



# Proposed changes for Hanford's permit for the 183-H Class 2 Permit Modification

U.S. Department of Energy

The U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (DOE-RL) is holding a 60-day comment period on proposed modifications to the Hanford Facility Dangerous Waste Permit. This Class 2 modification involves the 183-H Solar Evaporation Basins Treatment, Storage, and Disposal unit (TSD unit). These basins were removed and closed in the mid-1990s. The proposed permit modification would allow replacement of a groundwater well that is being used to perform post-closure monitoring. We want your input on this modification!

DOE-RL is proposing to replace a groundwater monitoring well (199-H4-3) that is blocking access to the 100-H Area where waste site remediation is required. The proposed replacement groundwater monitoring well (199-H4-84) is at the location of the removed basins. The existing monitoring well (199-H4-3) would be decommissioned under Washington State regulations before waste site remediation begins. This well replacement requires modification to the Part VI groundwater monitoring permit requirements for the 183-H Solar Evaporation Basins.

183-H Solar Evaporation Basins were four concrete basins that were part of the water treatment facilities for the 100-H reactor. Beginning July 1973 they were used for storage and disposal of chemical wastes. The wastes were allowed to evaporate under the sun, which is known as solar evaporation. After evaporation, the waste solids and sludges were isolated and removed for disposal. The basins stopped receiving waste after November 8, 1985 and all wastes were removed from the basins by September 1988. The basins were demolished and DOE-RL completed closure activities under the permit. On May 13, 1997, Washington State Department of Ecology accepted USDOE's closure certification for the 183-H unit. Groundwater monitoring is performed to meet the modified closure with corrective action requirements of the permit for the 183-H unit.



**183-H Basins during operations (1985)**



**Groundwater well located at 100-H Area (2002)**

### **What is a Class 2 Permit Modification?**

Class 2 modifications apply to periodic updates to the permit, such as response to new regulations, technological advancements, and variations in waste types/quantities. All Class 2 permit changes require Ecology approval.



**Public Comment Period**  
**February 19 – April 19, 2013**





For information on permit compliance history, contact Ron Skinnerland, Washington State Department of Ecology at (509) 372-7924 or Hanford@ecy.wa.gov. Copies of the permit modification request and supporting documentation are available at the Administrative Record, 2440 Stevens Drive, Richland. The 183-H Solar Evaporation Basins modification is available in the Administrative Record, [www5.hanford.gov/arpir/](http://www5.hanford.gov/arpir/). Please submit comments by **April 19, 2013** to:

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