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For Immediate Release

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UCOR Awards Site Preparation Contract for Mercury Treatment Facility

OAK RIDGE, Tennessee, September 19, 2017 -- URS | CH2M Oak Ridge LLC (UCOR) has awarded a \$1.4 million contract to GEM Technologies of Knoxville, Tennessee, to perform early site preparation activities for the new Outfall 200 Mercury Treatment Facility at the Y-12 National Security Complex in Oak Ridge.

Under the contract, GEM Technologies will perform limited demolition of existing abandoned utilities and extension of new utilities, including electrical power, water, sewer, and storm drains, to the treatment facility sites.

The work included in this contract is expected to begin by November 30 with completion planned for Fall 2018. Early site preparation reduces risks by identifying and addressing potential site unknowns at an early stage of construction.

The construction for the Mercury Treatment Facility is scheduled to start under a separate contract in late 2018.

Mercury remediation remains one of the highest cleanup priorities at Y-12 for the U.S. Department of Energy's Environmental Management program. Y-12 used mercury to separate lithium isotopes from 1955-1963 during the Cold War period. A significant amount of that material migrated into the environment.

The new facility is expected to dramatically reduce mercury concentrations in the water exiting Y-12, and it will be operational prior to large-scale demolition on the west end of the site that may disrupt mercury in the area.

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