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Hanford Cleanup Tour Registration Begins in March

Public tours focus on environmental cleanup mission

RICHLAND, Wash. – On March 19 at 9 a.m. the U.S. Department of Energy will open online registration for the 2019 Hanford cleanup tour program on the Hanford Site website, www.hanford.gov.

The public tour program focuses on environmental cleanup and provides participants with an in-depth look at several key projects that support the current cleanup effort. Tours include briefings on several Hanford facilities supporting the cleanup mission:

- **Hanford's Cold Test Facility:** a scaled version of one of Hanford's 177 underground nuclear waste storage tanks.
- **200 West Pump and Treat facility:** a groundwater treatment system combining several technologies to remove chemical, radioactive and organic contaminants before returning treated water to the ground through a network of wells.
- **Sludge Removal Project:** a project where workers are removing highly radioactive material from the 105 KW Reactor Basin and storing it at the center of the site.
- **Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant:** a facility that, when completed, will be the world's largest facility for immobilizing millions of gallons of liquid radioactive waste in glass suitable for safe, permanent disposal.
- **PUREX Tunnels:** a site where workers have reduced risk by stabilizing two underground tunnels to ensure worker safety and protection of the environment.

Tour participants must be U.S. citizens and at least 18 years of age. Government-issued photo identification is required for each tour participant and must be presented when arriving for the tour. Information about the required forms of identification is available on www.hanford.gov

All seats are filled on a first-come-first-served basis through online registration at <https://www.hanford.gov/c.cfm/publicTours>. Tours begin at 8 a.m. on the days indicated below and last about four hours. There is no cost to participate in the tours.

Hanford Site Cleanup Tour Dates:**April 17, 23 and 25****May 1, 7, 9 and 16****June 19, 25 and 27****July 17, 23, 25 and 31****August 6, 8, 14, 20, 22 and 28**

The tours will begin and end at the Mission Support Alliance office building at 2490 Garlick Blvd., Richland, Wash, 99354.

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.