AccuWeather AccuWeather Forecast **MONDAY TUESDAY** WEDNESDAY Breezy with clouds Breezy with some Mostly cloudy with Times of clouds sun 33° 39° 30° 40° 47° 31° 40° **37°** 40° 47° 60° Seattle **ALMANAC** Spokane 60/42 Wenatchee 52/35 58/37 **PENDLETON** Tacoma Moses through 3 p.m. yesterday Pullman Lake Aberdeen Olympia Yakima 59/35 **TEMPERATURE** 53/35 55/41 HIGH Longview Yesterday Walla Walla 62/38 58° 79° (1964) Lewiston 61/39 57/42 19° (1936) Astoria Records 58/38 **PRECIPITATION** Portland Enterprise Hermiston 24 hours ending 3 p.m Pendleton 52/33 64/42 61/40 The Dalles Month to date 1.38' Normal month to date 64/41 Salem La Grande 3.71' 6.27' 55/36 Last year to date 62/38 Normal year to date Albany 3.91" Corvallis **HERMISTON** 62/36 61/36 John Day through 3 p.m. yesterday 55/37 Ontario 6 Eugene Bend **TEMPERATURE** 61/38 61/35 56/35 HIGH Caldwell Yesterday Burns

REGIONAL FORECAST

Klamath Falls

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

Coastal Oregon: Times of clouds and sun today; pleasant in the south. Partly cloudy

Medford

72/41

Eastern and Central Oregon: Times of sun and clouds today with a shower in spots. Partly cloudy tonight. Western Washington: Clouds and sunshine

today. Partly cloudy tonight. Occasional rain

Eastern Washington: Clouds and sun today. Partly cloudy tonight. Intervals of clouds and sun tomorrow cloudy tonight. Intervals of clouds and sur

55/31

Northern California: Partial sunshine today. Patchy clouds tonight. Mostly sunny

REGI	ON	AL	CI	TIE	5		
	T Hi	oda Lo	y W	Hi	Sun. Hi Lo		
Astoria	54	39	рс	48	37	r	
Baker City	56	30	рс	58	30	pc	
Bend	56	35	рс	56	29	рс	
Brookings	63	45	рс	59	43	S	
Burns	55	31	рс	58	31	рс	
Enterprise	52	33	pc .	52	28	pc	
Eugene	61	35	рс	54	34	рс	
Heppner	56	38	рс	57	31	рс	
Hermiston	61	40	рс	61	37	рс	
John Day	55	37	рс	56	31	рс	
Klamath Falls	65	33	pc	60	35	S	
La Grande	55	36	pc	54	29	pc	
Meacham	52	34	pc	51	27	рс	
Medford	72	41	рс	67	41	pc	
Newport	53	40	рс	49	38	r	
North Bend	57 61	40	рс	54 64	41	рс	
Ontario Pasco	61	38 36	рс	62	41 34	рс	
Pendleton	57	39	рс	57	33	pc	
Portland	64	42	pc pc	52	38	pc r	
Redmond	57	32	рс	58	29	pc	
Salem	62	38	рс	53	35	r	
Spokane	52	35	рс	50	28	pc	
Ukiah	51	32	рс	52	27	pc	
Vancouver	62	40	рс	51	36	r	
Walla Walla	57	42	рс	57	36	рс	
Yakima	62	37	рс	61	30	рс	
Wo	RLI) (ПП	IES			

	T	oda	y		Sun	
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Beijing	75	50	рс	81	53	S
Hong Kong	80	70	S	80	70	рс
Jerusalem	65	50	S	72	53	pc
London	49	40	sh	49	41	c
Mexico City	77	49	рс	79	53	S
Moscow	38	32	c	41	36	sn
Paris	52	42	sh	52	43	sh
Rome	61	48	t	62	44	рс
Seoul	66	48	S	62	54	sh
Sydney	76	68	C	85	69	рс
Tokyo	63	54	S	67	57	S

Today **Boardman** NNE 3-6 WSW 12-25 WNW 4-8

UV INDEX TODAY

(in mph)

WINDS

8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m. **3-5**, Moderate **6-7**, High; 8-10, Very High; 11+, Extreme The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2018

NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY San Francisco 70/52 -10s -0s 0s 10s 20s

National Summary: Heavy snow will fall over the upper Great Lakes while high winds and spotty showers occur farther south in the Midwest today. Spotty storms will affect South Florida as new snow falls on the northern Rockies.

