

Fluor reduces Hanford workforce by 260 employees

Voluntary and involuntary layoffs of Fluor Hanford workers have resulted in a workforce reduction of 260, according to Dave Van Leuven, executive vice president and chief operating officer. Employees were notified last Monday that their positions were being eliminated as part of the reduction of force announced Nov. 14. Employees who applied for one of two self-select options that were offered have been told whether their applications were accepted.

Fluor Hanford Human Resources opened a Career Resource Center for all affected employees at the Hanford Training Center, 1810-1812 Terminal Drive in Richland. Manchester, Inc. a human resources consulting company, will manage the center under contract to the Department of Energy. Affected employees can use the center for getting information on jobs, educational opportunities, starting a business or retiring, according to Van Leuven.

Beginning this week, the Career Resource Center will conduct career-transition workshops to help laid-off employees assess their skills, learn how to communicate and “network,” search for a job and build a résumé. Confidential one-on-one career coaching will be available from experienced counselors, and job-seekers will have access to the Manchester Career Portal, a comprehensive collection of job-search Web sites. The center also has office and communications equipment for use in conducting job searches. The CRC will remain open through February.

Employees can also use the resources of WorkSource Columbia Basin, a state-run provider of employment services to all Washington residents. The WorkSource facility is at 815 N. Kellogg in Kennewick.

Acknowledging that reductions are not pleasant, Van Leuven said they are necessary. “We must have a right-sized, properly skilled workforce to focus on work that accelerates cleaning up the site, and reduce or eliminate activities and services that do not directly contribute to cleanup. We will continue, therefore, to seek opportunities that streamline our operations and apply our resources accordingly.” ■