



# EM RECOVERY NEWS

American Recovery & Reinvestment Act Newsletter

March 2011 | Issue 22



As of February 2011, Recovery Act workers had removed most of the siding from the 1.4 million-square-foot K-33 Building in preparation for its demolition.

## Effective Financial Planning Spurs Recovery Act Success at Oak Ridge

**OAK RIDGE, Tenn.** – Before American Recovery and Reinvestment Act workers set out to clean up contamination and demolish facilities that supported the Cold War and the Manhattan Project, Oak Ridge called on its budget analysts and financial personnel to ensure that the \$755 million Recovery Act investment would be used effectively and expeditiously.

The planners for Oak Ridge's Environmental Management (EM) program quickly compiled a list of shovel-ready projects that would accomplish key DOE missions and create jobs in the region, allowing Oak Ridge to begin much work just weeks after the Recovery Act was signed into law in 2009. Oak Ridge's Recovery Act plan focused on accelerating 36 projects, from remediating contaminated soil and groundwater to demolishing 49 facilities.

Crews have been working rigorously since then, accomplishing work on schedule and under budget to produce savings of \$110 million that will be used for additional cleanup.

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Recovery Act workers at the Idaho site enter visual examination information into a waste tracking database for each barrel of targeted waste that will be shipped out of Idaho to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in New Mexico. Workers are exhuming, sorting, and re-packaging transuranic wastes from Pit 9 of the Idaho site's Radioactive Waste Management Complex facility. The work is proceeding ahead of schedule as part of CH2M-WG Idaho's scope as managing contractor of the Idaho Cleanup Project.

## March EM Recovery News Highlights EM Recovery Act Program's Financial Picture

In this March issue, EM Recovery News focuses on financial achievements of the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Environmental Management's (EM) \$6 billion American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Program. As of early March, the program was close to achieving a significant milestone: \$4 billion in Recovery Act payments for accelerated Cold War cleanup at 17 DOE EM sites in 12 states. This issue of Recovery News updates Recovery Act finances of EM sites, from Tennessee's Oak Ridge site saving \$110 million to Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico avoiding \$16 million in costs related to the decontamination and demolition of 24 old buildings and structures. Other reports in this issue highlight the program's awards to small and local businesses. The Idaho site's main cleanup contractor, CH2M-WG Idaho, has awarded more than \$46 million from the Recovery Act to 223 small businesses. And at the Savannah River Site in South Carolina, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS), the management and operations contractor at the site, provided \$287 million in contracts to small businesses and \$165 million to local businesses funded by the Recovery Act through January 2011.



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Recovery Act Funds Support Local, Small Businesses at Hanford Site

Recovery Act workers remove one of two steam generators from the rusty, orange, 75-foot-tall Heavy Water Components Test Reactor at the Savannah River Site (SRS) in South Carolina. SRS is using \$25 million from the Recovery Act to decommission the Cold War reactor. The project is scheduled for completion this summer.



## Effective Financial Planning Spurs Recovery Act...

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“Our planners and analysts have truly been a vital part of our success story at Oak Ridge,” said John Eschenberg, Assistant Manager for EM in Oak Ridge. “Through their diligent efforts, we have accomplished more projects, maximizing the return on investment for our community and taxpayers.”

Work still remains. Through September 2011, crews will carry out work funded by an estimated \$274 million from the \$755 million Recovery Act allocation. The projects will be completed at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), Y-12 National Security Complex (Y-12), East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP), and the Transuranic Waste Processing Facility.

- At ORNL, \$80 million will be used to clean up and tear down numerous contaminated facilities as part of a larger 34-building decontamination and demolition project. As of February 2011, 11 of the buildings had been demolished. Recovery Act workers also will remove Building 3026’s hot cells, excavate the highly contaminated 4,000-gallon Tank W1-A, treat the site’s contaminated groundwater, and safely remove contaminated soils.

- At Y-12, \$67 million will help prepare the 613,000-square-foot Alpha 5 and an 82,000-square-foot portion of the Beta 4 for demolition. Both facilities date back to the 1940s and were used to store legacy material from past plant operations. Recovery Act workers also will complete the West End Mercury Area storm sewer cleanup project and remove soil contaminated with mercury.
- At ETTP, \$60 million will be used to complete demolition of the 32-acre K-33 Building and to characterize and treat a portion of the site’s contaminated soil. K-33 is a former gaseous diffusion building.
- Oak Ridge will use \$67 million to accelerate the processing and removal of transuranic waste from the state of Tennessee. The Recovery Act funding will expedite the removal of contact-handled transuranic waste by one year and remote-handled transuranic waste by two years. Transuranic waste is contaminated with radioactive elements that have atomic numbers greater than uranium. □



Recovery Act funds are being used to demolish the 32-acre former gaseous diffusion building, K-33, at Oak Ridge's East Tennessee Technology Park.

