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DOE

PUBLIC HEARING DATE ANNOUNCED FOR HANFORD REMEDIAL ACTION DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Richland Operations Office today announced dates, location, and times for a public information meeting and separate public hearing regarding the Hanford Remedial Action (HRA) Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP).

Both the public meeting and public hearing will be held at the Shilo Inn, 50 Comstock Drive in Richland, Washington starting at 6:30 p.m. The informational public meeting will be held on October 1, 1996 and the formal public hearing on October 17, 1996. Information on document availability, content, and proceedings will be announced within two weeks.

The HRA Draft EIS analyzes the potential environmental impacts of a wide range of possible future land use alternatives for the Hanford site. Based on these HRA Draft EIS and CLUP analyses and the public comments received on the Draft, DOE will determine a course of action to appropriate future uses of Hanford lands.

This designation of future land uses is key to developing a cleanup strategy for the hazardous and radioactive waste sites at Hanford. Appropriate land uses can not be determined without appropriate cleanup, and appropriate cleanup actions can not be taken until land use alternatives are chosen.

The HRA Draft EIS and CLUP will be also available for review and comment on the DOE Hanford Internet Home Page.

Oral comments will be accepted at the October 17, 1996 formal public hearing. Written comments on the draft will be accepted at any time until November 1, 1996, and to the extent practicable after that date.

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