

# ANNOUNCEMENT

Department of Energy  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550  
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**RL No.:** 18-0123

**Issued:**

**To:** ALL HANFORD SITE EMPLOYEES

**Subject:** LOWER-RISK DEMOLITION ACTIVITIES TO RESUME AT THE PLUTONIUM FINISHING PLANT (PFP)

The Richland Operations Office (RL) has authorized contractor CH2M HILL Plateau Remediation Company (CHPRC) to resume lower-risk demolition activities at the Hanford Site's PFP.

Resumption of work will occur in two phases. The first phase involves the two lower-risk activities: processing and packaging of existing debris from the Main Processing Facility (234-5Z) demolition followed by the demolition of the remaining lower-risk portions of the Main Processing Facility and an associated vault. The second phase consists of two higher-risk activities: demolishing the Main Processing Facility's two former processing lines and the tunnels beneath as well as removing the remaining rubble from the Plutonium Reclamation Facility demolition.

RL gave its authorization to begin the lower-risk activities after confirming that all pre-start findings from a CHPRC management assessment that assessed the effectiveness of corrective actions implemented as a result of last year's contamination events had been addressed. CHPRC and RL briefed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Washington State Department of Ecology on the assessment, the findings, and plan to resolve the findings.

The revised demolition approach incorporates input from PFP workers, labor organizations, the Department of Energy's (DOE) Expert Panel, and regulatory agencies. It reflects enhanced controls and corrective actions resulting from the Root Cause Evaluation and other assessments conducted after the December 2017 contamination event.

CHPRC will conduct another independent management assessment (with DOE oversight) prior to resumption of higher-risk work, and DOE and regulatory agency approvals will be required before beginning the higher-risk activities.

Weekly updates on PFP activities will be posted to DOE's information web page:  
[https://www.hanford.gov/page.cfm/Updates\\_on\\_Plutonium\\_Finishing\\_Plant](https://www.hanford.gov/page.cfm/Updates_on_Plutonium_Finishing_Plant).