

# NEWS

Washington Closure Hanford  
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**Washington Closure Hanford reaches a new safety milestone –  
7 million safe consecutive work hours as contract comes to an end September 30**

RICHLAND, Wash. – Washington Closure Hanford (WCH) and its subcontractor employees have achieved a significant safety milestone by working 7 million hours without a lost workday injury; that is 3 ½ years since the last on the job injury that required an employee to spend time away from work.

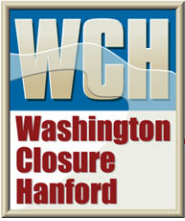
WCH manages the \$2.9 billion River Corridor Closure Project for the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Richland Operations Office. The River Corridor is a 220-square-mile section of the Hanford Site that borders the Columbia River and was the home to Hanford's nine plutonium production reactors and fuel development facilities, and hundreds of support structures that operated during World War II and the Cold War era. The River Corridor Closure Project is DOE's largest environmental cleanup closure project.

WCH's work involves demolishing hundreds of contaminated buildings, remediating hundreds of waste sites and burial grounds, as well as managing the Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility (ERDF) – Hanford's onsite landfill.

"This is a remarkable achievement for the entire River Corridor team," said Scott Sax, WCH president and project manager. "Our employees have met the unique and hazardous challenges they face on a daily basis by placing safety and the well-being of each other above all else. I'm very proud to be a part of such a team."

Since beginning cleanup work on the River Corridor in 2005, WCH has demolished 324 buildings, cleaned up 574 waste sites, disposed of 11.6 million tons of contaminated material in ERDF and placed two nuclear reactors in interim safe storage. By completing cleanup projects safely and efficiently, WCH has saved taxpayers by coming in more than \$300 million dollars under budget; allowing WCH and DOE to reinvest the savings toward additional cleanup work along the Columbia River.

Last October, DOE awarded WCH an additional year to its original 10-year contract to complete additional work. Since then, the company has focused mostly on two



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challenging projects: (1) remediating the highly hazardous 618-10 Burial Ground, which involves remediating buried vertical pipe units - some of which contain highly contaminated radioactive waste, and (2) placing the 324 Building in maintenance status for future demolition.

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*Washington Closure Hanford, which began work on the River Corridor Closure Project contract in 2005 for the U.S. Department of Energy's Richland Operations Office, completes its contract in September. For more information, please visit [https://www.washingtonclosure.com/news\\_room/news\\_releases/](https://www.washingtonclosure.com/news_room/news_releases/).*