

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Low-Activity Waste Pretreatment System (LAWPS) Project Proposed Construction and Operation of New Waste Storage and Treatment Unit

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of River Protection (ORP) and Washington River Protection Solutions (WRPS) are holding a 60-day public comment period on a proposed modification to the Hanford Facility Dangerous Waste Permit (Permit). This proposed permit modification would add a new LAWPS Operating Unit Group to begin pretreating Double-Shell Tank waste for subsequent vitrification at the Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant (WTP) Low-Activity Waste (LAW) Facility.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: May 1 to June 30, 2019

Background

The Hanford Site is located in southeastern Washington 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-ORP and WRPS, as co-Permittees, are requesting a Class 3 Modification to the Hanford Facility Dangerous Waste Permit to add LAWPS [Operating Unit Group (OUG)1]. The LAWPS project will remove cesium and filter solids from the waste. The planned cesium removal system would be deployed in phases. Phase One would employ a Tank-Side Cesium Removal (TSCR) unit. Phase Two would either use a permanent cesium removal capability (LAWPS) or an additional TSCR unit to support full operation of the LAW Facility. This application covers construction activities needed to support the Phase One portion of the project. Phase two will be submitted at a later date.

Overview

The Permit establishes requirements to ensure waste management activities are protective of human health and the environment. DOE is proposing a Class 3 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

The purpose of the modification is to add a LAWPS OUG to the Permit. LAWPS will pretreat tank supernatant waste for subsequent transfer to the WTP LAW Facility for vitrification.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

May 1 to June 30, 2019

GET INVOLVED STAY INFORMED

Public Meeting:

May 29, 2019, 5:30 p.m.
Richland Public Library
955 Northgate Dr.
Richland, WA 99352

Contact Information:

Paula Call, DOE
509-376-2048
Paula.Call@orp.doe.gov
Mandy Jones, Ecology
509-372-7916
Mandy.Jones@ecy.wa.gov

Administrative Record:

<https://pdw.hanford.gov/arpir/index.cfm/docDetail?accession=0063754H>

Submit Comments:

<http://wt.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=J6RbP>



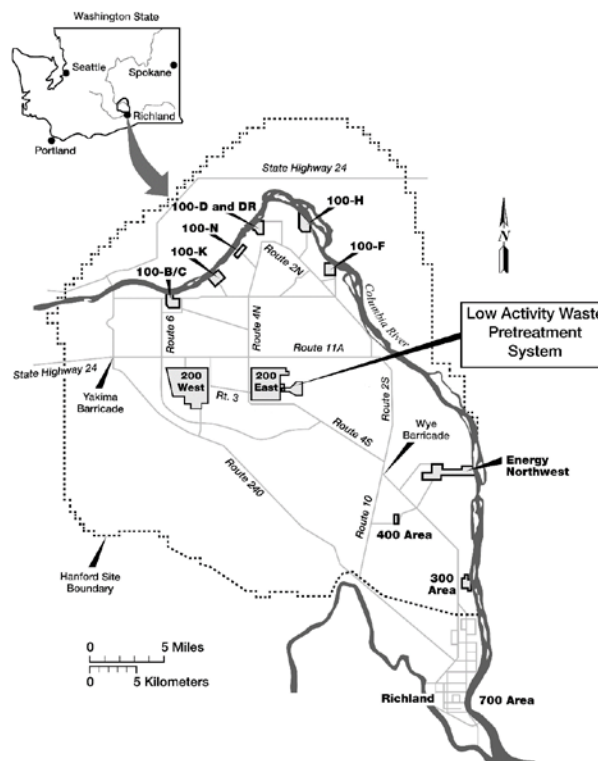
Treatment consists of solids filtration and cesium removal by ion exchange. The Class 3 permit modification request includes the following activities; treatment to remove undissolved solids and radionuclides, tank storage and container storage for waste generated during this process. In support of the modification request, a Dangerous Waste Part B Permit Application for the new OUG has been submitted to Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) for approval to construct and operate the LAWPS.

