

THE HANFORD SITE

For Immediate Release:

May 22, 2019

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Community Partnership Helps Hanford Contractor Close Aging Data Center

RICHLAND, Wash. – Thanks to a community partnership with the Benton and Franklin County Public Utility Districts and the Northwest Open Access Network (NoaNet), the Department of Energy (DOE) retired an old data center and installed a new, more efficient system - reducing IT costs by up to a million dollars over the next ten years.

“Not only did we avoid an upgrade of \$750,000, but we’re saving the Department over \$100,000 a year in ongoing costs,” said Mike Eddy, the IT Infrastructure manager at the Hanford Site. “Each organization made a unique contribution to this project to make it successful.”

As a part of the closure, DOE’s Hanford site services contractor Mission Support Alliance (MSA) moved out of a nearly 5,000-square-foot facility and into a 500-square-foot room at a Franklin PUD facility with space allocated specifically for Hanford. The closure of the old data center supports DOE’s goal to reduce operating costs at the 580-square-mile government site.

“We continually strive to partner with organizations benefiting our community, and this certainly worked out well for everyone,” said Ben Hooper, Franklin PUD Broadband manager. “In today’s fast paced world, we need to partner with our local community, government entities, and businesses alike for effective deployment of wholesale broadband networks and technology services. This is a win-win situation for everyone involved.”

MSA manages Hanford’s computer network, which includes a primary and backup data center. With changing technology, MSA purchased updated equipment and was able to downsize the amount of space needed to operate the old data center.

Franklin PUD has available facility space and NoaNet is providing the telecommunication services. MSA is leasing the fiber from NoaNet and the facility space from Franklin PUD.

“We look forward to growing this partnership as a way of developing broadband solutions that benefit MSA, DOE, and the Tri-City community,” said Rich Nall, Network Coordinated Services director with NoaNet.

The Department of Energy (DOE) is responsible for the federal government’s cleanup of the legacy of more than 40 years of plutonium production at the Hanford Site near Richland, Wash. The DOE Office of River Protection (ORP) is responsible for the safe and efficient retrieval, treatment and disposal of the 56 million gallons of chemical and radioactive waste stored in Hanford’s 177 underground tanks. The River Protection Project is the largest and most complex environmental remediation project in the nation. ORP oversees the tank waste management mission and the building of the world’s largest radioactive waste treatment plant, which will immobilize the legacy tank waste through vitrification. The DOE Richland Operations Office is responsible for all remaining Hanford cleanup and is currently focused on demolishing the high-hazard Plutonium Finishing Plant, excavating and disposing of contaminated soil and waste, treating contaminated groundwater, moving radioactive sludge out of the K West Basin and away from the Columbia River, and configuring Hanford Site infrastructure for the future, with an emphasis on supporting the tank waste mission. The two offices oversee Hanford Site work that is conducted by a federal and contractor workforce of approximately 9,000 personnel. Visit www.hanford.gov for more information about Hanford Site.

About MSA

Mission Support Alliance, a team of [Leidos](#) and [Centerra Group](#), has responsibility for the Mission Support Contract at the Hanford Site. MSA provides a number of cross-cutting services to the DOE and other contractors at the Hanford Site to facilitate cleanup activities. MSA is responsible for areas such as site infrastructure, utilities, transportation, environmental integration, safety, emergency services and training, external affairs, information management and portfolio management. MSA: Partnering to move the mission forward. <http://msa.hanford.gov/>



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