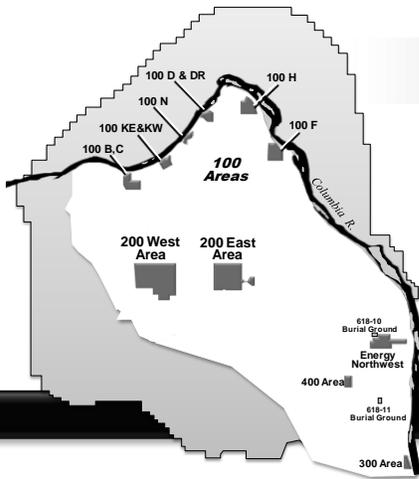


Proposed changes for Hanford's permit for the Liquid Effluent Retention Facility and Effluent Treatment Facility and 400 Area Waste Management Unit

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 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Permit. These Class 2 modifications involve two operating Treatment, Storage, and Disposal units (TSD units) in Part III of the permit (Unit Specific Conditions for Final Status Operations). The first modification is to replace an out-of-service tank in the Liquid Effluent Retention Facility (LERF) and 200 Area Effluent Treatment Facility (ETF). The second modification proposes to make changes to the inspection and contingency plans for the 400 Area Waste Management Unit as a result of the inspection frequency being changed from semi-annually to weekly. We want your input on these modifications!

DOE-RL is proposing to replace an out-of-service tank in the LERF/ETF with a replacement tank. A fiberglass-reinforced plastic tank will replace the original stainless steel tank. The replacement tank is 20 percent larger than the existing tank. This tank replacement requires modifications to the Part A Permit and process description. DOE-RL will complete an integrity assessment report after installation and prior to operation of the tank.

LERF & 200 Area ETF is a waste water storage and treatment system located in the 200 East Area (in the center of the Hanford site). The system receives process condensate from the 242-A Evaporator, 200 West Area groundwater, and other waste water generated from Hanford Site remediation and waste management activities. The LERF consists of lined surface basins. Waste water from LERF is pumped to ETF for treatment in process units that remove contaminants. The liquid waste from ETF is discharged to a state-approved Land Disposal Site north of the 200 West Area.



200 Area Effluent Treatment Facility

What is a RCRA Class 2 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 RCRA permit changes require Ecology approval.



Public Comment Period

The Public Comment Period for proposed Class 2 modifications to the Hanford Facility RCRA Permit:
April 23 – June 21, 2012



The 400 Area Waste Management Unit (400 Area WMU) is used for storage of chemical elements -- sodium, sodium/potassium, sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide -- and contaminated debris. Recently, the inspection frequency of containers stored in 400 WMU changed from semi-annual to weekly to align with regulatory requirements.

DOE-RL is requesting a Class 2 RCRA permit modification to the inspection requirements and contingency plan. A temporary authorization to implement the inspection and contingency plan changes immediately was also being requested. The modifications enable the emergency management system as described in the 400 Area WMU permit to align with current needs and practices at the facility.

A public meeting on the permit modifications will be held on **Tuesday, May 8, 2012, 6 – 7 p.m.** at the Washington State Department of Ecology office, 3100 Port of Benton Boulevard, Richland, WA 99354.

For information on permit compliance history, contact Ron Skinnarland, Washington State Department of Ecology, at (509) 372-7924 or email Hanford@ecy.wa.gov. Copies of the permit modification request and supporting documentation are available at the Administrative Record, 2440 Stevens Drive, Richland. The [LERF & 200 Area ETF](#) and [400 Area Waste Management Unit](#) modifications are available electronically in the Administrative Record:

Please submit comments by June 21, 2012 to:

Tiffany Nguyen
 U.S. Department of Energy
 Richland Operations Office
 P.O. Box 550, MS: A7-75
 Richland, WA 99352
 Email: TSDRCRAMods@rl.gov



The Interim Storage Area (top) and Fuel Storage Facility (bottom) are part of the 400 Area Waste Management Unit

DOE-RL is proposing these modifications to the current enforceable permit while the entire Hanford RCRA permit is about to be reissued for public comment in May. We have a requirement to keep the current permit accurate and these changes need to be in place before the entire permit becomes final, which will not happen before December 2012. You can comment on these proposed changes during this comment period, in addition to the comment period for the entire permit starting in May. Before the entire permit becomes final, Ecology will consider the outcome of this comment period and integrate it with the rest of the permit.

Hanford Public Information Repositories

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 Suzzallo Library
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 (206) 543-5597
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 Spokane, WA 99258
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