NATIONAL CITIES

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states) High 99° in Thermal, Calif.

	Т	oda	v	Sun.				Today		v	Sun.		
	Hi	Lo		Hi	Lo	W		Hi	Lo		Hi	Lo	
Albuquerque	74	51	рс	77	49	S	Louisville	65	41	С	52	35	С
Atlanta	70	47	S	75	55	S	Memphis	71	50	рс	57	44	t
Atlantic City	50	41	S	58	36	рс	Miami	82	70	c	82	70	t
Baltimore	59	44	S	58	34	c	Milwaukee	50	20	sh	38	24	p
Billings	24	19	sn	43	31	рс	Minneapolis	30	14	рс	36	24	p
Birmingham	72	48	рс	77	53	рс	Nashville	70	50	рс	58	43	r
Boise	57	39	рс	62	40	рс	New Orleans	75	55	S	78	62	ŗ
Boston	52		S	54	32	рс	New York City	53	44		58		
Charleston, SC	69	46		78	55		Oklahoma City	72	38		42	34	
Charleston, WV	65	47		53	36		Omaha	45		рс	40	26	
Chicago	50		sh	39		рс	Philadelphia	58	42		58	36	
Cleveland	54		sh	40	27	C	Phoenix	91		рс	91	64	-
Dallas	81	63		79		рс	Portland, ME	50	38		51		
Denver	55	24	-	61	36	pc	Providence	57	39	-	59	33	-
Detroit	51	27		43	23	pc	Raleigh	66	44	-	71		
I Paso	84	59		86	60		Rapid City	30	17	-	44		-
Fairbanks	32	25		36	8	pc	Reno	72	40	рс	73	42	
Fargo	17		C	25	8	рс	Sacramento	80		рс	79	50	
Honolulu	81	68		82	72	рс	St. Louis	56	29	sh	36	25	
Houston	81	60	-	82	64	pc	Salt Lake City	70	47		69	51	-
Indianapolis	54	29	-	42	24	pc	San Diego	71		рс	68	58	
Jacksonville	70	52		77	56	pc	San Francisco	70		рс	67		
Kansas City	57	26	-	32	23	sn	Seattle	60	42	pc	52	36	-
Las Vegas	87	63		84	61	pc	Tucson	88	60	рс	88	57	-
Little Rock	74	52		55		t	Washington, DC	61	48	-	62		C
Los Angeles	76	57	рс	71	56	рс	Wichita	65	31	C	38	27	r

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

REGONIAN

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Doubts raised that massive Hanford plant can open by 2022

By ANNETTE CARY Tri-City Herald

<u>Normals</u>

Records

PRECIPITATION

Month to date

Last year to date Normal year to date

Sunrise today

Sunset tonight

Moonset today

Full

24 hours ending 3 p.m

Normal month to date

SUN AND MOON

Last

61° 79° (2003)

16° (1954)

0.75'

0.85" 2.38" 4.93"

3.09"

6:38 a.m.

7:22 p.m.

7:48 p.m.

7:06 a.m.

First

Apr 22

The Department of Energy doubts whether its contractor is on track to start operating the massive Hanford vitrification plant by a 2022 deadline.

However, DOE has not notified the state of Washington that legal deadlines for the project are at risk, which it is required to do if the 2023 legal deadline to start operating part of the plant is at risk.

Instead, it is directing its contractor, Bechtel National, to improve its performance to boost chances that the plant will be operating by the earlier 2022 date DOE set for

"At this time, the Office of River Protection is concerned that BNI (Bechtel National) is not making satisfactory progress in meeting project performance expectations," the DOE Hanford Office of River Protection said in a statement Thursday.

