



Department of Ecology

November 2024 - Agency Update

Stephanie Schleif, Nuclear Waste Program Manager

Outline



Outreach and Education



Hanford Site funding



Tri-Party Negotiations



Tri-Party Agreement Compliance
Activities



Compliance, Permitting, and Public
Involvement Activities



Hanford Sitewide Permit update



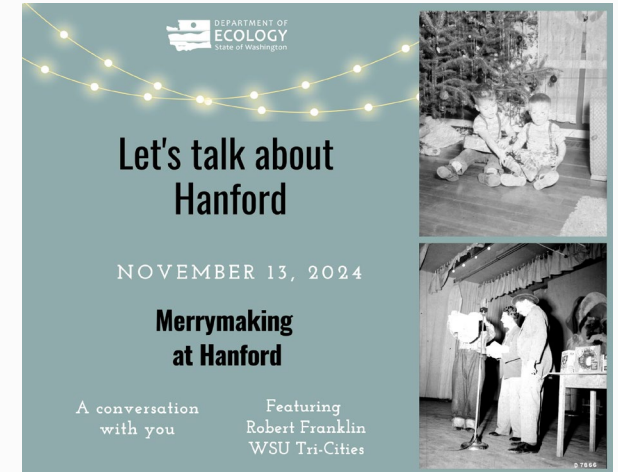
New Deputy Program Manager

Please welcome Eddie Holbrook as the new Deputy Program Manager.

Eddie has been temporarily filling the position since February and has now accepted it as a permanent position.

Outreach & Education

- Most recent events included:
 - Washington Preparatory School – virtual
 - Museum at Keewaydin
 - Student engagement in Union Gap
- Upcoming events
 - Nov. 7 River's Edge High School Fall Expo
 - Nov. 13 Let's talk about Hanford
 - Nov. 14 Jefferson Elementary Science Night
 - Dec. 5 Nez Perce STEM fair
- Contact Hanford@ecy.wa.gov if you'd like us to come talk to your organization!



Tri-Party negotiations

- On April 29, 2024, the Tri-Parties and the U.S. Department of Justice announced the Holistic Agreement. The public comment period for changes to the Tri-Party Agreement and the Consent Decree was held May 30 through Sept. 1, 2024.
- Public meetings were held in Richland, Olympia, and Hood River, OR.
- The agencies are now considering and drafting responses to the comments received.
- Consultation was held with Yakama Nation Sept. 4, 2024.
- Consultation was held with Nez Perce Tribe Oct. 8, 2024.

M-15, M-16, M-85 milestone negotiations

- M-15 covers the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study investigation process for all non-tank farm, non-canyon operating units. (Due 2026)
- M-16 covers the remedial actions for non-tank farm, non-canyon operating units. This includes both soil and groundwater. (Due 2042)
- M-85 covers all response actions for the canyon facilities and associated operating units, except for U Plant and T Plant. (Due date TBD)
- The Tri-Parties have been working together since the start of 2024 to update soil, groundwater, and facility milestones which are currently held in Abeyance.

Tank T-101 Update

- Energy formally notified Ecology on Aug. 15 that Tank T-101 has been declared an “assumed leaker” and is likely actively leaking.
- Ecology is working with Energy to determine appropriate response actions.
- Based on current information, Ecology does not believe this tank poses immediate risk to workers or the public.

Ecology compliance activities

August 2024 to October 2024

Compliance reports issued:

- [October 15, 2024 – B Plant](#)
- [September 30, 2024 – PUREX Tank TK-40 Closure](#)
- [September 19, 2024 – 242-A Evaporator](#)
- [September 5, 2024 – Hexone Storage and Treatment Facility](#)

Ecology compliance activities

August 2024 to October 2024

Inspections conducted:

- Energy Northwest, Columbia Generating Station – Aug. 8, 2024
- Low-Activity Waste Pretreatment System (LAWPS) - Aug. 22, 2024
- Liquid Effluent Retention Facility (LERF) and 200 Area Effluent Treatment Facility (ETF) – Sept. 26, 2024
- Plutonium-Uranium Extraction Facility (PUREX) – Sept. 30, 2024
- Central Waste Complex (CWC) and Waste Receiving and Processing Facility (WRAP) – Oct. 7, 2024
- Single-Shell Tanks (SSTs) – Oct. 24, 2024

Opportunities for public involvement

Unit	Public Comment Period
Class 2 Permit Modification for the LAWPS for the Tank Side Cesium Removal Mechanical Connection issues.	Oct. 7 – Dec. 12, 2024
Tri-Party Agreement Public Involvement Survey	January 2025
Class 2 Permit Modification for the Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant to add an existing room in Low-Activity Waste Vitrification Facility.	Jan. 13 - March 14, 2025
Draft Renewal for the Perma-Fix Northwest Dangerous Waste Permit.	Jan. 27 - March 14, 2025

Hanford Sitewide Permit renewal status

- The 120-day public comment period is scheduled for early 2025. When we get closer to finalizing all the unit groups, we will provide early notification of the public comment period dates.
 - (Note under WAC 173-303-840(3)(d), a renewal public comment period is 45-days, however, we have scheduled additional days to provide the public enough time to review the draft renewal.)
- The Hanford Sitewide Permit, Rev. 9A Renewal will include:
 - 53 Operating, Closure, Post-Closure and Corrective Action unit groups.
 - Standard conditions, attachments and supporting documents.
- It will be about 20,000 pages. We are complete with 33 Unit Groups.
- Staff from both Ecology and the permittees are working very hard and are making progress on completing the remaining portions of the draft renewal. We're also completing responses to public, Tribal Nation and permittee comments.

Questions?

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