



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

Richland Operations  
Office



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**Joint DOE-MSA News Release**

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**DOE-NNSA, Washington to take part in regional exercise in Benton and Franklin Counties**

*Training designed to enable responders to work together effectively during radiological emergencies*

**Richland, Wash.** - The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) National Nuclear Security Administration's (NNSA) Radiological Assistance Program (RAP) along with representatives from the states of Washington, Idaho, California and Hawaii will participate in a regional capstone exercise Thursday, March 26. Exercise participants will practice responding to incidents involving the release of radiological materials. State and DOE/NNSA RAP field monitoring teams will work together conducting monitoring activities.

Approximately 20 exercise participants will conduct environmental radiological monitoring and sample collection activities to include measuring for radiation, setting up air monitoring stations and collecting soil, water and vegetation samples.

"Participants will measure naturally occurring background radiation while outside of the training facility," said Donna Thelen, director, MSA Emergency Management Program, who manages the program on behalf of DOE. "During this portion of the exercise, participants will be visible to the public in residential and business communities in North Richland, east of the 240 Bypass and as far east as Road 68 in Pasco."

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**About MSA**

Mission Support Alliance, a team of [Lockheed Martin](#), [Jacobs Engineering](#) and Centerra Group Company, 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/msa>

**About NNSA**

Established by Congress in 2000, NNSA is a semi-autonomous agency within the U.S. Department of Energy responsible for enhancing national security through the military application of nuclear science. NNSA maintains and enhances the safety, security, reliability and performance of the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile without nuclear testing; works to reduce global danger from weapons of mass destruction; provides the U.S. Navy with safe and effective nuclear propulsion; and responds to nuclear and radiological emergencies in the U.S. and abroad. Visit [www.nnsa.energy.gov](http://www.nnsa.energy.gov) for more information.

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