Recovery Act funds are helping Oak Ridge complete substantial cleanup work at the Y-12 National Security Complex, including the demolition of five Cold War facilities and cleanup of a 7-acre scrap yard.



Recovery Act workers finish adding a protective coating to hot cells at Building 3026 at Oak Ridge National Laboratory's central campus. The coating prevents hazardous releases until the hot cells are removed later this year.





These are the Recovery Act funds EM obligated to recipients to complete the accelerated cleanup.

These DOE sites received Recovery Act funding to accelerate Cold War cleanup.

These are the allocated Recovery Act funds for cleanup.

These are the Recovery Act amounts EM has paid to recipients.

Site	Spend Plan	Obligated to Contracts	Payments to Date
Argonne National Laboratory	\$79,000,000	\$79,000,000	\$45,723,959
Brookhaven National Laboratory	\$70,810,000	\$70,810,000	\$58,339,079
Energy Technology Engineering Center	\$51,675,000	\$51,675,000	\$44,994,069
Hanford (Office of River Protection)	\$326,035,000	\$326,035,000	\$228,658,258
Hanford (Richland)	\$1,634,500,000	\$1,634,488,486	\$1,045,440,261
Idaho	\$467,875,000	\$467,875,000	\$330,903,558
Los Alamos National Laboratory	\$211,975,000	\$211,975,000	\$181,303,773
Moab	\$108,350,000	\$108,350,000	\$78,392,753
Mound	\$17,900,000	\$17,900,000	\$17,112,715
Nevada National Security Site	\$44,325,000	\$44,325,000	\$40,503,664
Oak Ridge	\$755,110,000	\$755,110,000	\$381,299,920
Paducah	\$80,400,000	\$80,400,000	\$52,873,712
Portsmouth	\$119,800,000	\$119,800,000	\$107,167,877
Savannah River	\$1,615,400,000	\$1,615,399,996	\$1,085,984,878
SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory	\$14,300,000	\$14,300,000	\$10,693,769
Separations Process Research Unit	\$58,575,000	\$58,575,000	\$33,925,250
Waste Isolation Pilot Plant	\$172,175,000	\$172,175,000	\$115,822,003
West Valley Demonstration Project	\$62,875,000	\$62,875,000	\$47,387,049
Title X Uranium/Thorium Reimbursements	\$70,000,000	\$69,996,978	\$54,994,235
Management & Oversight	\$27,920,000	\$27,859,549	\$21,406,301
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,989,000,000</b>	<b>\$5,988,925,009</b>	<b>\$3,982,927,083</b>

## EM Recovery Act Program Payments Climb Close to \$4 Billion

- The EM Recovery Act Program is close to reaching \$4 billion in Recovery Act payments.
- DOE received \$35.2 billion from the Recovery Act. EM’s portion was \$6 billion, or 17 percent, to clean up the legacy brought about from five decades of nuclear weapons development, production, and government-sponsored nuclear energy research. EM has made nearly \$4 billion in Recovery Act payments, or 32 percent of the DOE’s \$12.4 billion in payments. DOE was one of 28 federal agencies to receive funding from the Recovery Act.
- Since the Recovery Act’s inception, the EM Recovery Act Program has aimed for unprecedented transparency into Recovery Act spending through EM Recovery News, News Flashes, stakeholder meetings, and other ways.
- The DOE Office of Inspector General reviews EM’s management of Recovery Act funds to ensure accountability requirements are being met.
- Agencies that received Recovery Act funds submit weekly financial reports detailing their activities. These reports provide updates on Recovery Act spending to government officials, Congress, and the public.



Above: Idaho Falls-based Communication Designs developed an infrared camera system to help CH2M-WG Idaho engineers cultivate a method to treat potentially dangerous sodium inside the Experimental Breeder Reactor II's cooling system. The sodium treatment will allow for the safe demolition of the reactor by March 2012.



