

*Release date: April 2, 1996 For more information contact:*

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*DOE*

## ***DOE RELEASES IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR THE HANFORD SITE TANK WASTE REMEDIATION SYSTEM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT***

*The Implementation Plan for the Hanford Site Tank Waste Remediation System Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is now available from the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Richland Operations Office.*

*The EIS will assess the environmental impacts associated with alternative methods of retrieving, pretreating, treating, immobilizing, and storing or disposing of radioactive, mixed, and chemical wastes stored at the Hanford Site. DOE's proposed action is to manage and dispose of approximately 55 million gallons of waste in 177 underground tanks and in approximately 60 active and inactive miscellaneous underground storage tanks. The proposed action also includes managing and disposing of approximately 1,930 cesium and strontium capsules.*

*The Implementation Plan has two primary purposes: to provide guidance in the preparation of the environmental impact statement for the tank waste remediation system at the Hanford Site and to report results of the scoping process.*

*The scoping process is discussed in chapter three of the Implementation Plan. Comments were received in writing and from oral comments taken from scoping meetings in Richland, Seattle, and Spokane, Washington; and Hood River and Portland, Oregon during February 1994. Everyone who commented will receive an acknowledgement by mail that their statements were analyzed and used in preparing the Implementation Plan. The other six chapters of the plan discuss tank waste at the Hanford Site and preparation of the environmental impact statement. Five appendixes provide supporting information.*

*"DOE is now preparing the draft EIS, required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for actions of this nature. It is scheduled to be completed this month. The Implementation Plan identifies the alternative methods of remediating Hanford's tank wastes that will be evaluated in the EIS, as well as the potential impacts to human health and the environment that will be assessed for each alternative," explained Carolyn Haass, NEPA Document Manager.*

*Copies of the Implementation Plan can be reviewed at DOE public reading rooms in Seattle and Spokane, Washington and in Portland, Oregon, as well as at Washington State University's Tri-Cities Campus at 100 Sprout Road, Room 130 in Richland, Washington. A copy of the plan can also be obtained by calling (509) 736-0616.*

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