



Comment Period

May 4 – ~~June 8~~ July 8, 2020

Public Meeting

June 18, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

Send comments by

~~June 8~~ July 8, 2020, to
200BP5PP@rl.gov

Administrative Record

<https://www.fedreg.gov/xvdNH>



Questions?

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Well drilling operations on the Central Plateau

The Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) agencies – U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology), and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – are holding a 30-day public comment period on a proposed interim action cleanup plan for groundwater in Hanford's 200-BP-5 and 200-PO-1 operable units.

Background

The 580-square-mile Hanford Site in southeastern Washington state was created in 1943 as part of the Manhattan Project to produce plutonium for the nation's defense program. Today, waste management and environmental cleanup, including protection of the Columbia River, are Hanford's primary missions.

About the Proposed Plan

DOE has developed a proposed cleanup plan under the *Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act* (CERCLA) for interim action cleanup of contaminated groundwater in the 200-BP-5 and 200-PO-1 groundwater operable units (OU) in the 200 East Area of the Hanford Site (see map on page 2).

The proposed plan covers the expedited remediation of some groundwater contaminant plumes in the 200 East Area to prevent further migration of contaminants.

The plan presents three alternatives for remedial action and recommends a preferred alternative (see table on page 3).

Following public review, the TPA agencies will consider comments, then finalize cleanup decisions by issuing an interim record of decision. This interim action will be followed up by a final cleanup action for these operable units in the future.



Public Comment Period for Proposed Interim Action Cleanup Plan for Groundwater in Hanford's 200-BP-5 and 200-PO-1 Operable Units

200-BP-5 and 200-PO-1 Operable Units

Located in the central portion of the Hanford Site, the Central Plateau consists of about 75 square miles and contains two main regions (the 200 East Area and the 200 West Area) separated by approximately 2 miles. The 200-BP-5 and 200-PO-1 groundwater OUs originate in the 200 East Area. Major process areas in the 200 East Area included B Plant and the Plutonium Uranium Extraction (PUREX) Plant. Liquid waste was historically discharged to the ground in the 200 Area. Sources continuing to affect groundwater include the B Complex and the C Tank Farm overlying the 200-BP-5 OU, and the cribs and trenches associated with PUREX and A-AX Tank Farms overlying the 200-PO-1 OU.

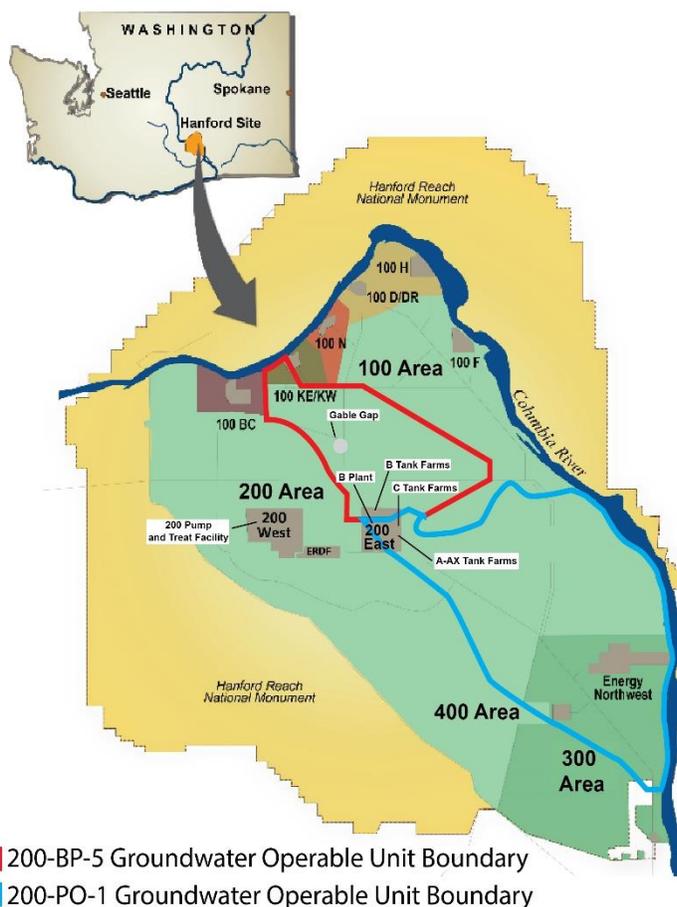
Previous Cleanup Actions

A groundwater pump-and-treat (P&T) system designed to capture and remove high concentrations of technetium-99 and uranium from the B Complex area in the 200-BP-5 OU was implemented in 2017 as a non-time-critical removal action. The removal action is described in DOE/RL-2016-41, *Action Memorandum for 200-BP-5 Operable Unit Groundwater Extraction*; and DOE/RL-2017-11, *Removal Action Work Plan for the 200-BP-5 Operable Unit Groundwater Extraction*. The removal action P&T system conveys the extracted groundwater via an aboveground pipeline to the 200 West P&T facility for treatment.