Left: Workers with small business Hayward Baker, Inc., injected cement-based grout into 21 buried waste locations to stop rain and snow melt from infiltrating the contaminated waste produced during historic operations at the Idaho site.

## Idaho Site Awards over \$46 Million in Recovery Act Funds to Small Businesses

**IDAHO FALLS, Idaho** – Appropriately matching knowledgeable and skilled small businesses with projects accelerated with Recovery Act funding was a priority for the Idaho site to ensure workers would achieve cleanup milestones as they demolish facilities and process and remove contaminated waste from Idaho.

To date, the Idaho site's main cleanup contractor, CH2M-WG Idaho (CWI) has awarded more than \$46 million from the Recovery Act to 223 small businesses that are helping the Idaho site complete its Cold War cleanup mission. Examples of these businesses are Hayward Baker, Inc., and Communication Designs.

Small businesses have helped with a variety of projects, from supplying paper and other office supplies to isolating

buried waste to protect the Snake River Aquifer from contaminants. In preparation for the Experimental Breeder Reactor II's demolition, workers are safely treating and removing potentially dangerous sodium inside the reactor using a process developed by a team of small businesses.

"We are very fortunate to have access to such a talented population of small businesses helping us complete our mission," CWI Small Business Program Manager Natalie Packer said.

Even before the Recovery Act, the CWI small business program was an important part of the Idaho Cleanup Project. Since CWI launched its contract at the Idaho site in 2005, the program has pro-

moted, developed and implemented aggressive small business and socioeconomic subcontracting goals and serves as an advocate for small businesses.

CWI was awarded \$437 million of the Idaho site's Recovery Act funding for cleanup projects. CWI is decontaminating and decommissioning old spent fuel reprocessing facilities, excess and obsolete structures and nuclear reactors; exhuming and repackaging buried waste; and shipping remote-handled transuranic waste out of Idaho. □



Grade South, Inc., an Aiken County business, received a \$6.3 million contract funded by the Recovery Act to clean up and close the P Area Ash Basin.

## Millions of Recovery Act Dollars Boost Local and Small Businesses at Savannah River Site

**AIKEN, S.C.** – Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS), the management and operations contractor for the Savannah River Site (SRS) has awarded contracts funded by the Recovery Act to small and local businesses that total more than \$450 million.

Those contracts for Cold War cleanup awarded by SRNS have helped spur economic activity — a central and immediate Recovery Act goal — in the Central Savannah River Area.

“Workers involved in these Recovery Act projects have spent income at retail, service, and other types of local establishments. All businesses affected by this spending will hire additional workers who will also spend a portion of their income in the local economy,” DOE-Savannah River Manager Dr. David Moody said.

SRNS awarded \$287 million in contracts to small businesses and \$165 million to local businesses funded by the Recovery Act through January 2011.

Grade South, Inc., a local company in Beech Island in Aiken County, received a \$6.3 million contract to clean up and close a basin containing coal ash residues from operations at P Area, where nuclear materials for national defense were produced. Grade South has completed other Recovery Act projects at SRS, including cleanup and closure of the ash basin for the R Area Powerhouse operations and improvements to the road at the New Ellenton entrance to SRS.

Scott Stephens, Grade South president and chief executive officer, is employing 24 union employees for the P Area Ash Basin project, which began in December and is slated for completion in July.

SRS is located within the South Carolina counties of Aiken, Allendale, and Barnwell, and the site’s economic activities impact those counties and even reach across the Savannah River into the Augusta area in Richmond and Columbia counties in east central Georgia.

A \$1.2 million contract funded by the Recovery Act went to Contract Management, Inc. (CMI), a small business in Augusta. CMI was hired to convert an SRS building into a federally compliant storage and curation facility for SRS’s Cold War artifacts. The contract created jobs for 10 to 15 workers with CMI and its subcontractors. The crew is completing projects involving electrical, duct, shelving, and heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems.

Career Personnel, a staff augmentation firm in Augusta, has supported the SRS Recovery Act Program since its inception by placing employees in cleanup projects that help reduce SRS’s cleanup footprint. SRS’s goal is to reduce that footprint by 75 percent, from 310 square miles to 78 square miles, by September 2012.

