

# Bechtel awards major subcontracts to local firms

Bechtel National has recently awarded two local businesses major subcontracts for work on the Waste Treatment Plant Project.

On Jan. 30, Federal Engineers and Constructors, Inc., a local small business in Richland, received a subcontract valued in excess of \$2 million to design and construct a simulator facility. The 16,000-square-foot building will house control-room simulators to be used in training operators for the Waste Treatment Plant now under construction.

The simulator facility will be located on the site of the Volpentest HAMMER Training and Education Center. Construction of the single-story building will begin immediately and is slated to be completed in March 2004.

Another local business, George A. Grant, Inc., is a subcontractor to Federal Engineers and Constructors.

A separate award was made Feb. 4 to Lampson International, LLC, in Kennewick. The contract, valued at more than \$8 million, is for transporting equipment that will be barged up the Columbia River for delivery to the WTP. Large, heavy equipment will off-loaded at the Port of Benton barge slip in north Richland, and Lampson will coordinate the off-loading and transportation to the WTP job site. Over the next two years, more than 40 shipments of large equipment are expected.

Lampson, a family-owned business employing 250 people, manufactures heavy lift cranes and performs lifting and hauling services. The company has named a number of local, small businesses as subcontractors for the work.

Since Bechtel National began the WTP Project about two years ago, 60 percent of the value of contracts awarded has been with small businesses. Tri-Cities-area businesses have been awarded more than \$105 million in contracts. ■