



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
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**Richland Operations
Office**

Backgrounder

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Recovery Act Jobs Count Changes at Hanford

The Hanford Site has implemented new guidance from the Department of Energy's Office of Environmental Management (EM) on what to include in job creation figures for Recovery Act funding. Hanford job counts will now include only hours worked by employees of the three contractors receiving ARRA funding and employees of those companies' teaming subcontractors, as well as some jobs created by subcontracts for some highly specialized goods and services.

As a result, Hanford's job creation number (headcount) has gone down to 3,521 using the new criteria for job counting, which excludes estimating jobs created by money spent on common goods and services. That is equivalent to 1,423 full-time jobs.

This change in counting approach in no way reflects a reduction in the positive impact of, and the lives touched by, Hanford's ARRA spending. It simply changes "what" we're counting in order to further incorporate best practices learned from all the EM sites and standardizes the way jobs are counted beyond direct contractor employment. This improves the predictability and ensures an accurate reflection of ARRA impacts across the various EM sites.

The EM program reports job creation activities on Recovery.gov and these numbers have not been changed and remain consistent. EM, however, provides additional information and detail to the public to better reflect the impact of Recovery Act efforts (e.g. new jobs with subcontractors and benefits to vendors including small business). It is at this level of detail that the public will notice a change in Hanford's numbers based on the new counting methodology.

Updated job counts based on the new guidance have been posted on the Hanford website (www.hanford.gov/recovery).

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