



DEPARTMENT OF  
**ECOLOGY**  
State of Washington

# Nuclear Waste Program

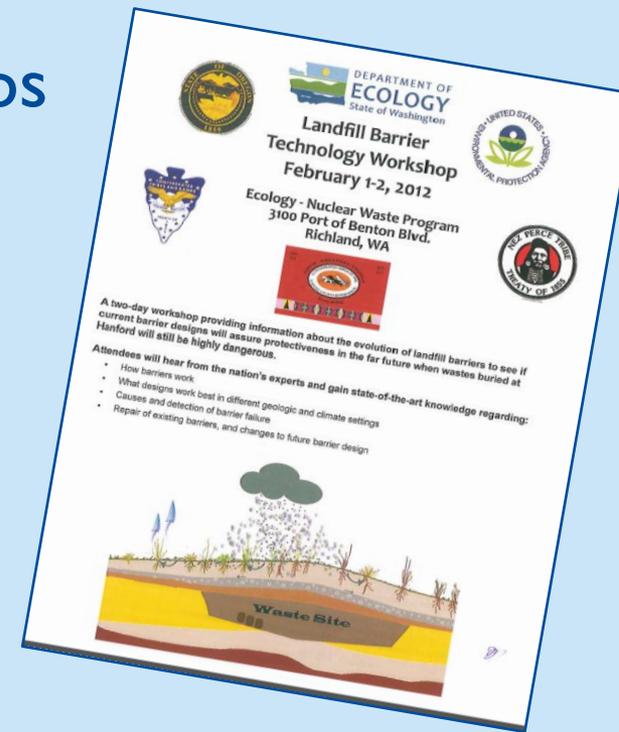
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## Agency Update Hanford Advisory Board

Polly Zehm, Deputy Director  
September 6, 2012

# FY2012 highlights

- PPG preserved for public interest groups
- Landfill barriers technology workshop
- Hanford Public Involvement Plan revision nearly finalized
- River Corridor information workshops
- 200 West Pump & Treat finished
- Draft Hanford permit issued for public comment!
- Expanded education & outreach efforts



# Sitewide Permit review

## ➤ Current status

- Comment period extended to October 22. Began May 1. (175 days)
- 2 more public hearings planned (for total of 7)
  - Sept. 13, Portland
  - Sept. 19, Seattle

## ➤ Public involvement activities

- HAB/Public workshop May 3 at Ecology
- 5 public hearings to date (Richland (2), Seattle, Portland, Spokane)
- 10 presentations at regional universities
- 15 presentations to community/civic groups throughout Northwest
- Outreach on social media/web



# Sitewide Permit review

## ➤ HAB involvement

- Numerous Issue Manager meetings & committee discussions
- Feedback on “baseball cards” led to marked improvements
- Collaboration and participation in May 3 public workshop
- Several advice-writing sessions held from May-August

## ➤ Upcoming activities

- Comment period ends Oct. 22
- Ecology responds to comments
- Permit revised, as needed
- Ecology sends letter to DOE
- Final permit issued 30 days later



A total of about 350 people have attended 5 public hearings on the permit in four different locations.



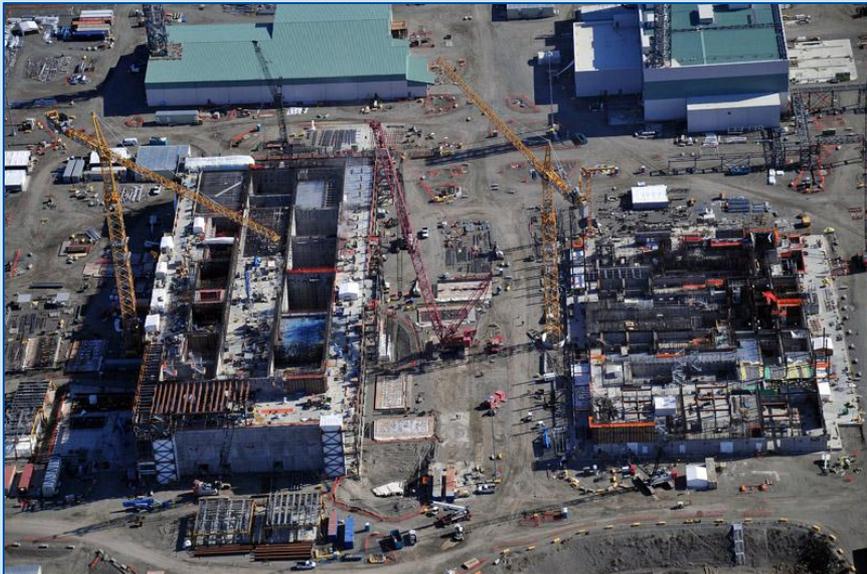
# Leadership transition

- New Governor to be elected in November and take office in January
- Ecology, other agencies may get new directors



