

MONITOR

WEAPONS COMPLEX

Waste Management ♦ Clean Up

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— INSIDE HIGHLIGHTS —

With the conclusion of a new DOE review into the safety culture at the Hanford Waste Treatment Plant, DOE Chief Health, Safety and Security Officer Glenn Podonsky believes DOE now fully understands worker concerns at the project and is ready to make improvements going forward. 2

The decision by the NNSA and DOE's Office of Environmental Management not to release Performance Evaluation Review data has drawn the attention of Congress, and Hill staffers expect the issue to receive increased scrutiny over the next year. 4

WSI, DOE's Oak Ridge security contractor, confirmed that a security supervisor resigned Jan. 26 after he admitted violating multiple rules—including sleeping on the job and using a personal cell phone while on duty. 5

Startup of the Sodium-Bearing Waste Treatment Facility at DOE's Idaho site has been pushed back yet again, putting DOE at increasing risk of being unable to meet a commitment to the state of Idaho to have the remaining liquid waste at the site treated by the end of the year. 6

The Department of Energy is providing an additional two weeks to prepare and submit bids for the new Office of Legacy Management support services contract, with proposals now due by Feb. 15. 7

The search has begun for a new environmental and technical services contractor for the Department of Energy's Portsmouth site. 7

Oak Ridge cleanup contractor URS-CH2M Hill Oak Ridge, LLC, this week notified six companies and teams that they have been selected as prequalified bidders for UCOR's radiological protection support services subcontract. 8

Despite calls from lawmakers to move forward with a program to re-enrich a portion of its inventory of depleted uranium tails, DOE appears to be holding off, for now, on making a decision on whether or not to proceed. 8

The Obama Administration's Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future released a final report this week recommending that the Department of Energy consider whether defense and civilian waste should be managed by the same federal entity. 9

At the DOE Operations Offices/Facilities 9 **At River Protection**

DNFSB Wants Info on WTP Corrosion Issue 9

DOE Analyzing Natural Gas Pipeline for WTP 10

At Richland

Truck Accident Injures Driver 11

At Savannah River

SRR Earned Almost Full Fee for FY11 11

DOE Looking to Remove Salt from Pu 11

Wrap Up 12

Calendar 13