

The Tri-Party Agreement agencies — U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Washington State Department of Ecology — signed the Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility (ERDF) Record of Decision (ROD) in January 1995. The ROD provides the overall requirements for design, construction and disposal operations at the facility. The ROD has been amended six times, mostly to authorize expansion of the facility. An amendment in January 2007 authorized disposal of some additional Hanford Site waste not previously authorized (known as “plug-in” waste). This annual fact sheet documents the waste that EPA authorized for disposal at ERDF in 2025 under the plug-in approach.

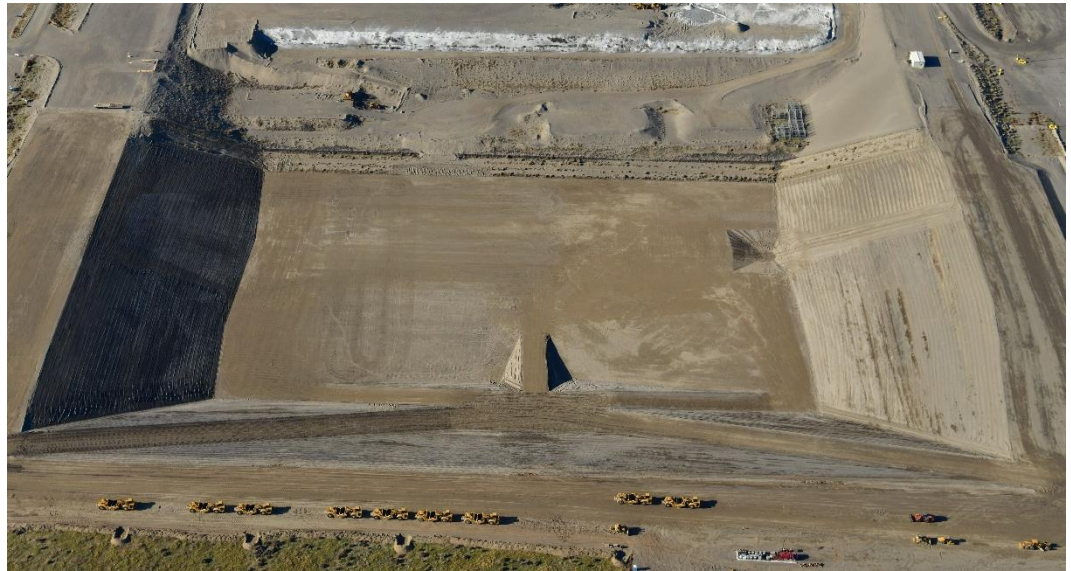
## Background

ERDF is a federal *Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act* (CERCLA) landfill regulated by EPA. Operations began in 1996, with more than 19 million tons of Hanford Site cleanup waste disposed of to date.

ERDF contains double-lined disposal cells with a drainage system that collects potentially contaminated water from rain and dust-suppression activities, which has come in contact with the waste. Waste disposed of at ERDF includes low-level radioactive, hazardous and mixed wastes generated from Hanford cleanup activities. The landfill is designed to be expanded as needed.

Overall waste capacity is currently about 21 million tons, distributed across 10 large cells. Excavation began last summer on Super Cell 11, which will add about 2.8 million cubic yards of disposal capacity to support Hanford’s ongoing cleanup mission. Construction of the cell is expected to be completed in 2026.

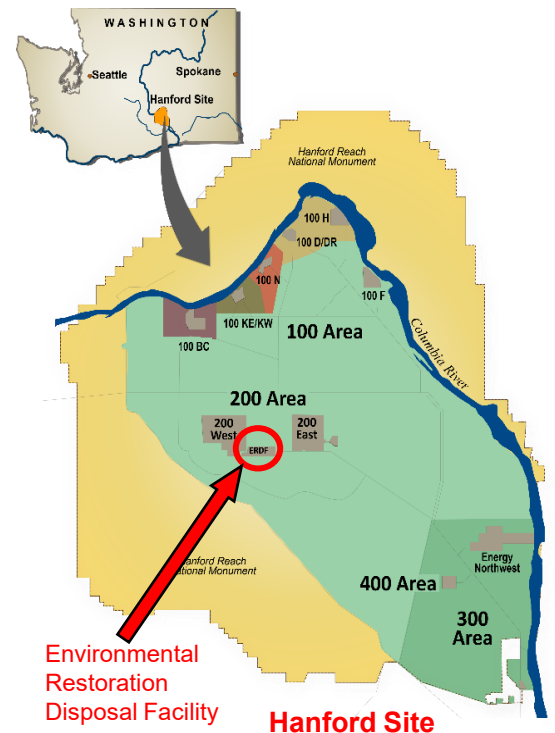
This fact sheet documents the waste approved for disposal at ERDF in calendar year 2025 under the EPA-approved plug-in approach.



Excavation of Super Cell 11 was completed in November 2025.



Aerial of the Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility.



# Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility: 2025 Annual Listing of Hanford Site “Plug-in” Waste (cont.)

## Annual Listing of Hanford Plug-in Waste Under 2007 ROD Amendment

The 2007 ERDF ROD<sup>1</sup> amendment authorized the use of a plug-in approach for disposal of Hanford Site-only generated waste. To be eligible for disposal at ERDF under the plug-in approach, the waste must be approved by EPA and meet the following criteria:

- Be similar to the waste identified in Table 1 of the 2007 ROD amendment.
- Meet existing ERDF waste acceptance criteria or be capable of meeting the criteria with treatment.
- Comply with land disposal restriction requirements.
- Be generated at the Hanford Site or be derived directly from Hanford Site-generated waste in support of federal *Resource Conservation and Recovery Act* and CERCLA cleanup actions.
- Be compatible for disposal at ERDF.
- Not be addressed by an existing CERCLA decision document.

### Summary

In accordance with the 2007 ROD amendment, the table below summarizes the waste that EPA has approved for disposal at ERDF in 2025 under the plug-in approach.

Waste Type	Meets the ERDF Waste Acceptance Criteria?	Treatment Required?	Generated at the Hanford Site in Support of a Cleanup Action?	Compatible for ERDF Disposal?	Approved by EPA
Non-debris, debris, and soil	Yes	Not anticipated	Generated in support of RCRA closure activities at the 211-T Pad, 271-T Cage, 277-T Outdoor Storage Area, Outdoor Storage Area A, and Outdoor Storage Area B	Yes	Sept. 16, 2025 (AR-36954)

EPA = U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
 ERDF = Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility  
 RCRA = *Resource Conservation and Recovery Act*

- 1 EPA, Ecology and DOE, 2007, *U.S. Department of Energy, Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility (ERDF), Hanford Site – 200 Area, Benton County, Washington; Amended Record of Decision, Decision Summary and Responsiveness Summary*, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington State Department of Ecology, and U.S. Department of Energy, Seattle, Washington. Available at <https://pdw.hanford.gov/document/0086538>.
- 2 AR-36954, 2025, Approval to Use the Plug-in Approach Provided in the 2007 Record of Decision Amendment for the Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Available at <https://pdw.hanford.gov/document/AR-36954>.

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