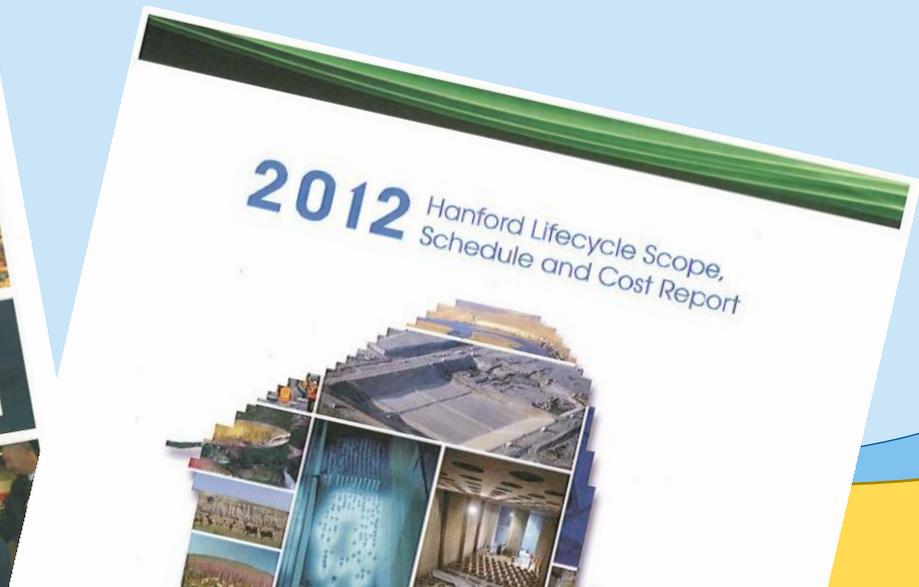
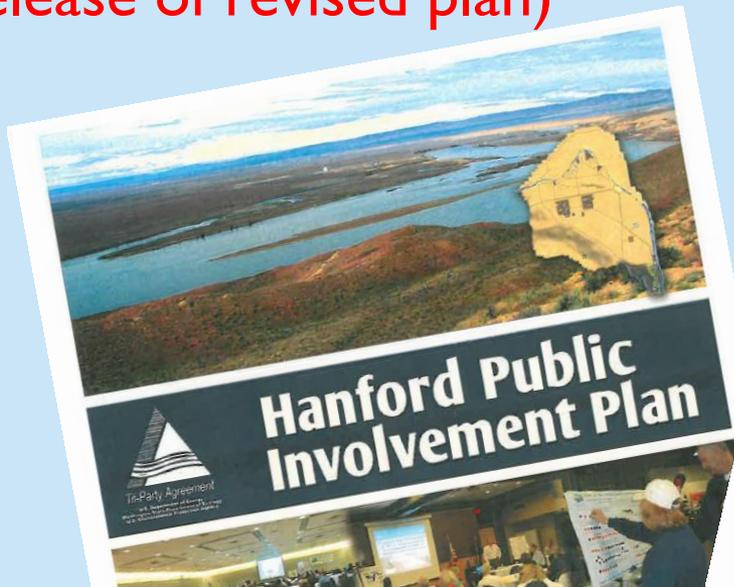
# Other hot topics

- Double-shell tanks
- WTP challenges
- River Corridor decisions
- Final TC&WM EIS



# Ecology responses to HAB advice

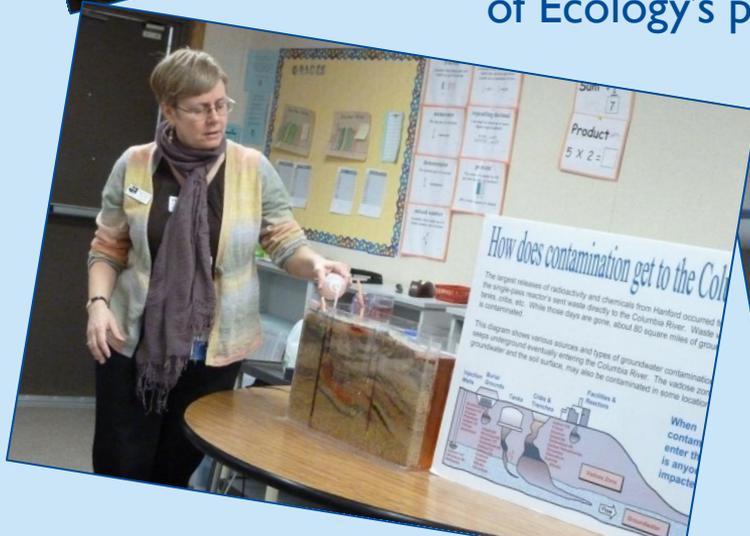
- #249 – Draft Hanford Site Third CERCLA Five-Year Review Report
- #252 – 2011 Lifecycle Scope, Schedule and Cost Report
- #256 – Final Tank Closure and Waste Management Environmental Impact Statement
- #251 – Hanford Public Involvement Plan (**response to follow release of revised plan**)



# Education & Outreach



Students have been a particular focus of Ecology's public involvement team



# Goals for 2013 & beyond

- Issue final sitewide permit & comment response
- Work w/DOE to address technical concerns, continue progress on WTP
- Secure adequate funding for cleanup & restoration
- Ensure smooth transition to new state leadership
- Maintain focus on education & outreach



# Questions?

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