

A weekly recap of events regarding Hanford's tank vapors

From the desk of Mark Lindholm, WRPS President:

Congratulations to the AP Farm exhauster project team, which recently received the Project Management Institute's (PMI) Project of the Year and the People's Choice Award from the local Columbia River Basin Chapter.

AP Farm is the staging point for tank waste being transferred to the Waste Treatment Plant (WTP) for vitrification. The AP Farm Ventilation Upgrades Project was established to design, fabricate and install a new ventilation system for the eight AP tanks. The project progressed from an installation concept to a fully operable system, preparing AP Farm for its pivotal role in receiving, staging and transferring millions of gallons of high-level radioactive waste to the WTP.

DOE has been highly complimentary of the project. In a sponsor letter endorsing the project for the PMI award nomination, a DOE

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representative wrote, "The work that was accomplished by the AP Farm Ventilation Upgrades project team is profound. The project team has built a best-in-class ventilation system, has developed new ways of protecting the Hanford workforce, and has set a new benchmark for future ventilation upgrade projects."

Improving ventilation systems in the tank farms is a key component of protecting workers from potential exposure to chemical vapors from Hanford's waste tanks. The PMI Project of the Year Award recognizes the AP Farm exhauster project team for their superior performance of project management practices, organizational results and positive impacts on the workforce.

I'm proud of this group's commitment to quality work, and commend them on this recent award. I wish them success as they join another project nominated for local PMI honors – the Double-Shell Tank AY-102 Recovery Project – to compete for the PMI Global Project of the Year Award. Best of luck!

News & Notes

• <u>A Tri-City Herald article</u> highlights a joint decision by WRPS and HAMTC to allow the use of airpurifying respirators for certain work activities in Hanford's AP Farm. A new <u>hanfordvapors.com</u> <u>webpage</u> offers more information on the decision and associated equipment.

Opportunities for Employee Engagement

- The next Chemical Vapors Solutions Team (CVST) meeting is March 22 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the 2704 building, room G206. Meetings are open to all employees. Please coordinate attendance with your supervisor.
- The CVST communications subcommittee will meet Monday, March 20, from 3 to 4 p.m. at the 2704 building, room B226. Please join the group as we identify topics to share with workers.