

Hybrid Public Briefing on a Proposed Plan for Amending the Record of Decision for Hanford’s 300 Area

Jun 30, 2025, 5:30 p.m. PT | Richland Public Library, Gallery Room

Purpose: The U. S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will present an overview of the proposed plan to address contaminated soil known as the 300-296 waste site underneath Hanford’s 324 Building.

5:30 - 5:35 P.M.	Welcome	Dieter Bohrmann – Central Plateau Cleanup Company
5:35 - 6:00 P.M.	Overview of Proposed Permit Modification	Ben Vannah – U.S. Department of Energy Anne McCartney – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
6:00 - 6:30 P.M.	Q&A Session	Public
6:30 P.M.	Adjourn	



THE HANFORD SITE

300 Area ROD Amendment Regarding the 300-296 Waste Site and 324 Building

Benjamin Vannah
Hanford Field Office

June 30, 2025

- **Purpose**

- Explain proposed change to 300-296 waste site cleanup

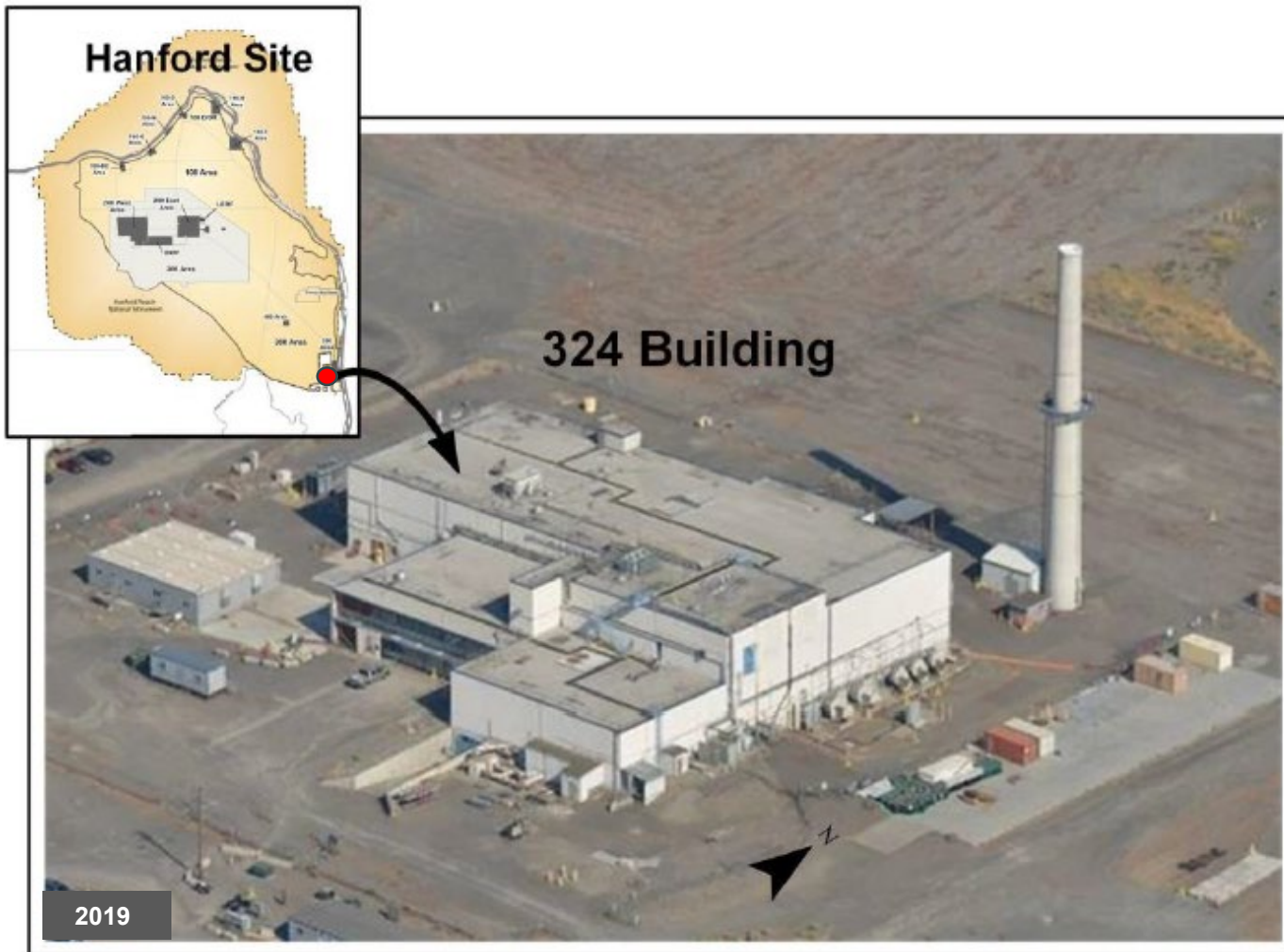
- **Agenda**

- Project overview
- Discovery of changed conditions
- Alternative approaches considered
- Preferred alternative
- Groundwater monitoring program
- Q&A



Worker outside the B Cell at the 324 Building

Hanford's 324 Building

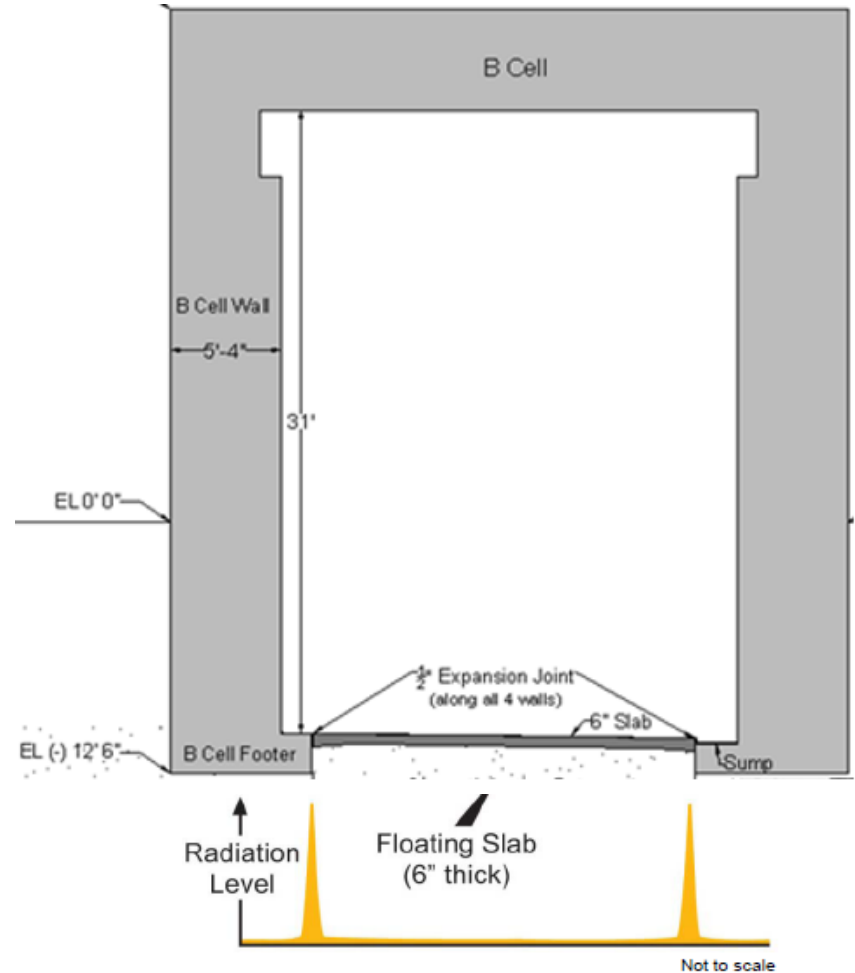


The 300-296 waste site is covered and shielded by the building foundation.

