



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

**Richland Operations
Office**

DOE News Release

Media Contact:

Cameron Salony, DOE

509-376-0402, Cameron.Salony@rl.doe.gov

For Immediate Release:

December 20, 2012

DOE Awards Hanford Site Law Enforcement Contract to Benton County

RICHLAND, WASH. – The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) today awarded a contract to the Benton County Sheriff's Office in Kennewick, Wash., to provide law enforcement services at the DOE Hanford Site. The contract has a five-year period of performance, consisting of a one-year base period, with four one-year option periods and an approximate total value of \$5 million.

As the law enforcement contractor, the sheriff's office will:

- Ensure site employees obey traffic laws
- Investigate suspected or reported violations of law
- Apprehend and arrest those suspected of committing violations of law
- Provide reports, testimony, and other evidence as required for the prosecution of violators
- Respond to emergency traffic accidents or mutual aid requests

The sheriff's office has jurisdiction within Benton County for civil and criminal law enforcement as well as traffic enforcement. DOE has contracted with the sheriff's office for law enforcement services at the Hanford Site since 1992. The current law enforcement contract expires on Dec. 31, 2012. With this new contract, DOE is continuing to engage the sheriff's office in providing the same services. It is not anticipated that any law enforcement procedures will change.

The law enforcement services provided by the sheriff's office are not associated with the Hanford Patrol security services provided by Mission Support Alliance.

The 586-square-mile Hanford Site in southeastern Washington State has played a pivotal role in the nation's defense beginning in the 1940s with the Manhattan Project. Formerly a plutonium production complex with nine nuclear reactors and associated processing facilities, Hanford is today engaged in the world's largest environmental cleanup project.

###