



**Comment Period**

March 16 – May 14, 2022

**Virtual Public Meeting**

April 12, 5:30 p.m. PT  
(see page 3 for details)

**Send comments by  
May 14 to**

<https://nw.ecology.commentingp.ut.com/?id=kbUAg>

**Administrative Record:**

<https://pdw.hanford.gov/document/AR-18482>

**Contact Information**

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The 242-A Evaporator facility

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is holding a 60-day public comment period on a proposed Class 2 permit modification to the Hanford Dangerous Waste Permit, “242-A Evaporator” chapter. This proposed permit modification addresses 242-A Evaporator Unit Specific Permit Conditions III.4.C.1, III.4.C.1.a and III.4.C.1.b. These conditions require submittal of a permit modification for the installation of leak-detection upgrades to the 3”-EVAP\_COND-PC5000-M17 (PC-5000) and 3”-WTP-002-M17 (WTP Backup) waste transfer lines. These permit conditions were added by a prior permit modification dated June 28, 2021.

**Background**

The Hanford Site is located in southeastern Washington state along the Columbia River. The 580-square-mile site 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 are the main missions at Hanford.

The DOE and its contractor Washington River Protection Solutions are requesting a Class 2 modification to 242-A Evaporator operating unit group of the Hanford Dangerous Waste Permit. The 242-A Evaporator facility is a mixed-waste treatment and storage unit that concentrates the liquid portion of double-shell tank waste. The facility is located in the 200 East Area of the Hanford Site (see map).



## 242-A Evaporator

The 242-A Evaporator is centrally located in the Hanford Site's 200 East Area. Since its construction in 1977, the evaporator has removed more than 81 million gallons of liquid from Hanford's tank waste. The 242-A Evaporator boils liquid tank waste to evaporate water to reduce the volume of waste stored in Hanford's underground tanks. Waste volume reduction is also critical for single-shell tank (SST) waste retrievals to double-shell tanks (DST). In order to meet consent decree milestones, DST space availability is a key factor in continuing SST retrievals. The evaporator is currently shut down for facility upgrades to prepare for future waste volume-reduction campaigns.

### Overview

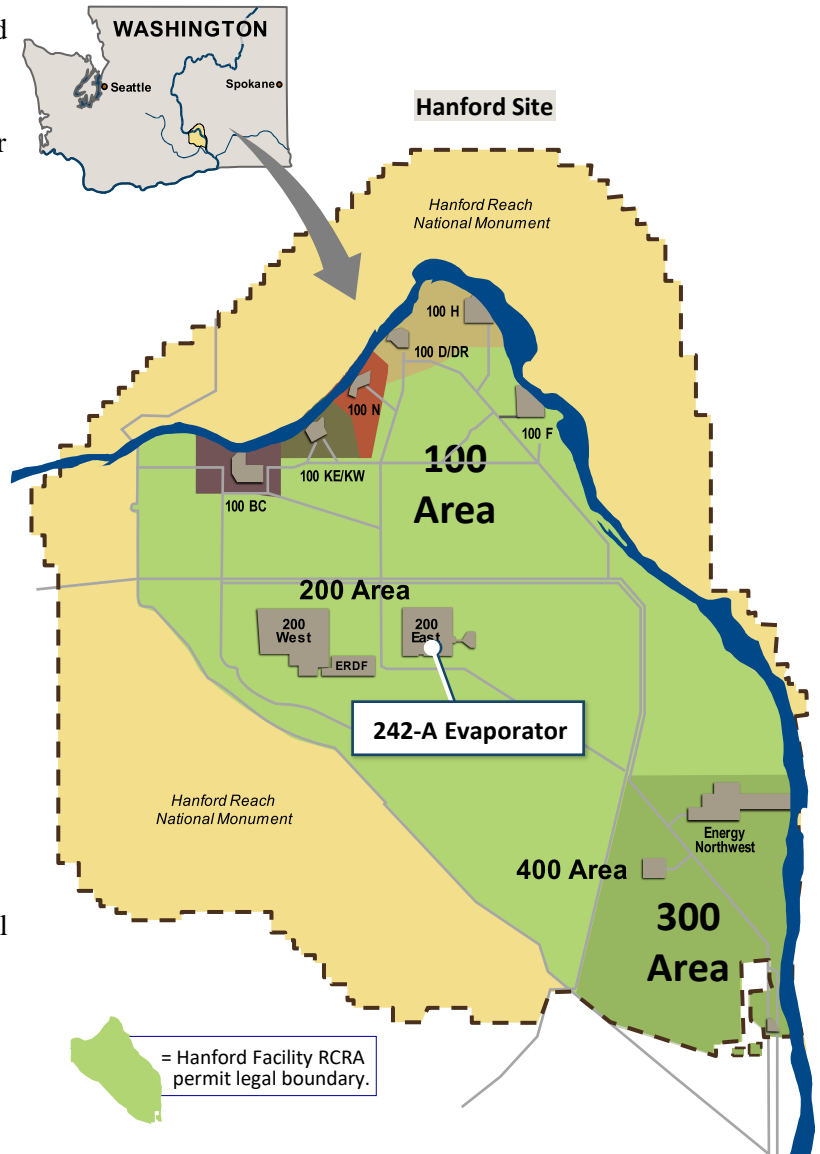
The Hanford Dangerous Waste Permit establishes requirements to ensure that waste management activities protect human health and the environment. DOE is proposing a Class 2 permit modification pursuant to [WAC 173-303-830](#), which requires a 60-day comment period, a public meeting, a newspaper notice, and a mailing list notice. This fact sheet is the mailing notice.

### Summary of Changes

If approved, the modification would allow DOE to install additional leak detectors in the 242-A Evaporator waste transfer lines.

### Permit Chapters Affected by this Modification

- Unit Specific Conditions
- Chapter 4.0, "Process Information"
- Chapter 6.0, "Procedures to Prevent Hazards"



Upgrades are underway to the transfer lines that connect the 242-A Evaporator to the 200 East Area tank farms



Rear view of the 242-A Evaporator in the 200 East Area

## Public Involvement

A 60-day public comment period will begin March 16 and continue through May 14, 2022. A virtual public meeting will be held April 12, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. PT on Microsoft Teams, and will include a presentation introducing the 242-A Evaporator modification for waste transfer line leak-detection upgrades. During the virtual meeting, you can view the presentation, hear the speakers and ask your questions. To participate, follow the instructions below:

**Join on your computer or Teams mobile app**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

<https://bit.ly/3IP3TSF>

**Join with a video conferencing device**

[197920091@teams.bjn.vc](mailto:197920091@teams.bjn.vc)

Video Conference ID: 117 565 598 6

**Or call in (audio only)**

(509) 931-1284 United States

(833) 633-0875 United States (Toll-free)

Phone Conference ID: 480 292 827#

All comments must be submitted by May 14, 2022, in writing, by mail or electronically (preferred) to:

Washington State Department of Ecology

3100 Port of Benton Boulevard

Richland, WA 99354

<https://nw.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=kbUAg> (preferred)

At the conclusion of the public comment period, the Washington State Department of Ecology will address public comments and issue a final permit.

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://pdw.hanford.gov/document/AR-18482>, and in the Hanford Public Information Repositories at <https://go.usa.gov/xVDTS>.

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

*Please contact Jennifer Colborn, at [Jennifer.M.Colborn@rl.gov](mailto:Jennifer.M.Colborn@rl.gov) or (509) 528-6687, 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



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