Contamination is safely localized beneath the building foundation

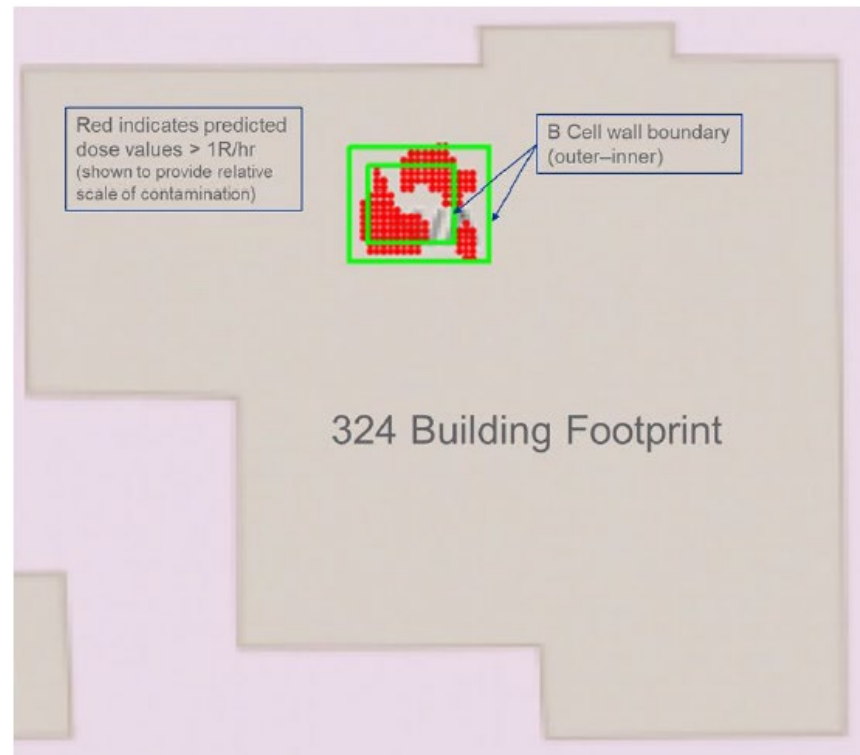


Piping is driven beneath the building foundation to collect soil samples and radiological readings



Radiological readings showed minimal lateral spread of contamination beneath B Cell

- Subsurface contamination is more extensive than the record of decision (ROD) anticipated
 - No impact to groundwater
- Redesign of structural modifications is required
- Aging equipment requires replacement



Contamination is localized around B Cell and completely covered by the 324 Building foundation footprint

