HANFORD SITE

First test glass poured from Vit Plant melter



Crewmembers stand in front of the first stainless steel container filled with molten test glass at Hanford's Vit Plant. (Photo: Bechtel National)

Bechtel and the Department of Energy's Office of Environmental Management announced on December 4, 2023, that the first set of test glass was successfully poured into a stainless steel storage container designed to hold vitrified waste at Hanford's Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant, also known as the Vit Plant.

According to Bechtel, which is designing, building, and commissioning the plant, the pouring of the first container marks a major milestone in the DOE's mission to treat radioactive and chemical liquid waste at the Hanford Site in southeastern Washington state.

The pour was completed as workers commissioned the first of two large melters in the Vit Plant's Low-Activity Waste (LAW) Facility. Once operational, the melters will be used to immobilize Hanford's tank waste, turning it into a stable glass form through vitrification. About 56 million gallons of waste, the

