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04-10

“Most Dangerous Building in America” to be demolished

GOLDEN, Colo., July 13, 2004 – On Thursday, July 15 workers will begin demolishing Building 771 at the Rocky Flats facility outside of Denver Colorado, the first plutonium process building of its size and complexity to be demolished in the United States.

Building 771 has a 50-year legacy of plutonium leaks and spills and a major fire occurred there in 1957. In 1995, the Department of Energy concluded that Building 771 was its greatest vulnerability and was dubbed by the national media as “the most dangerous building in America.”

News media are invited to tour the building prior to demolition and to a worker recognition ceremony commemorating this significant event. Site managers and workers will be available for media interviews.

WHAT: Building 771 demolition and pre-demolition tour

SCHEDULE: Thursday, July 15, 2004

9:00 a.m. – News media arrive at Rocky Flats Visitor Center, Building 060, near the west gate, off Colorado Highway 93

9:30 a.m. – Building 771 pre-demolition tour

10:30 a.m. – Ceremony recognizing the workers and demolition event

10:45 a.m. – Demolition activities commence

WHERE: Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site Visitor’s Center (Highway 93)

HOW: News media interested in participating should RSVP by 4 p.m. Wednesday, July 14, by calling 303-966-4546 or 303-966-6526. News media who attend must be a U.S. citizen, provide picture identification, Social Security number and date of birth.

Rocky Flats is a DOE owned cleanup and closure site operated by Kaiser-Hill Company under an accelerated closure contract. The Rocky Flats mission includes the now completed special nuclear material management and shipment, nuclear deactivation and decommissioning, waste management and shipment, environmental cleanup and site closure. When cleanup is complete, the site will be transitioned to a National Wildlife Refuge managed by the US Fish & Wildlife Service.