



ECA UPDATE

Oct 30, 2019

15 major EM contracts expiring in 2020

ECA Staff | 10/30/2019

Communities surrounding DOE sites are impacted in many ways whenever DOE begins a new contracting process. The approach to—and ultimate success of—these contracts is vital to the overall nuclear security and nuclear waste cleanup mission in the United States, the health and viability of the communities that host these sites, the strength of the future workforce, and the sustainability of businesses—both small and large—that take on these unique tasks. Contracts provide a basis for community members and Congress to gauge cleanup progress, which in turn can increase trust and confidence in the cleanup.

ECA communities at all of DOE's sites continue to ask the Office of Environmental Management (EM) for regular briefings on the timing of the contracts. Each contract delay impacts the community and adds uncertainty for the workers, local governments and their budgets, and small businesses who may serve as subcontractors. ECA has [advocated](#) for contracts to include community engagement requirements, emphasize longer-term contracts (five years versus three years with two one-year options), and include community cleanup priorities clearly in the contract scope.

ECA appreciates the opportunity to discuss these principles with EM, which has been holding regular community meetings for each procurement at the same time DOE meets with interested bidders.

Last year DOE released a modified End State Contracting Model (ESCM) in hopes of better defining “discrete scopes of work for site closure or end states” and providing for “more realistic, reliable pricing and appropriate incentive structures.”

At this year's National Cleanup Workshop, EM Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Todd Shrader [discussed](#) with industry leaders and local government officials the Department's plan to continue pursuing and implementing end state contracting. DOE will apply the new model to several upcoming procurements.

EM currently has [31 major contracts](#) that are active. Of those contracts, 15 of them are expiring in 2020:

- **Environmental Program Services in Nevada** (expiring 1/31/2020)
- **Security Services at Savannah River Site** (expiring 2/7/2020)
- **West Valley Demonstration Project Interim End State** (completion contract, expiring 3/9/2020)
- **NRC Licensed Facilities Management Contract in Idaho** (expiring 3/31/2020)
- **Decontamination & Decommissioning Project for the East Tennessee Technology Park** (expiring 7/31/2020)
- **Hanford 222-S Laboratory Analysis and Testing Services** (expiring 9/20/2020)
- **Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Management and Operating Contract** (expiring 9/30/2020)
- **Tank Operations Contract at Hanford** (expiring 9/30/2020)
- **Paducah Infrastructure Services** (expiring 9/30/2020)
- **Hanford Site Central Plateau Remediation** (expiring 9/30/2020)
- **Design, Construction and Commissioning of the Salt Waste Processing Facility at Savannah River Site** (completion contract, expiring 9/30/2020)
- **Savannah River Liquid Waste Program** (expiring 9/30/2020)
- **Management and Operation (M&O) of the Savannah River Site** (expiring 9/30/2020)
- **Transuranic Waste Processing at Oak Ridge** (expiring 10/26/2020)
- **Carlsbad Technical Assistance Contract** (expiring 12/3/2020)

There are 14 contracts currently being competed for procurement by EM, including cleanup at Oak Ridge Reservation, Hanford, and Idaho. DOE has made available a [listing of major procurement actions](#), which is based on information from DOE's Acquisition Forecast.

DOE has missed some of its anticipated award deadlines, leading to a number of recently announced contract extensions. Mission Support Alliance's site-wide services contract at Hanford was extended for six months; the M&O contract held by Savannah River Nuclear Solutions was extended through September 2020; and the Central Plateau remediation contract at Hanford was extended through September 2020.

At the 2019 National Cleanup Workshop, a DOE representative acknowledged the delays and said they are due in part to DOE's desire



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to ensure the contracts are set up correctly, which means evaluating the technological needs, the workforce and leadership, and the structure of the contract.

According to DOE, anticipated evaluations or awards to be completed in March-May 2020 include the cleanup contract at Oak Ridge Reservation; Nationwide Deactivation, Decommissioning & Removal (DD&R); and the Idaho Cleanup Project contract.

For more information about ECA's work on contracting, read our report, [*Changing Course: The Case for Sensible DOE Acquisition Reform.*](#)