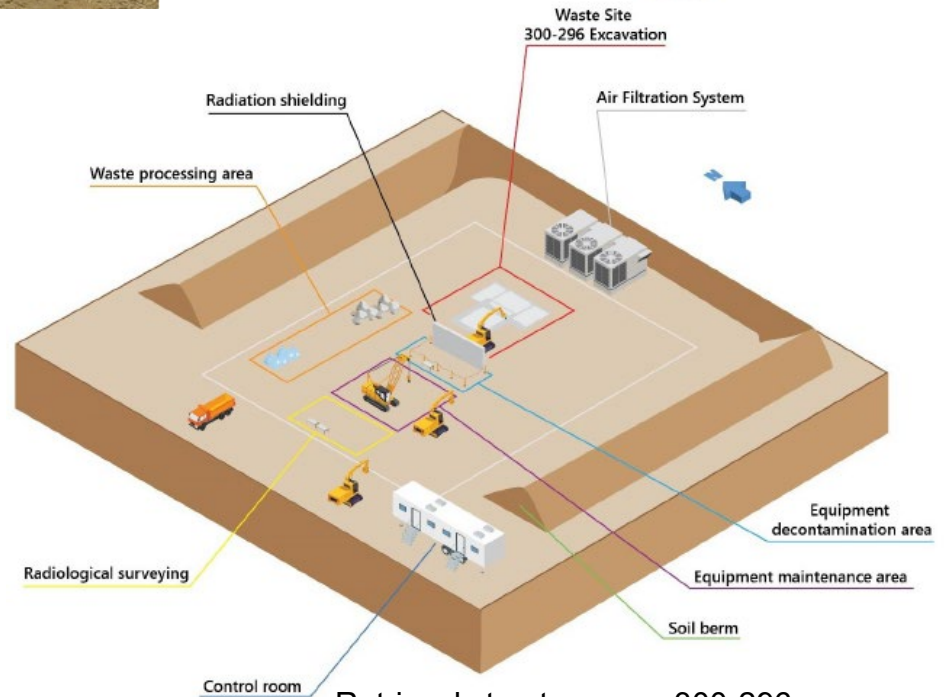
Retrieval Structure Examples



Example retrieval structure



Excavation equipment inside retrieval structure

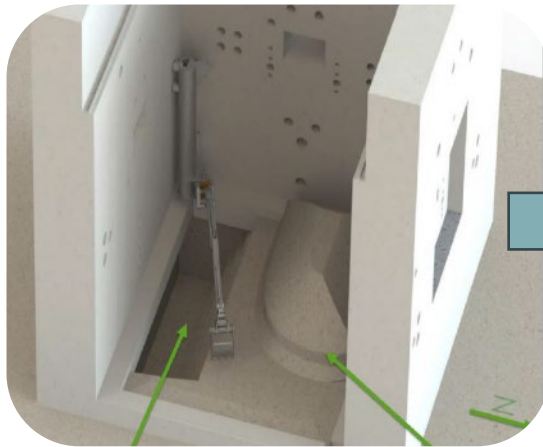


Retrieval structure over 300-296

- Changed conditions challenge the 2013 ROD
- The focused feasibility study evaluated the need to use the 324 Building for partial excavation of the 300-296 waste site



1. **Coupled approach:** partial excavation → building demolition → remaining excavation under containment
2. **Decoupled approach (preferred):** building demolition → excavation under containment
 - Implement: safest approach for workers
 - Short-term effectiveness: can be accomplished in less time (3.5 years quicker)
 - Cost: 46% less than Coupled approach