“Recovery Act funding is helping create jobs and provide income to families that have been impacted in this economy,” SRNS Recovery Act Portfolio Vice President Paul Hunt said. □

**“ Recovery Act funding is helping create jobs and provide income to families that have been impacted in this economy. ”**

*SRNS Recovery Act Portfolio Vice President Paul Hunt*



## Recovery Act Helps Savannah River Site Move Closer to Completing Liquid Waste Projects

**AIKEN, S.C.** – The Savannah River Site's (SRS) liquid waste contractor is on track to spend almost \$80 million from the Recovery Act by September 2011 on 26 projects that will help clean up radioactive liquid waste.

As of early 2011, Savannah River Remediation, LLC, (SRR) had completed 15 Recovery Act projects, thereby accelerating high-level nuclear waste processing and closure of 49 underground liquid waste storage tanks.

SRR had spent nearly \$124 million from the Recovery Act by early 2011. SRR's funding is part of SRS's \$1.6 billion Recovery Act Program.

SRR is exceeding its goals to contract with small and local businesses. At the close of 2010, SRR had awarded Recovery Act contracts totaling \$36.1 million to small businesses and \$26.5 to local businesses in the five counties surrounding SRS, which is located in South Carolina and borders Georgia.

Recovery Act funding has supported significant improvements to the infrastructure for liquid waste operations at SRS.

In a \$7 million Recovery Act project, SRR installed bubbler technology at SRS's Defense Waste Processing Facility. The bubblers and related improvements will increase the annual production of canisters containing vitrified glass waste for long-term storage by more than 40 percent.

SRR invested \$11 million from the Recovery Act in submersible blending, mixing, and transfer pumps that replace aging liquid waste operational infrastructure and improve waste processing. The pumps will speed removal of waste from many of the tanks.

At a peak in 2010, more than 600 workers were employed in Recovery Act projects undertaken by SRR.



Workers change out the last of the obsolete filters. The replacement filters trap stray particles of contamination and reduce the risk of worker exposure.

## Hanford Tank Farms Recovery Act Work on Schedule and Under Budget

*OIG Audit Finds ORP's Recovery Act Funds Used for Appropriate Projects*

**RICHLAND, Wash.** – In recent good news for the Office of River Protection (ORP), an audit by the DOE Office of Inspector General (OIG) found that \$326 million worth of Recovery Act work at Hanford's tank farm was on schedule and under budget.

The OIG conducted a three-month-long audit and concluded that ORP's Recovery Act funds are being used appropriately and in accordance with ORP's plans for the funding.

"Our review found that the Department selected projects for Recovery Act funding that supported the goal of upgrading the tank farm infrastructure and waste feed delivery systems," OIG auditor Daniel M. Weeber wrote in his report. "Additionally, the

Department was on schedule to complete the Recovery Act upgrades by Sept. 30, 2011, as planned, and at less than the estimated costs."

ORP is using Recovery Act funds to upgrade tank farm infrastructure, and improve and extend the life of nuclear facilities at Hanford where more than 53 million gallons of radioactive and chemical waste are stored in 177 underground tanks. Recovery Act work aims to improve safety, speed waste retrieval and prepare the waste for delivery to the Waste Treatment Plant (WTP), which is under construction.

ORP was pleased with the findings from the OIG audit.

"We are hitting a home run in Recovery Act work," ORP Tank Farms

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Final backfill operations are shown at the Portsmouth Site's X-701B Soils Treatment Project, which successfully reduced TCE levels by 95 percent.

## DOE Gets Added Value with Completion of Recovery Act Projects at Portsmouth

**PIKETON, Ohio** – Lower-than-expected costs and efficient workers helped the Portsmouth Site complete five Recovery Act projects originally budgeted to cost almost \$136 million for about \$110 million.

The five Recovery Act projects included the decontamination and decommissioning of three major structures: a 20-acre electrical switchyard complex, a 21-acre cooling tower complex with four separate towers, and an 8,000-square-foot contaminated building, all built as part of the original gaseous diffusion plant in the early 1950s.

The other projects involved successful oxidant treatment of a 70,000-square-foot area of soils containing high concentrations of trichloroethylene about 30 feet beneath the surface, and the repackaging and disposition of approximately 1,700 metric tons of excess uranium materials in storage.

The final project — to ship excess, out-of-specification uranium to the Nevada National

Security Site for permanent, safe disposal — will be complete in late March, meaning all five projects will be finished well before the September 2011 deadline. Two of the projects — demolition of the X-633 Cooling Tower Complex and X-760 Chemical Engineering Building — were completed in June 2010, almost 15 months ahead of that deadline.

