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DOE Announces New Office of River Protection Manager

RICHLAND, Wash.—The U.S. Department of Energy’s Office of River Protection announced today the selection of Brian Vance as the new Manager.

Vance has more than 30 years of leadership experience while serving in key roles with Westinghouse, AREVA, and as a career submarine officer in Department of Defense acquisition programs and the Navy nuclear propulsion program. He most recently held the position of Director of the 300-296 Remote Soil Excavation Project for Hanford cleanup contractor CH2M Hill Plateau Remediation Company (CHPRC).

“I know he will be able to leverage his skills and expertise to assist ORP in maintaining the strong momentum now underway to address the Hanford tank waste mission and continue making progress on the Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant,” acting Assistant EM Secretary Jim Owendoff said.

“I am honored and excited to be chosen to lead ORP at this important time to continue the Department of Energy’s successful work to tackle one of the largest environmental challenges at Hanford—radioactive tank waste,” Vance said.

Prior to joining CHPRC in June 2016, Vance held project management roles in major commercial nuclear projects with Westinghouse and AREVA. Vance is a retired Captain from the U.S. Navy where he held successively responsible leadership positions for lifecycle stages of projects from initial concept through sustainment. He served as program manager for the U.S. Navy’s Undersea Defensive Warfare Systems and the Submarine Combat and Weapons Control programs, and as the Commander of the Naval Submarine Support Command in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Vance has a Bachelor of Science degree in meteorology from Pennsylvania State University and a Master’s degree in business administration from the University of North Carolina. He is certified as a Project Management Professional by the Project Management Institute.

Vance will replace Ben Harp, who has served as acting Manager since late September. Harp will return to his position as ORP Deputy Manager.

“I want to thank Ben for leading ORP over these last few weeks during this transition,” Owendoff said.

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