Remote excavation within building

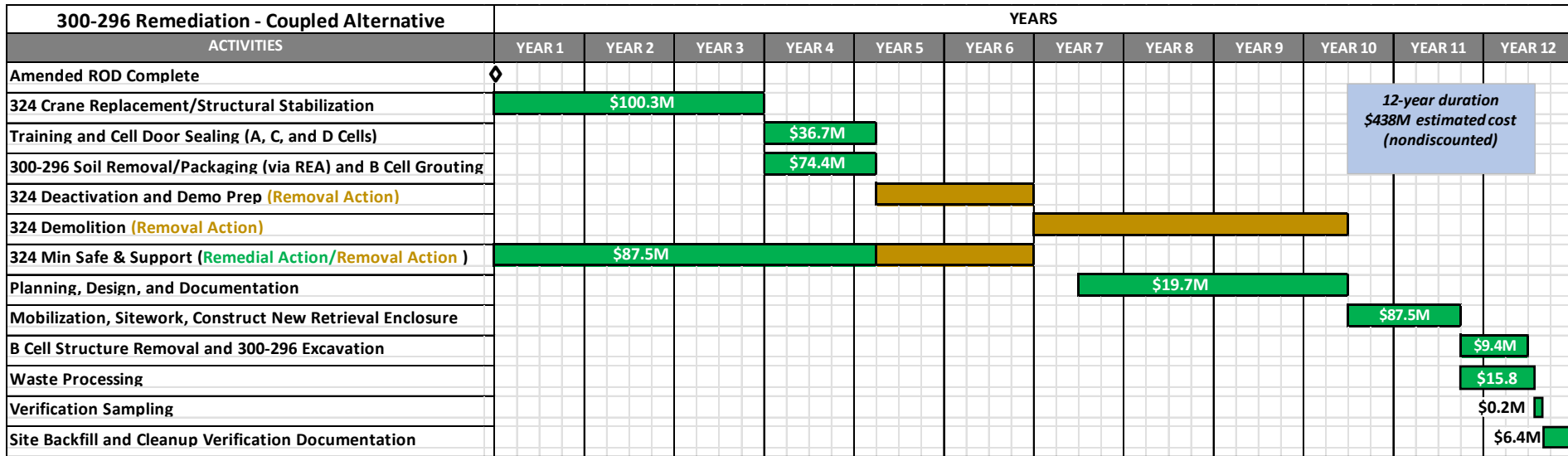


Building demolition

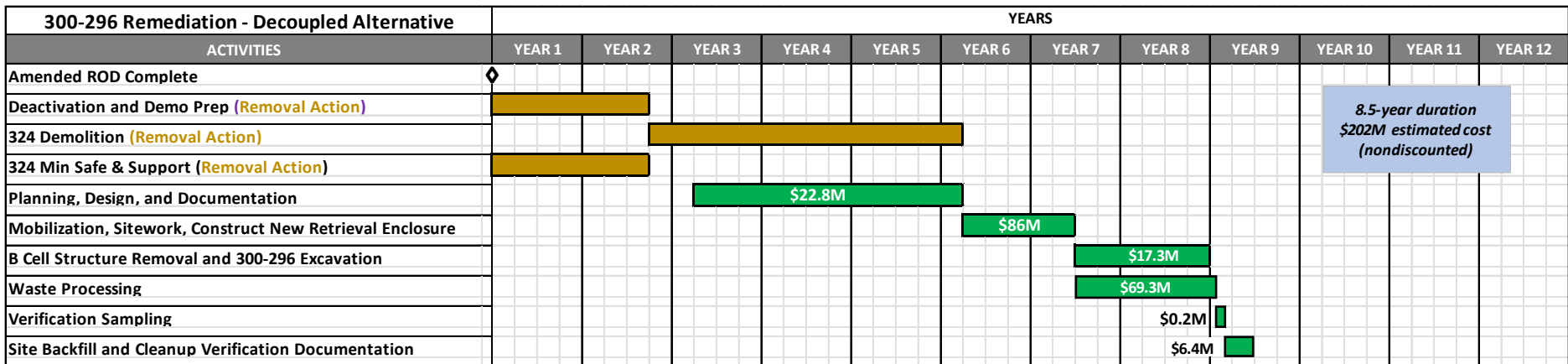


Excavation under retrieval enclosure

Coupled Schedule



Decoupled Schedule



Decoupled is Safest for Workers

- The coupled approach alternative increases worker exposure to radiological and industrial hazards
- The decoupled approach alternative does not require equipment upgrades



