



February 22, 2011

Dear Friend,

A Bit of Good News

The Hanford Site cleanup is one of the most challenging and complex efforts underway at this time, and promises to remain so for the foreseeable future. While much of the news out of Hanford is discouraging and even painful, I am happy to be able to report that a recent Audit conducted by the Office of Inspector General found that the contractor at Hanford's tank cleanup program has done a great job with making upgrades using stimulus act funds. In fact, two phrases you almost never hear in relation to Hanford: --

“under-budget” and “finished early” – were used in this report. The [tank farms](#) contain 177 aging underground [tanks that store 53 million](#) gallons of high level nuclear waste.

The February 9, 2011 [Inspector General report](#) stated,

“Our review determined that WRPS [Washington River Protection Solutions] was on schedule to complete the Recovery Act work scope and had spent \$22.4 million less than estimated for the work completed as of November 21, 2010. Specifically, according to WRPS's November 21, 2010, Contract Performance Report, **WRPS had completed \$199 million of the total estimated work scope, at an actual cost of \$176.6 million.** Our review of contract milestones specifically related to Recovery Act work found that of 73 milestones, WRPS had completed 34 with 11 milestones being completed 30 or more days early. Of the remaining 39 milestone, 15 are also projected to be finished 30 or more days early. Furthermore, WRPS projects that it will finish the current Recovery Act work scope at approximately \$9 million under budget. As a result, additional projects have been added through contract modification to utilize the remaining Recovery Act funds.”

Congratulations to Washington River Protection Solutions and its president, Chuck Spencer, for the great work. Keep it up!

Sincerely,

Tom Carpenter
Executive Director