

### **Fluor Hanford reduces workforce**

The Department of Energy gave its approval to a Fluor Hanford plan for an involuntary reduction of force, and the affected employees were notified of the layoff on May 12. The last day of employment for the 98 "involuntaries" was May 22.

Including employees who "self-selected" for termination, the Fluor Hanford workforce has been reduced by 377 employees since the process began late last year.

The move to accelerate cleanup at Hanford has led to a shift in emphasis. "This new environment requires us to reduce, consolidate and/or eliminate functions that are not absolutely integral to cleanup," wrote Fluor Hanford President Dave Van Leuven last month in a message to all employees. "In addition, as we transition from operations such as stabilizing plutonium and moving spent fuel and sludge to deactivating and demolishing facilities, we must change the way we approach our work, and have a workforce with the right skill mix."

As a result of the changing emphasis, the company has shifted workers from administrative positions to actual cleanup work as well as trimming its total workforce.

In this month's final stage of the workforce reduction, 38 employees self-selected and 60 were laid off involuntarily. In addition to the 98 layoffs, 10 employees were lost through normal attrition. ■