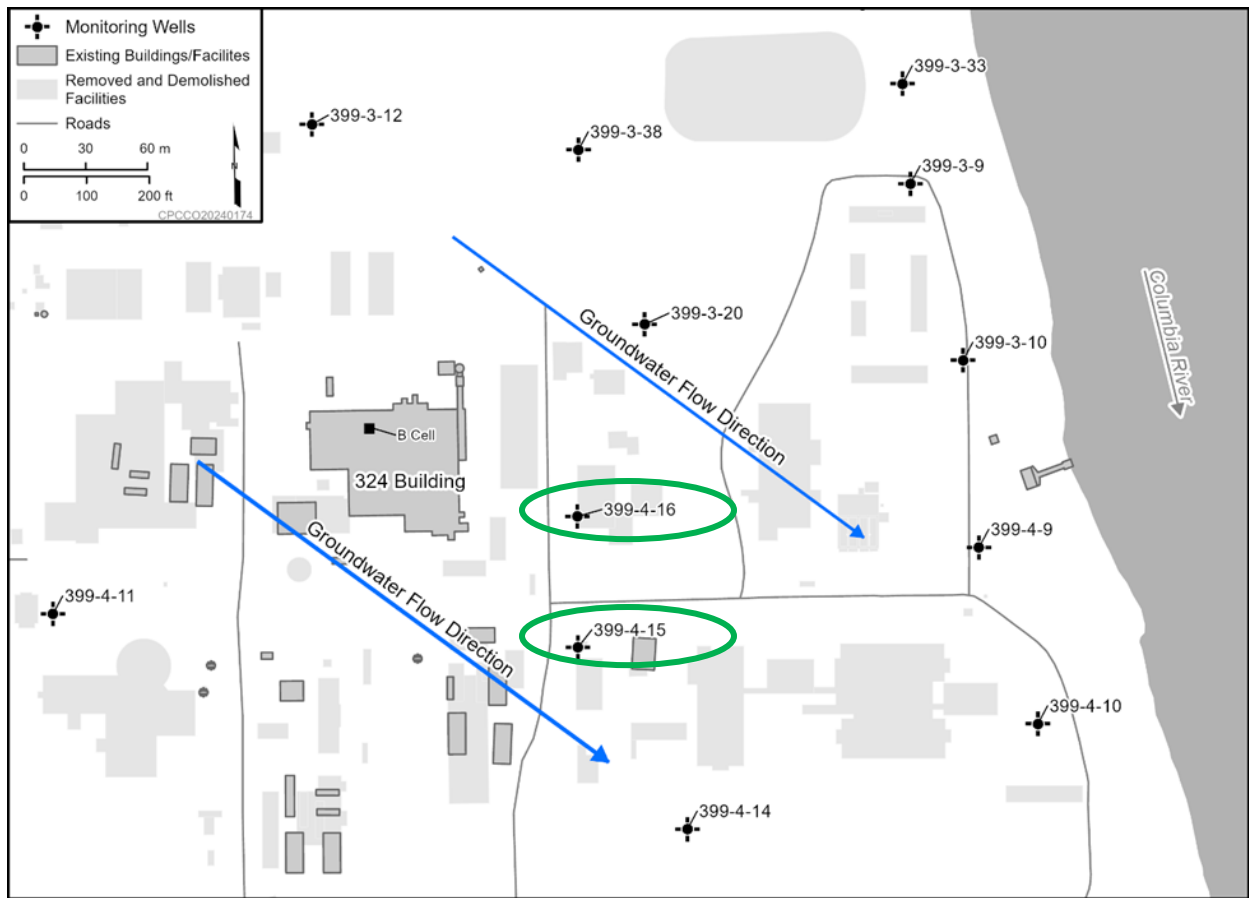
2019

Workers use a scissor lift to repair crane equipment



2019

Workers operate a drill rig to support structural modifications to the 324 Building



- Two downgradient wells are monitored monthly
- Well samples show no increase in 300-296 contaminant concentrations

Downgradient wells are circled

- The preferred alternative (decoupled approach) is the safest approach for the Hanford workforce
- Both alternatives excavate soils to achieve cleanup levels
- Building demolition activities will be managed to protect the waste site
- Contamination is not spreading; groundwater monitoring will continue



Workers receive advanced training specific to the 324 Building

- A 70-day public comment period runs through Aug. 18, 2025.
- Please submit comments by Aug. 18 via email to 324_ProposedPlan@rl.gov (preferred), or mail to:



U.S. Department of Energy
Attn: Dana Cowley
P.O. Box 450, MSIN H5-20
Richland, WA 99354

- At the conclusion of the comment period, DOE and EPA will address comments and publish a responsiveness summary in the amended Record of Decision.

