

MACTEC awarded design contract for storage facility

MACTEC, Inc. has been awarded a \$1.6 million contract by CH2M HILL Hanford Group, Inc. to perform preliminary design work for the W-464 Immobilized High Level Waste Interim Storage Facility on the Hanford Site. The Colorado-based MACTEC, along with its teaming partners ARES Corporation and Battelle, will design upgrades for the facility that will safely store high-level tank waste products on site after vitrification.

Project W-464 is essential in meeting the Office of River Protection mission to store, retrieve, treat and dispose of Hanford's tank wastes in an environmentally sound, safe and cost-effective manner. Milestones for this cleanup effort are enforceable under the Tri-Party Agreement.

The waste will be vitrified into glass logs in a treatment plant being designed by Bechtel National in the 200 East Area. The initial production of the high-level fraction of this immobilized waste will be placed into interim storage within vaults 2 and 3 of the modified Canister Storage Building. The preliminary design effort will focus on modifications necessary to the CSB in order to safely store the vitrified waste until it is transferred to a federal geologic repository.

CSB modifications will include fabrication and insertion of 440 storage tubes 40 feet in length, construction of a shielded canister transporter and construction of a new annex for receiving canister shipments from the vitrification plant. The design effort is scheduled to be completed by August 2002. ♦