

Plutonium Finishing Plant Recovery Update

ch2m



March 22, 2018

CH1803-11

From: Connie Simiele, Assistant Manager, Plutonium Finishing Plant Recovery

To: CHPRC Employees (please cascade)

Subject: PFP UPDATE: FINAL BIOASSAY RESULTS RECEIVED

Recently, we received the final bioassay results related to the December 2017 contamination spread at the Plutonium Finishing Plant. As the results have come in, we communicated those results to affected employees on an individual basis and provided public updates on Hanford.gov.

In the days and weeks following that incident, nearly 300 employees requested to have their potential exposure to internal contamination evaluated, using the most sensitive bioassay available that will detect exposures well below any dose deemed harmful.

All of the requested bioassays have been completed by an independent laboratory, and the results are as follows:

- 281 tested
- 270 non detectable (meaning zero dose),
- 2 doses less than 1 millirem,
- 8 doses between 1 to 10 millirem, and
- 1 dose between 10-20 millirem.

These 11 bioassays with a positive dose are in addition to the 31 positive bioassays resulting from the June 2017 contamination spread at the PFP.

We understand the concerns employees have related to internal exposure. Dosimetry experts met with affected employees throughout this process. In addition, Hanford Site contractors CH2M HILL Plateau Remediation Company and Mission Support Alliance developed a standardized approach across contractors to the bioassay process and the communication of results, including an [employee briefing](#) and [pamphlet](#), both available to the public at Hanford.gov. In addition, DOE is placing follow-up phone calls to answer any unresolved questions that employees who requested bioassays may have. Employee feedback on this approach has been positive.

Additional updates with regard to stabilization efforts are available at Hanford.gov. Demolition at the Plutonium Finishing Plant will not resume until we are satisfied the appropriate controls are in place to protect workers, the environment and the public.