



The GAO report, *Hanford Cleanup: DOE Should Validate its Analysis of High-Level Waste Treatment Alternatives*, assesses the DOE's consideration of 24 options for treating Hanford's HLW. Those options were outlined in an analysis of alternatives report released by the DOE in January. The analysis also found that the life-cycle cost estimates for treating the HLW ranged from \$135 billion to \$5 trillion.

While the DOE plans to select an alternative for HLW treatment in the near future, the GAO found that the DOE has not committed to validating its analysis of alternatives. "Given the enormous cost and schedule implications of the decision, it is essential for DOE to take steps now to provide assurance that all viable alternatives for optimizing the tank waste treatment mission are considered," the GAO said in its report.

The DOE agreed with the GAO's recommendation to obtain an independent review of the department's analysis of HLW

treatment alternatives, adding that actions the department has and will take satisfy the recommendation. The GAO, however, said it believes further action is needed.

The NASEM report, *Review of the Continued Analysis of Supplemental Treatment Approaches of Low-Activity Waste at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation*, which is still in pre-publication as of this writing, is the third and final report on the organization's review of an analysis of options for treating Hanford's SLAW. As directed by law, that analysis was conducted by a federally funded research and development center (FFRDC) led by Savannah River National Laboratory.

The FFRDC selected four alternative approaches to treating the SLAW, with a baseline alternative of vitrification with disposal at Hanford's on-site disposal facility. The three other alternatives include solidification through steam reforming (similar to

Waste Management continues

TRANSPORTATION (RAIL, TRUCK, MARINE)

HEAVY / OVER-DIMENSIONAL LOGISTICS | ON-SITE & PROJECT STAFFING | TRANSLOADING | WASTE MANAGEMENT



For more information:
www.iceservicegroup.com

✉ Dennis Morgan, II | dmorgan@iceservicegroup.com