In addition, in 2010 alone, more than \$25 million from the Recovery Act went to small businesses through DOE's environmental remediation contractor LATA/Parallax Portsmouth. Of this total, about \$8.1 million was provided to small businesses in the four-county local region surrounding the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant in rural southern Ohio.

**“ The additional money that we were able to infuse into the local economy with these projects was a definite boost to the area. ”**

*Vince Adams, Site Director for DOE*

“The additional money that we were able to infuse into the local economy with these projects was a definite boost to the area,” said Vince Adams, Site Director for DOE. “The work supported many companies, from office supply vendors to equipment rental agencies and local construction firms.” □



Recovery Act workers install one of the first of 113 filters for Hanford's single-shell tanks.

## Hanford Tank Farms Recovery Act Work...

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Project Acting Assistant Manager Tom Fletcher said. "This major accomplishment could never have been achieved without the dedication of the ORP and Washington River Protection Solutions (WRPS) teams, which work together to come up with viable and innovative solutions to complex problems."

Pointing to a November 2010 contract performance report, the OIG notes that ORP and WRPS, ORP's prime contractor, completed nearly \$200 million worth of work for only \$177 million and completed a third of its Recovery Act-funded milestones a month or more ahead of schedule.

ORP achieved a milestone by installing 113 improved filters on Hanford's single-shell tanks in December 2010 nine months ahead of schedule. The newly mounted filters trap stray particles of contamination and prevent them from escaping into the air. They reduce the risk of worker exposure to contamination, are light and easy to maintain, and result in significant cost savings.

Of the remaining 39 milestones to be completed by Sept. 30, 2011, 15 are projected to be finished a month or more early. Furthermore, WRPS projects that it will finish the current Recovery Act work at approximately \$9 million under budget.

The OIG report also validates the selection of projects identified as Recovery Act work scope, citing several upgrades made to Hanford's aging 242-A Evaporator, a 34-year-old facility that supports the delivery of waste to WTP.

"The Office of Environmental Management had established the goal that work performed by WRPS must help ensure that critical infrastructure needed to deliver waste feed to WTP by 2019, was in place," Weeber wrote. "Our review of individual project justifications determined that the projects selected for Recovery Act funding addressed this goal."

As of early 2011, ORP had spent almost three-fourths, or \$234 million, of its allocated Recovery Act funds. ORP is on track to spend the remaining Recovery Act funds by the end of September 2011. □

## Brian Klaiber - OH



### Recovery Act Helps Portsmouth Site Superintendent in Face of Adversity

PIKETON, Ohio – The Recovery Act could not have come at a better time for Brian Klaiber.

He began work at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant on Nov. 2, 2009, as a superintendent for the X-533 Electrical Switchyard Decontamination and Decommissioning project, overseeing the removal of electrical towers, switch houses, and equipment from the switchyard.

The position was a welcomed change for the experienced manager, who applied for a Recovery Act position through the site's cleanup contractor, LATA/Parallax Portsmouth, LLC (LPP). Klaiber had previously worked as a superintendent at a foundry.

Little did Klaiber know at the time that the position at the Portsmouth Site would also help him recover from a flood just eight months after being hired.

"We experienced a flash flood that left us with 37 inches of water that did a great deal of damage to our home and vehicles," Klaiber said of events occurring July 21, 2010. Seeing 20 years of memories washed away could be a breaking point for many. Instead, it served as an occasion for the LPP family to rally around one of its own. Employees held several fundraising events providing nearly \$5,200 to assist Klaiber's family.

"Months later, our home is 95 percent restored and all is well," said Klaiber. "I can say the Recovery Act has been a blessing and made the future brighter."

□



## Dissolvable Protective Clothing Saves Funds and Space at Los Alamos Recovery Act Project

**LOS ALAMOS, N.M.** – Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) will save at least \$840,000 and reduce the amount of material sent to a disposal facility by providing workers with protective clothing made from a revolutionary recyclable fabric. Called OREX, the fabric is an organic polymer that can be dissolved after use, saving both disposal costs and space in landfills.

The fabric is being used for worker protection clothing, including coveralls, shoe covers, gloves, and hoods, at a \$94 million Recovery Act project at LANL. The project, which is scheduled for completion this summer, involves excavating the Lab's oldest waste disposal site, Material Disposal Area B (MDA-B), used from 1944 to 1948.

