

STATE OF THE HANFORD SITE

Public Meetings
October 2013

What is the state of Hanford Cleanup?

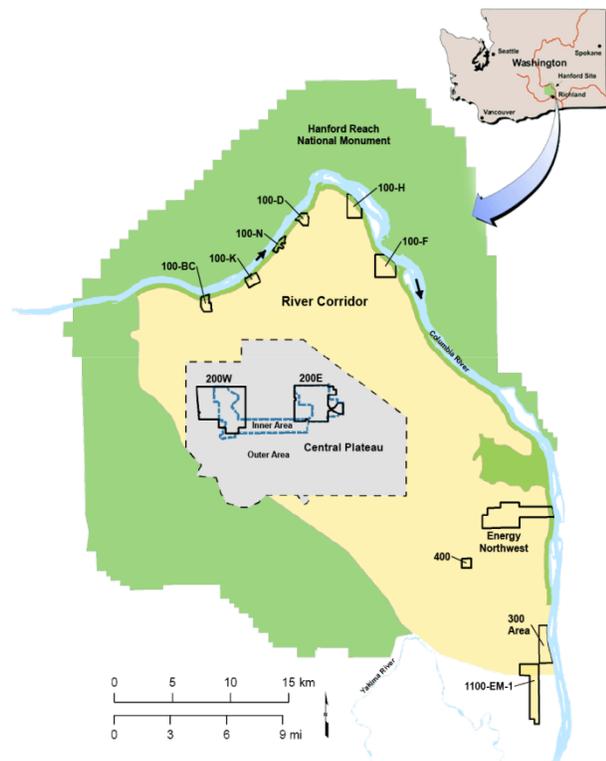
Hanford cleanup schedules and activities are set by the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA). The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) – the TPA agencies – will host four State of the Hanford Site meetings in Northwest communities. These meetings provide an opportunity for the public to discuss Hanford cleanup issues with top managers from the TPA agencies.

Although progress is being made at Hanford, cleanup will take decades. As such, the public plays an important role each year by helping set cleanup priorities and providing input on TPA cleanup commitments.

Each State of the Hanford Site meeting will include an open house-style information session and moderated town hall discussion. The TPA agencies are interested in your questions and hearing your views on a wide range of Hanford cleanup issues and activities including, but not limited to:

- ❖ Ensuring worker safety and health
- ❖ Protecting the Columbia River
- ❖ Shrinking the active footprint of cleanup
- ❖ Closing Hanford tank farms
- ❖ Accelerating groundwater cleanup
- ❖ Overall priorities of cleanup

After nearly 25 years of cleanup, considerable progress has been made, reducing the risk the Hanford Site poses to the health and safety of workers, the public and the environment. However, several decades of cleanup remain. Public input on future cleanup decisions is important as the agencies address the challenges ahead.



Who manages the Hanford Site?

The DOE operates and manages the Hanford Site. There are two DOE offices associated with Hanford cleanup.

The Richland Operations Office (DOE-RL) oversees the projects associated with:

- ❖ Cleaning up reactors, soil, groundwater and solid waste burial sites.
- ❖ Managing the demolition of facilities on the Hanford Site.

The Office of River Protection (DOE-ORP) is tasked with:

- ❖ Managing nuclear and chemical waste currently stored in 177 underground tanks.
- ❖ Constructing the Waste Treatment Plant, which will combine the tank waste with glass making materials in a process called vitrification. Vitrification will solidify the waste, making it more stable and suitable for disposal.

Who are the Regulators?

Ecology and EPA regulate DOE's activities at the Hanford Site. The regulatory agencies divide authority for different aspects of Hanford Site Cleanup.

Ecology's Nuclear Waste Program is responsible for:

- ❖ Oversight of tank waste treatment and storage
- ❖ Waste management activities
- ❖ Implementation of the state's cleanup regulations

EPA has lead oversight for Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) cleanup activities. Through the CERCLA process, cleanup options are provided to the public for review and comment. After public comment is considered, Records of Decision are issued by the TPA agencies which identify the cleanup option selected for implementation. CERCLA decisions will be issued for each portion of the Hanford Site.

If you are unable to attend the meetings, join us via Webinar for the October 10th Tri-Cities meeting! Register to participate at:
<https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/380832598>



How can I learn more?

There are many ways to get information about Hanford cleanup from the TPA agencies.

Here are some resources to check out:

- DOE website: www.hanford.gov
- Ecology website: www.ecy.wa.gov/programs.nwp
- Social media: Find us on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube
- Join a Hanford email list: www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/nwp/lists.htm
- Have more questions? Contact us at Hanford@ecy.wa.gov or 1-800-321-2008

Dates, times and locations

October 10, 2013 – Kennewick, WA

Three Rivers Convention Center
7016 W Grandridge Blvd
5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

October 15, 2013 – Seattle, WA

Seattle Center: Olympic Room
Northwest Building
305 Harrison Street
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

October 16, 2013 – Portland, OR

Ambridge Center
1333 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

October 17, 2013 – Hood River, OR

Best Western Hotel: Columbia Room
1108 E Marina Dr.
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

