pond known as Tank 361 (top photo), analyzed its vapors, and videotaped its interior (bottom). Now we'll collect samples to characterize the contents.*