By using protective clothing made from OREX, LANL estimates it will prevent about 200 cubic yards, or as many as 100,000 items of protective clothing, from being sent to the waste disposal facility.

“In addition to cleaning up a 1940s-era waste disposal site, we aren't generating additional waste,” said Recovery Act Projects Executive Director Gordon Dover. “It's all about environmental stewardship.” □



A Recovery Act worker at Los Alamos National Laboratory wears protective clothing called OREX, made from a revolutionary recyclable fabric.



## Stewardship Includes Financial Resources as Well as Environment at Los Alamos Lab

**LOS ALAMOS, N.M.** – Good stewardship at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) extends to financial resources as well as to the environment.

In two of three major projects funded by \$212 million from the Recovery Act, the Lab has decontaminated and demolished 24 old buildings and structures and installed 16 groundwater monitoring wells while being efficient with costs.

“Thoroughly segregating waste prior to building demolition meant we minimized our waste disposal costs as much as possible,” said LANL Recovery Act Executive Director Gordon Dover. “With the addition of efficient contracting practices, we avoided about \$16 million in costs for building demolition.”

Crews are scheduled to finish transporting waste generated by the demolitions at Technical Area 21 (TA-21) by April 2011, six months ahead of schedule. TA-21 was used during the Manhattan Project and Cold War eras.

In addition to saving money on demolition, other efficiencies resulted in a savings of about 7 percent on the installation of the wells — a significant amount considering the \$45 million budget.

The cost to drill a well to sample water in the regional aquifer in New Mexico is about \$2 million. Most of the cost comes from drilling for the depth of each well, which averages 1,100 feet.

“By buying steel in bulk and scheduling construction to save mobilization and demobilization costs for drilling equipment, we saved about \$3 million,” Dover said.

The third major Recovery Act project at LANL — excavation of Material Disposal Area B, the Lab’s oldest waste disposal site used from 1944 to 1948 — is scheduled for completion this summer. □



Recovery Act workers remove hazardous asbestos used for insulation throughout the old Metals Plant, one of two buildings scheduled for demolition at the Paducah Site.



Recovery Act workers dismantle vacuum piping near the Slag Building of the old Metals Plant at the Paducah Site.

## Recovery Act Workers Clean Up ‘Slag Building’ At Paducah

**PADUCAH, Ky.** – Another Cold War building at the Paducah Site is ready for demolition, thanks to a Recovery Act investment.

In January, a dedicated crew of six members of United Steelworkers Local 550 and a supervisor finished cleaning up a four-story, 4,200-square-foot structure known as the C-340-C Magnesium Fluoride Slag Building.

“They completed the work about eight months ahead of schedule through dedicated efforts and innovations in project execution,” said Rob Seifert, DOE Recovery Act Project Manager at the Paducah Site.

Wearing protective suits and respirators, workers cleaned up a magnesium fluoride system and left it ready for demolition. Blending the magnesium fluoride with sand avoided having to move it from container to container during waste handling. The process was developed by the Waste Disposition group for LATA Environmental Services of Kentucky, LLC, DOE’s cleanup contractor at the Paducah site. As a result, the work was accomplished more quickly and efficiently.

“The bottom line is these workers took charge of their scope, and took pride

and ownership of their building,” Seifert said.

The Slag Building is one of five structures comprising the C-340 complex, known as the Metals Plant. It operated from 1953 to 1962, and from 1968 to 1973, to convert depleted uranium hexafluoride, or UF<sub>6</sub>, into uranium metal.

The Metals Plant is the second of three large, inactive facilities at the Paducah Site whose cleanup and demolition are being accelerated with \$80 million in Recovery Act funding. The crew members are among 45 craft personnel and six front-line supervisors working on various portions of the Metals Plant to prepare the complex for demolition this summer.

The first of the facilities that was demolished was a smelting complex in September 2010. It was cleaned up and demolished \$10 million under budget and a year ahead of schedule.

A third complex known as the Feed Plant continues to undergo cleanup and is slated for removal in late 2011 or early 2012.

So far, about \$50 million in Recovery Act funds have been spent at Paducah. □



# Recovery Act Funds Support Local, Small Businesses at Hanford Site

**RICHLAND, Wash.** – Hanford Site contractor CH2M HILL Plateau Remediation Company has awarded contracts funded by the Recovery Act to more than 450 small businesses.

