ECONOMIC Development & TRANSITION

The Fluor Hanford Office of Economic Transition is charged with supporting economic diversification, stabilization and growth of the Tri-Cities and the region. The Office met its economic transition targets in FY 1999 by helping to create hundreds of new, non-Hanford jobs; focusing new initiatives for Tri-Cities economic growth; and garnering contractor support for economic growth and diversification in the region.

- Fluor Hanford is half way to achieving its goal of creating 3,000 non-Hanford jobs in five years. More than 1,500 new jobs have been created to date, exceeding the FY 1999 cumulative goal by 40%.
- As part of the “Target Tri-City” initiatives, Fluor Hanford strengthened its relationship with the Tri-City Industrial Development Council (TRIDEC). Fluor Hanford is building a $4.3 million industrial building to attract new business to the Tri-Cities.
- Fluor Hanford is also investing $400,000 for development of a marketing plan for the Tri-Cities by Fluor Global Siting Services under the direction of TRIDEC.
- Fluor Hanford’s for-profit investment company, Columbia Basin Ventures (CBV), shifted its focus from venture capital investments to Tri-City job creation. CBV invested $1.4 million in local businesses in FY 1999.
The Infrastructure team is responsible for increasing Hanford’s cost efficiency by optimizing the site’s infrastructure. The team is working to transfer Hanford assets to the community as a part of Fluor Hanford’s commitment to economic transition. FY 1999 objectives were completed on or ahead of schedule.

- The Infrastructure team won two of Vice President Al Gore’s Hammer Awards for project management. Gore annually recognizes government projects that demonstrate innovation and significant cost-savings to taxpayers. The team was recognized for initiating and managing the transfer of Hanford land and buildings at little or no cost to the Port of Benton, and for cost-effectively converting Hanford’s aging steam heating system to an electrical system.

- The Infrastructure team collaborated with other Fluor Hanford contractors to fabricate a Multi-Canister Overpack to transport spent nuclear fuel elements inland to protect the Columbia River.

- The team increased efficiency and savings by outsourcing Hanford Standards Laboratory to Energy Northwest, operator of a commercial nuclear power plant. The outsourcing saved $300,000 overall by reducing turnaround time and eliminating the need to upgrade the site’s aging calibration laboratory. Fluor Hanford worked closely with the Hanford Atomic Metal Trades Council to meet the needs of the project as well as to provide employment opportunities to affected workers.

- The Office of Economic Transition provided TRIDEC with a full-time recruiter; committed $35,000 toward a feasibility study for a new Tri-City transportation facility; and transferred $29 million in underused assets to the community.

The stainless-steel, 14-foot-long MCOs will hold spent nuclear fuel elements from the K Basins. Each MCO will be placed in a water-filled cask, sealed and dried for interim storage in the Canister Storage Building.