The issue of whether Bechtel would meet its plant operation deadlines was raised in two recent documents related to the contractor's pay.

Contractor Bechtel National received just 48 percent of the pay it could have earned based on DOE's subjective evaluation of its performance in 2017.

explain the pay decision to the public listed DOE concerns, including that some deadlines were at risk of being missed.

A scorecard prepared to

In the second document,

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TEAM MICHAEL ARBOGAST, FELICIA OBORNIK, CAROLYN



In this 2014, file photo, a sign informs visitors of prohibited items on the Hanford Nuclear Reservation near Richland, Wash.

letter sent March 23, DOE told Bechtel that it would not be providing any advance pay toward what the contractor could earn for its performance this year.

Bechtel has the option of requesting some of its pay early as it makes progress toward meeting contract requirements.

The letter said DOE was concerned that Bechtel "was not making satisfactory progress in meeting the project performance expectations" that it will start glassifying low-activity radioactive waste by Jan. 15, 2022.

Hanford Challenge, which obtained the DOE letter on withholding advance pay for 2018, is concerned about whether the public is being told the whole story by DOE, said Tom Carpenter, executive director of the Seattle-based watchdog group.

Bechtel's contract requires it to start treating radioactive waste by 2022, reflecting operating before a deadline set by a federal judge of December 2023.

Construction on the plant, which is expected to cost more than \$17 billion, started

Then the plan was to start operating the entire plant in 2019. But after technical issues were raised involving high-level radioactive waste, a new plan was adopted to start treating just low-activity waste for disposal by 2023.

The plant is being built turn up to 56 million gallons of radioactive waste held in underground tanks into a stable glass form for disposal. The waste is left from producing plutonium for the nation's nuclear weapons program.

The DOE letter directs Bechtel to come up with a realistic schedule for completing individual tasks to meet the 2022 deadline for the start of waste treatment. Bechtel also must have a

Bechtel was eligible to receive \$7.9 million in pay based on DOE's evaluation of its performance in calender year 2017.

before they put deadlines at

DOE rated its performance for the year in two

categories, cost and project management, as "satisfactory." The rating earned it \$3.8 million, or 48 percent of pay available. The percentage earned dropped from the previous

year, when Bechtel earned 71 percent of pay available based on a DOE evaluation of its performance in 2016.

However, 2017 was the first year of a major contract revision to reflect the new focus on starting to treat low activity radioactive waste

The 2017 contract goals put the emphasis on meeting four deadlines to earn Bechtel \$17.1 million, in addition to pay available from DOE's subjective evaluation. Bechtel met the deadlines, which were for equipment installation, early to earn full

But in its subjective rating, DOE gave Bechtel a rating of only 40 percent in the category of "cost, schedule and efficiencies.

Performance trends showed deadlines for starting to operate the part of the plant that will treat low-activity waste "are at risk," the scorecard said.

It also said that a significant amount of the management reserve, the extra money budgeted to cover risks, was being spent by Bechtel.

"Management reserve is being managed by questionable processes," which leads DOE to doubt Bechtel's ability to meet deadlines for starting to operate the plant, the scorecard said. No addi-

McKay Creek Estates

tional details on management reserve were included in the scorecard. DOE pointed out in a state-

ment that it recognizes the challenges and significance of the current turning point of the vitrification plant project. Design and construction have been the focus of the project since 2000, and now work is shifting to preparing parts of

the plant for operation. We have additional work to do on the annual criteria graded by the Department (of Energy)," despite meeting four contract goals, said Bechtel spokesman George Rangel. But Bechtel "is confident in the plant's ability to begin safely treating Hanford's tank waste as soon

Correction

A brief on Thursday's community page gave incorrect call numbers for KUMA for the Lions Club Radio Auction on Tuesday, April 3. Listeners are encouraged to tune in to KUMA 1290 AM or 96.5 FM and bid on a variety of items to support the local Lions Club.

The East Oregonian works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

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