

## **Assessment of Chemical Safety Hazards**

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Following the May 14, 1997 chemical explosion at Hanford's Plutonium Reclamation Facility, the Department of Energy Richland Operations Office and its contractors under the Project Hanford Management Contract (PHMC) successfully completed an extensive assessment to identify and address chemical safety vulnerabilities at all PHMC facilities. This was a challenging undertaking because of the immense size of the problem, unique technical issues, and competing priorities. This presentation will focus on the overall hazard assessment methodology, including criteria, data collection and evaluation, risk-based prioritization, and verification.