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Richland Operations
Office



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Joint DOE-MSA News Release

Media Contacts:

Cameron Hardy, DOE, (509) 376-5365, Cameron.Hardy@rl.doe.gov

Rae Weil, Mission Support Alliance, (509) 376-6522, Rae_S_Weil@rl.gov

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

Training is designed to enable responders to work together more 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, 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 for more information.

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