



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY HANFORD

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**RICHLAND
OPERATIONS OFFICE**
United States Department of Energy

CH2MHILL
Plateau Remediation Company

Department of Energy Recognizes Hanford Contractor for Innovation in Stabilizing Waste Storage Tunnel and Employee Involvement in Safety and Health

CH2M HILL Plateau Remediation Company receives Voluntary Protection Program Innovation Award

RICHLAND, Wash. – The [Department of Energy](#) (DOE) this week recognized [Hanford Site](#) contractor [CH2M HILL Plateau Remediation Company](#) (CHPRC) with the Department's [Voluntary Protection Program](#) (VPP) Innovation Award for stabilizing a waste storage tunnel after its [partial collapse](#) in May 2017.

CHPRC received the VPP Innovation Award for work on the Plutonium Uranium Extraction Plant (PUREX) Tunnel 1 Stabilization Project. This award recognizes a company that develops and implements an innovation, encourages others to try new approaches and emphasizes the value of creativity and flexibility in resolving worker safety and health problems. The PUREX Tunnel 1

Stabilization Project was a \$10.5 million project involving the emergency response, design and stabilization of a partially collapsed tunnel that stores highly radioactive equipment.

“DOE is proud to recognize CHPRC employees for their innovation and commitment in the response to the PUREX tunnel emergency,” said Doug Shoop, manager of the DOE Richland Operations Office. “Their work in filling the tunnel with grout has eliminated the risk of further collapse, and the lessons learned will aid in stabilizing a [second waste storage tunnel](#) with grout.”

CHPRC also received the Legacy of Stars award, given only to companies that obtain the VPP Star of Excellence in four successive years by demonstrating outstanding cooperative efforts among employees, management and DOE to continuously improve safety and health programs.

VPP has three levels of recognition: Demonstration, Merit and Star, with Star being the most prestigious level of recognition. CHPRC first obtained Star status in 2014 for strong employee involvement and management leadership in health and safety programs, established programs in hazard identification and reduction and an effective training program.

DOE implemented VPP in 1994, and has since demonstrated that cooperation among government, industry and labor can achieve excellence in worker safety and health. Requirements for DOE VPP participation are based on comprehensive management systems, with employees actively involved in assessing, preventing and controlling potential health and safety hazards.

The Department of Energy's Richland Operations Office is responsible for several major cleanup projects on the Hanford Site, including demolition of the high-hazard Plutonium Finishing Plant, demolition of excess facilities, excavation of contaminated soil and solid waste, and treatment of contaminated groundwater, as well as Hanford Site infrastructure. The office oversees approximately \$900 million in annual funding for Hanford Site work that is conducted by a Federal and contractor workforce of approximately 3,700 personnel. Visit www.hanford.gov.

About Jacobs, Owner of CH2M HILL Plateau Remediation Company

Jacobs leads the global professional services sector delivering solutions for a more connected, sustainable world. With \$15 billion in fiscal 2017 revenue when combined with full-year CH2M revenues and a talent force of more than 74,000, Jacobs provides a full spectrum of services including scientific, technical, professional and construction- and program-management for business, industrial, commercial, government and infrastructure sectors. For more information, visit www.jacobs.com, and connect with Jacobs on [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).



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