Preferred Alternative

As part of the CERCLA process, the TPA agencies identified and developed cleanup approaches through a detailed analysis. Based on the results, the preferred cleanup option is Alternative 2 (see table). It includes P&T to capture and remove technetium-99 and uranium from groundwater in the B Complex and technetium-99 from groundwater in the C Farm. Extracted groundwater will be conveyed to the existing 200 West P&T for treatment via aboveground cross-site pipelines.

The preferred alternative also includes institutional controls (IC). The ICs prevent exposure to groundwater until protective cleanup levels are met.



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Alternatives Evaluated for 200-BP-5 and 200-PO-1 Operable Unit Interim Action

Alternative	Components	Estimated Cleanup Time	Cost (millions) ^b
1 – No Action	No Action	No Action	-
2 – Preferred Alternative – P&T at B Complex Plume Area, and C Farm and A-AX Farms Plume Area, with ICs for Groundwater	<p>Groundwater:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install extraction wells in the B Complex and C Farm and A-AX Farm Plume Areas; extract groundwater, route to existing transfer station and treat at 200 West P&T Facility Install third IX train at 200 West P&T Facility ICs to prevent exposure to residual contamination 	<p>B Complex Plume Area: Technetium-99 and uranium: 25 years to meet drinking water standards</p> <p>C Farm and A-AX Farm Plume Area: Technetium-99: 10 years to meet drinking water standard</p>	\$124 M
3^a – P&T at B Complex Plume Area, C Farm and A-AX Farms Plume Area, and Gable Gap Plume Area, with ICs for Groundwater	<p>Groundwater:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Install extraction wells in the B Complex and C Farm and A-AX Farm Plume Areas; extract groundwater, route to existing transfer station and treat at 200 West P&T Facility Install third IX train at 200 West P&T Facility Install extraction well and injection wells in Gable Gap Plume Area, extract groundwater, route to existing transfer station and treat at 200 West P&T Facility Build new injection transfer station and route treated water to injection wells. ICs to prevent exposure to residual contamination 	<p>B Complex Plume Area: Technetium-99 and uranium: 25 years to meet drinking water standards</p> <p>C Farm and A-AX Farm Plume Area: Technetium-99: 10 years to meet drinking water standard</p> <p>Gable Gap Plume Area: Technetium-99: 10 years to meet drinking water standard</p>	\$159 M

- a) Alternative 3 includes P&T of the Gable Gap plume area as an efficiency measure while the 200 West P&T facility is operating.
- b) Costs include projected one-time capital costs as well as ongoing operation and maintenance costs for the alternative, discounted to present value for the purpose of comparison. For example, Alternative 2 includes an estimated \$17 million in capital costs that would be incurred early in remedial action implementation, and \$118 million for monitoring and reporting, and maintenance over the expected lifetime of the remedy. The estimated combined cost, discounted to present value, is \$124 million.

ICs = Institutional controls

IX = Ion exchange

P&T= Pump and treat



Public Comment Period for Proposed Interim Action Cleanup Plan for Groundwater in Hanford's 200-BP-5 and 200-PO-1 Operable Units

Public Involvement

A 30-day public comment period will run from May 4 through ~~June 8~~ **July 8, 2020**. A virtual public meeting will be held **June 18**, at 5:30 p.m PT.. To participate via GoToWebinar, please follow the instructions below:

Visual (presentation only):

Click the GoToWebinar link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/820308648983253261>

ID #: 179-538-003

Audio:

1. Dial +1 509-372-3087 (local) or +1 800-664-0771 (long distance)

2. Enter Conference ID: 1333#

Copies of the proposed plan and supporting documentation will be available online during the public comment period on the Hanford public involvement website at <https://go.usa.gov/xVmew>, in the Administrative Record at <https://go.usa.gov/xVDbx>, and in the Hanford Public Information Repositories at <https://go.usa.gov/xVDTS>.

Following completion of the public comment period, a responsiveness summary that includes comments received with responses from the TPA agencies will be issued with a record of decision.

All comments must be submitted by ~~June 8~~ July 8 to 200BP5PP@rl.gov (preferred) or in writing to:

U.S. Department of Energy

Attn: Jennifer Colborn

P.O. Box 550, H6-60

Richland, WA 99352

Questions? Please contact Jennifer Colborn, at Jennifer_M_colborn@rl.gov, Daina McFadden, Ecology, at Hanford@ecy.wa.gov, or Craig Cameron, EPA, at Cameron.Craig@epa.gov.

Please contact Jennifer Colborn, Jennifer_M_Colborn@rl.gov, (509) 376-5840 at least 10 working days prior to the event to request disability accommodation. DOE makes every effort to honor disability accommodation requests.



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Public Involvement Opportunity

We want to hear your comments on a proposed plan
for interim action cleanup of groundwater in Hanford's
200-BP-5 and 200-PO-1 operable units



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