The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and CH2M Hill Plateau Remediation Company are providing notice of a 60-day public comment period on a Class 2 proposed modification to the Hanford Facility Dangerous Waste Permit. This proposed modification would revise Attachment 8, Training and Inspection Plan for Groundwater Monitoring Wells, to add training requirements and more detail to the inspection requirements for groundwater wells.

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.

DOE and its contractor CH2M Hill Plateau Remediation Company are requesting a Class 2 modification to the Attachment 8 of the Hanford Dangerous Waste Permit. Attachment 8 is the inspection plan for all RCRA groundwater monitoring wells and the training plan for all RCRA groundwater well inspection, sampling, and maintenance personnel for the entire Hanford Facility (see map).
Overview

The permit establishes requirements to ensure that RCRA groundwater well activities protect human health and the environment.

DOE is proposing a Class 2 permit modification pursuant to Washington Administrative Code WAC 173-303-830, which requires a 60-day public review process that includes a public meeting, a newspaper advertisement announcing the meeting, and a fact sheet.

Summary of Changes

If approved, the modification would add the following to the Dangerous Waste Permit:

- Additional detail for what is inspected at RCRA monitoring wells and when these inspections occur.
- Training for RCRA groundwater inspection, sampling, and maintenance personnel.

The revised Attachment 8 requires changes to the Part II.F Permit Conditions. These changes involve:

- Addressing a new section on training of personnel involved in RCRA groundwater well inspections, sampling, and maintenance.
- Compliance with the attachment.
- Revision of existing permit conditions to address attachment changes.
- Deletion of one permit condition no longer needed due to those changes.

Permit Chapters Affected by this Modification

- Part II.F Permit Conditions
- Attachment 8, Training and Inspection Plan for Groundwater Monitoring Wells
Public Involvement

A 60-day public comment period will run from Jan. 13 through March 13, 2020. A public meeting will be held Feb. 11, 2020, at 5:30 p.m. at the Richland Public Library, 955 Northgate Drive.

All comments must be submitted by March 13, 2020, in writing by mail or electronically (preferred) to:
  Washington State Department of Ecology
  3100 Port of Benton Boulevard
  Richland, WA 99354
  http://nw.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=dhJmb (preferred)

Upon completion of the public comment period, Ecology will address public comments and prepare a Response to Comment document.

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/xpERM and in the Hanford Public Information Repositories at https://go.usa.gov/xVDTS.

Questions? Please contact Jennifer Colborn, at Jennifer_M_Colborn@rl.gov, or Daina McFadden, Ecology, at Hanford@ecy.wa.gov.

The permittee’s compliance history during the life of the permit being modified is available from the Washington Department of Ecology contact person.

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.
Public Involvement Opportunity

We want to hear from you on the proposed changes to Attachment 8: Training and Inspection Plan for Groundwater Monitoring Wells of the Hanford Dangerous Waste Permit

Comment Period:

Jan. 13 – March 13, 2020
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