About 55 percent of CH2M HILL's \$1.3 billion Recovery Act allocation has been awarded to small businesses to support Cold War cleanup at Hanford. The contractor's allocation is part of the \$1.6 billion the Richland Operations Office at the Hanford Site received from the Recovery Act.

Two of those small businesses, Clauss Construction and Controlled Demolition, recently worked with the Hanford Site to demolish several industrial structures at the 200 West and East Power Houses on Hanford's Central Plateau. The companies provided safe and efficient explosive techniques to tear down the structures, which were formerly used for Hanford's plutonium processing to support national defense.

Local businesses surrounding Hanford are benefiting from Recovery Act funds. CH2M HILL awarded \$389 million from the Recovery Act to businesses in Benton County, where Hanford is located. Small businesses such as Babcock Services, Inc., Federal Engineers and Constructors, Inc., and George A. Grant, Inc., received Recovery Act contracts.

"Small businesses are the lifeblood of a community," CH2M HILL Small Business Advocate Jan Sullivan said. "We reach out to small business owners at local as well as state and national levels to secure the range of talent and skill sets necessary to accomplish our work safely and efficiently."

The businesses are involved in major undertakings, such as the removal of old facilities and the implementation of efficiencies to reduce future costs for cleanup. For example, Recovery Act work-

ers recently completed construction of the 100-DX Groundwater Treatment Facility along the Columbia River. The facility, which began operating in January 2011, expands Hanford's groundwater treatment capacity by 550 gallons per minute. The system uses a new treatment resin that is expected to save \$20 million in lifecycle costs, essentially equal to the cost of construction.

**“ Small businesses are the lifeblood of a community. ”**

*CH2M HILL Plateau Remediation Company  
Small Business Advocate  
Jan Sullivan*

Recovery Act workers also are scheduled to complete construction of the 200 West Groundwater Treatment Facility in September 2011. The 100-DX and 200 West Groundwater Treatment facilities together will accelerate cleanup of groundwater plumes while protecting the Columbia River.

Recovery Act workers also removed a multi-layer, mile-long security barrier that surrounded Hanford's Plutonium Finishing Plant (PFP) in 2010. The barrier was no longer needed after workers removed the last of special nuclear material from the PFP in November 2009 and removing the barrier eliminated costs associated with vehicle, metal detector and badge inspection stations that personnel passed daily to enter high-security areas of the complex.

Recovery Act workers are preparing the PFP for demolition by 2013. □



Above: Recovery Act workers removed a multi-layer security barrier at the Plutonium Finishing Plant after the last of nuclear material was removed from the facility in 2009. Workers removed razor wire fencing and concrete vehicle barriers and prepared inspection stations for demolition.

Middle: The Recovery Act funded the construction of the 100-DX Groundwater Treatment Facility, which began operating in January 2011.

Bottom: Recovery Act workers prepare the base of a structure for demolition. The Hanford Site worked with small businesses Clauss Construction and Controlled Demolition, Inc., to complete the explosive demolition of several high-rise structures on Hanford's Central Plateau.



The newly reconstructed Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) South Access Road in New Mexico reopened to traffic earlier this year. The reconstruction project was funded by the Recovery Act. WIPP has requested use of the road to accommodate shipments of transuranic waste to WIPP for safe, permanent disposal. The new route would allow shipments entering New Mexico from southeast U.S. to travel a shorter distance to WIPP. For example, the route would reduce the distance shipments from the Savannah River Site in South Carolina travel by 188 miles, resulting in a saving of about \$1080 per trip. The road now features 10-foot-wide driving lanes and 8-foot-wide shoulders.

About \$23,000 from the Recovery Act funded the recent removal of invasive and nonnative tamarisk trees and planting of native plant species at the Moab site in Utah. Recovery Act workers removed a 1,700-foot-long, 35-foot-wide stretch of the trees, pictured right, along the Colorado River bank adjacent to the groundwater well field. This 1.4-acre area will be revegetated with native plant species to improve aesthetics and encourage wildlife. The photo below shows the area after the trees were removed.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON  
EM RECOVERY ACT WORK PLEASE VISIT:

<http://www.em.doe.gov/emrecovery/>

<http://www.recovery.gov>

<http://recoveryclearinghouse.energy.gov>

EMAIL ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS TO:

[EMRecoveryActProgram@em.doe.gov](mailto:EMRecoveryActProgram@em.doe.gov)

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (EM)



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
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