

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Proposed Class 3 Permit Modification for the Integrated Disposal Facility

Fact Sheet



Comment Period

Dec. 16, 2019 – Feb. 14, 2020

Public Meeting

Jan. 21, 2020, 5:30 p.m.
Richland Public Library
955 Northgate Drive
Richland, WA 99352

Send comments by Feb. 14, 2020 to

<http://nw.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=ubNZC>



Questions?

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The Integrated Disposal Facility was completed in 2006 and is nearly 1,500 feet wide, 765 feet long and 45 feet deep, with a capacity of nearly 1.2 million cubic yards.

The U.S. Department of Energy is providing notice of a 60-day public comment period on a Class 3 proposed modification to the Hanford Facility Dangerous Waste Permit. This proposed modification would support operations and allow for disposal of mixed low-level waste in both disposal cells of the Integrated Disposal Facility, add receipt of mixed low-level wastes from Hanford Site operations, and allow for the construction of a treatment pad and a storage pad.

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 are Hanford's primary missions.

Hanford stores approximately 56 million gallons of radioactive and chemical waste in 177 underground tanks. By 2023, the Department will begin vitrifying Hanford's tank waste using the Direct-Feed Low-Activity Waste approach. "Direct-feed" means waste is separated near a tank farm to remove the more radioactive portion so that the resulting low-activity (less radioactive) waste can be fed directly to the Low-Activity Waste Facility in Hanford's Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant. At the treatment plant, the waste will be mixed with glass-forming materials and heated to 2,100 degrees F. The molten glass/waste mixture will be poured into stainless steel containers and then transported to the nearby Integrated Disposal Facility (IDF).

The IDF is designed similar to Hanford's existing Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility and will provide a permanent, environmentally safe disposition for the vitrified low-activity waste. The IDF's two disposal cells include an engineered liner to collect and treat leachate (water from rain and snow) and dust to protect the groundwater.



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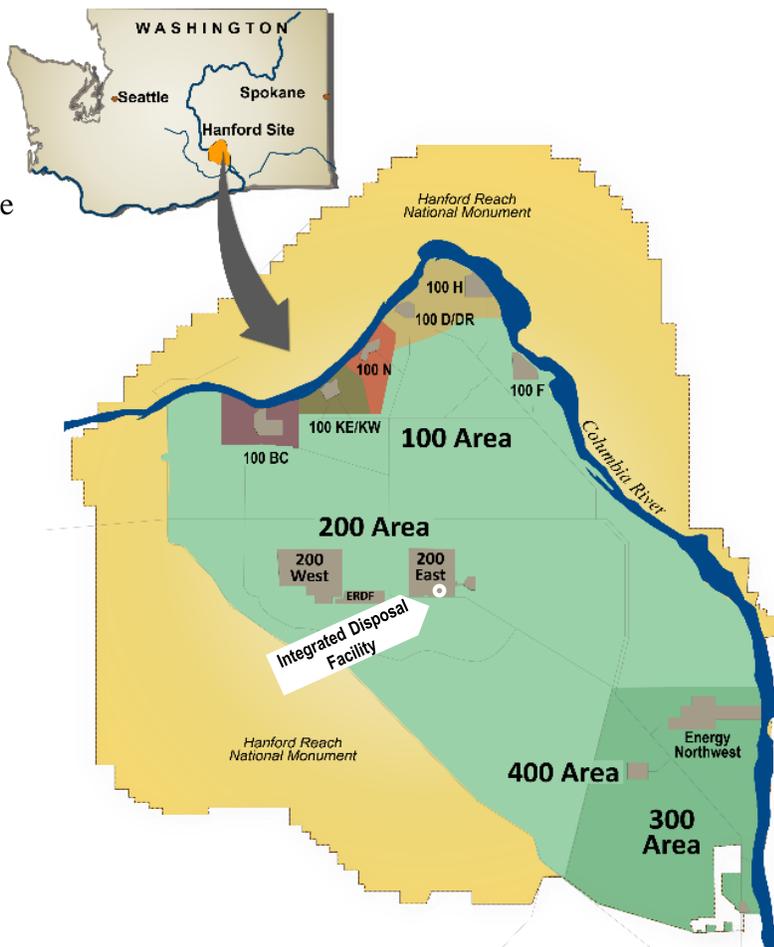
Overview

A permit modification is required from the permitting authority, the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology), to allow the IDF to receive waste. The Department of Energy (DOE) and its contractor CH2M HILL Plateau Remediation Company (CHPRC) are requesting a Class 3 modification to the IDF chapter of the Hanford Dangerous Waste Permit to allow for the receipt of waste at the IDF.

The permit establishes requirements to ensure that waste management activities protect human health and the environment. The proposed Class 3 modification is pursuant to WAC [173-303-830](#), which requires a 60-day public review process and a public meeting.

Summary of Changes

The proposed modification adds storage and treatment capability to the IDF and would allow for disposal of mixed low-level waste. Modifications include a new addenda and updates to Part A which will add a second disposal cell to the permit, add storage and treatment unit information and expand on disposal operations information. The modifications would also allow acceptance of a variety of mixed low-level wastes from Hanford Site operations, in addition to immobilized low-activity waste glass from the Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant.



Permit Chapters Affected by this Modification

Existing IDF Chapters	New IDF Addenda
1.0 Part A Form	A – Part A Form
2.0 Topographic Map Description	
3.0 Waste Analysis Plan	B – Waste Analysis Plan
4.0 Process Information	C – Process Information
5.0 Groundwater Monitoring	D – Groundwater Monitoring
6.0 Procedures to Prevent Hazards	E – Security F – Preparedness and Prevention
8.0 Personnel Training	I – Inspection Plan
11.0 Closure	G – Personnel Training H – Closure Plan
13.0 Other Federal and State Laws	K – Post-Closure Plan
J.1 Pre-Active Life Contingency Plan	All addenda
J.2 Active Life Contingency Plan	J – Building Emergency Plan



Vitrified waste containers are four feet in diameter, seven feet tall and weigh more than seven tons.



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Public Involvement

A 60-day public comment period will run from Dec. 16, 2019, through Feb. 14, 2020. A public meeting will be held Jan. 21, 2020, at 5:30 p.m. at the Richland Public Library, 955 Northgate Drive.

All comments must be submitted by Feb. 14, 2020, in writing by mail or electronically (preferred) to:

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

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 State 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.



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Richland, WA 99354



Public Comment Period for Proposed Class 3 Permit Modification for the Integrated Disposal Facility

Public Involvement Opportunity

We want to hear from you on the proposed changes to the Integrated Disposal Facility chapter of the Hanford Dangerous Waste Permit



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U.S. Department of Energy
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Richland, WA 99352