Primary elements of the application include the following:

- Seismic and traffic evaluations
- Part A Form
- Waste Analysis Plan
- Process Information
- Security Requirements
- Preparedness and Prevention
- Personnel Training
- Closure Plan
- Inspection Plan
- Contingency Plan
- Supporting design media (specifications, calculations, reports, and engineering drawings).
- Supplemental Information (provided for context of the application, but not for public comment).

<https://pdw.hanford.gov/arpir/index.cfm/docDetail?accession=0063753H>

An Independent Qualified Registered Professional Engineering (IQRPE) design assessment report is under development to provide an independent technical evaluation of the LAWPS tank system design. The completed IQRPE report will be submitted to Ecology at a later date.



A 60-day public comment period is scheduled to begin May 1 and continue through June 30, 2019. A public meeting will be held May 29, 2019, at 5:30 p.m. at the Richland Public Library, 955 Northgate Dr., Richland, WA 99352.

To request disability accommodation, please contact Jennifer Colborn, [Jennifer M Colborn@rl.gov](mailto:Jennifer_M_Colborn@rl.gov), 509-376-5840 at least 10 working days prior to the event.

All comments must be submitted by June 30, 2019, in writing, by mail, or by email (preferred) to:

Mandy Jones
 Washington State Department of Ecology
 3100 Port of Benton Boulevard
 Richland, WA 99354
<http://wt.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=J6RbP> (preferred)

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

Copies of the proposed modification and supporting documentation will be available during the public comment period online at <http://pdw.hanford.gov/arpir/index.cfm/viewDoc?accession=xxxxxxx>, on Ecology's website at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/nwp/commentperiods.htm>, and at the Hanford Public Information Repositories listed below.

Hanford Public Information Repositories

<p>Portland State University Government Information Branford Price Millar Library 1875 SW Park Avenue Portland, OR 97207-1151 Attn: Claudia Irla (503) 725-4542 E-Mail: westonc@pdx.edu</p> <p>Map: www.pdx.edu/map.html</p>	<p>University of Washington Suzzallo Library Government Publications Dept. Box 352900 Seattle, WA 98195-2900 Attn: Hilary Reinert (206) 685-3130 E-Mail: cass@uw.edu; reinerth@uw.edu</p> <p>Map: www.tinyurl.com/m8ebj</p>	<p>U.S. Department of Energy Public Reading Room Washington State University, Tri- Cities Consolidated Information Ctr., Rm. 101-L 2770 University Drive Richland, WA 99352 Attn: Janice Scarano (509) 372-7443 E-Mail: doe.reading.room@pnnl.gov</p> <p>Map: www.tricity.wsu.edu/campusmaps/campusmap.pdf</p>	<p>Gonzaga University Foley Center Library East 502 Boone Avenue Spokane, WA 99258 Attn: John Spencer (509) 313-6110 E-Mail: spencer@gonzaga.edu</p> <p>Map: www.tinyurl.com/2c6bpm</p>	<p>Ecology Nuclear Waste Program Resource Center 3100 Port of Benton Blvd. Richland, WA 99354 Attn: Valarie Peery 509-372-7950 E-Mail: Hanford@ecy.wa.gov</p> <p>Online: http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/nwp/commentperiods.htm</p>
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Administrative Record and Public Information Repository:

Address: 2440 Stevens Center Place, Room 1101, Richland, WA. **Attn:** Heather Childers
Phone: 509-376-2530 **E-Mail:** heather_m_childers@rl.gov **Web site:** www2.hanford.gov/arpir/

Public Involvement Opportunity

We want to hear from you on the proposed changes to the Hanford Dangerous Waste Permit for the addition of the LAWPS OUG to the Permit.

Comment Period: May 1 to June 30, 2019

Public Meeting: May 29, 2019, 5:30 p.m., Richland Public Library