PFP Contamination Spread Discussion

February 2018

Demolition of Plutonium Reclamation Facility walls in December 2017.
Event Summary

- Contamination discovered outside posted radiological boundaries on Dec. 15-19
- Seven personal vehicles contaminated
- 29 government vehicles contaminated
- Dec. 2017 event followed June 2017 contamination spread

CHPRC is committed to systematically completing recovery actions from the contamination spread, identifying the root cause and implementing measures to ensure the future safety of Hanford employees and the environment.

PRF canyon at 9:00 a.m. Dec. 15 (top) and 4:00 p.m. Dec. 15 (bottom)
Overview – Contamination Locations
Current Status

- Expanded work control area in place to restrict access to only authorized personnel
- PFP workforce relocated outside expanded work control zone
- Bioassay evaluations and communication to affected individuals underway
  - Standard recommendation, notification and communication process implemented
- Recovery actions underway
- Causal analysis complete; included worker participation and input
Recovery Actions Underway – What You Will See

• Radiological surveys, decontamination and pressure wash activities to release trailers/vehicles/equipment

• Implementation of additional radiological monitoring (i.e. added cookie sheets, increased frequency, high wind response)

• Mobilization of supplies and equipment to maintain the PFP work control zone in a safe configuration

• Stabilization of contaminated or suspect contaminated areas
  – Application of fixatives (i.e. paints, stabilization agents) to items and areas on the PFP work control zone
  – Placement of soils and materials to prevent material migration

• Maintenance, repair and rebuild of existing equipment and systems in safe/compliant configuration

• Reconfigure boundaries, canister transfer areas, load out areas, waste storage areas, to accommodate larger work control zone

• Reconfigure equipment in the PFP work control zone to support stabilization activities (water systems, foggers, etc.)
What’s Next?

• Corrective action development based on causal analysis completion
  – Jacobs corporate review

• Corrective actions to be incorporated into new, proposed approach for demolition

• Outside, expert panel to review proposed approach
  – HAMTC and Building Trades observation

• Worker participation in work package development

• Demolition will not resume without DOE approval
Keeping You Informed

PFP Recovery

Overview:
DOE-RL and CHPRC take responsibility for the contamination spread at the PFP. It is unacceptable for worker safety and protection of the environment. CHPRC is committed to systematically completing recovery actions from the contamination spread, identifying the root cause and implementing measures to ensure the future safety of Hanford employees and the environment. CHPRC will continue to monitor and evaluate the safety risks of the remaining structures and may request authorization from the Department of Energy for interim actions as required. CHPRC will not conduct any additional PFP demolition work until DOE-RL has been briefed and approved the path forward. Employee safety remains our goal as we encounter and overcome challenges inherent with demolishing what was once one of the most hazardous buildings in the DOE-RL complex. DOE-RL and CHPRC remain committed to safely and compliantly demolishing the PFP.

The page is meant to be an information resource for recovery actions underway at the Plutonium Finishing Plant, including questions and answers.

Resources:
- Recovery updates, timelines and other documentation is publicly available here.
- Expanded access control boundary map

Frequently Asked Questions

Below are questions and answers grouped by topic and arranged newest first. (Questions received may be edited for brevity and clarity.)