



THE HANFORD SITE

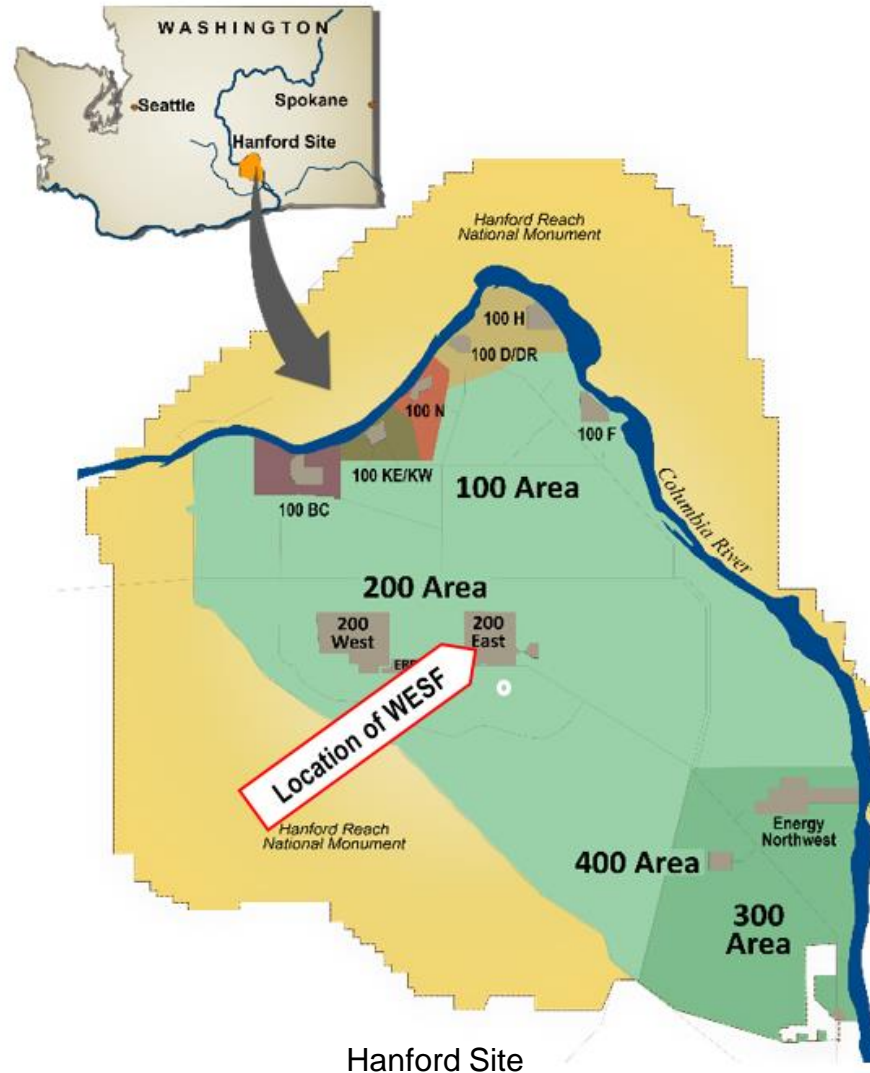
Proposed Permit Modification for the Waste Encapsulation and Storage Facility

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DOE Richland Operations Office

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- Meet *Washington Administrative Code* regulatory requirements for public involvement [WAC 173-303-830(4)(c)(iv)]
- Inform the public on the proposed Waste Encapsulation and Storage Facility (WESF) Class 2 permit modification request for the Hanford Facility Dangerous Waste Permit

Location of WESF



- WESF was constructed in 1973
- From 1974 to 1985, radioactive cesium and strontium recovered from Hanford's waste tanks were placed in stainless steel capsules and stored in concrete pool cells in WESF, where they remain today
- The 1,936 capsules are stored there to protect workers from radioactivity and to help keep the capsules cool
- Now that the cesium and strontium has passed the half-life of about 30 years, the capsules are in a safer state to move from wet to dry storage
- Work is underway to transfer the capsules to dry casks and then move them to the nearby dry-storage area

G Cell will be used to stage and load the capsules into universal capsule sleeves before they are transferred to specially designed casks for safe transport to the nearby dry-storage area

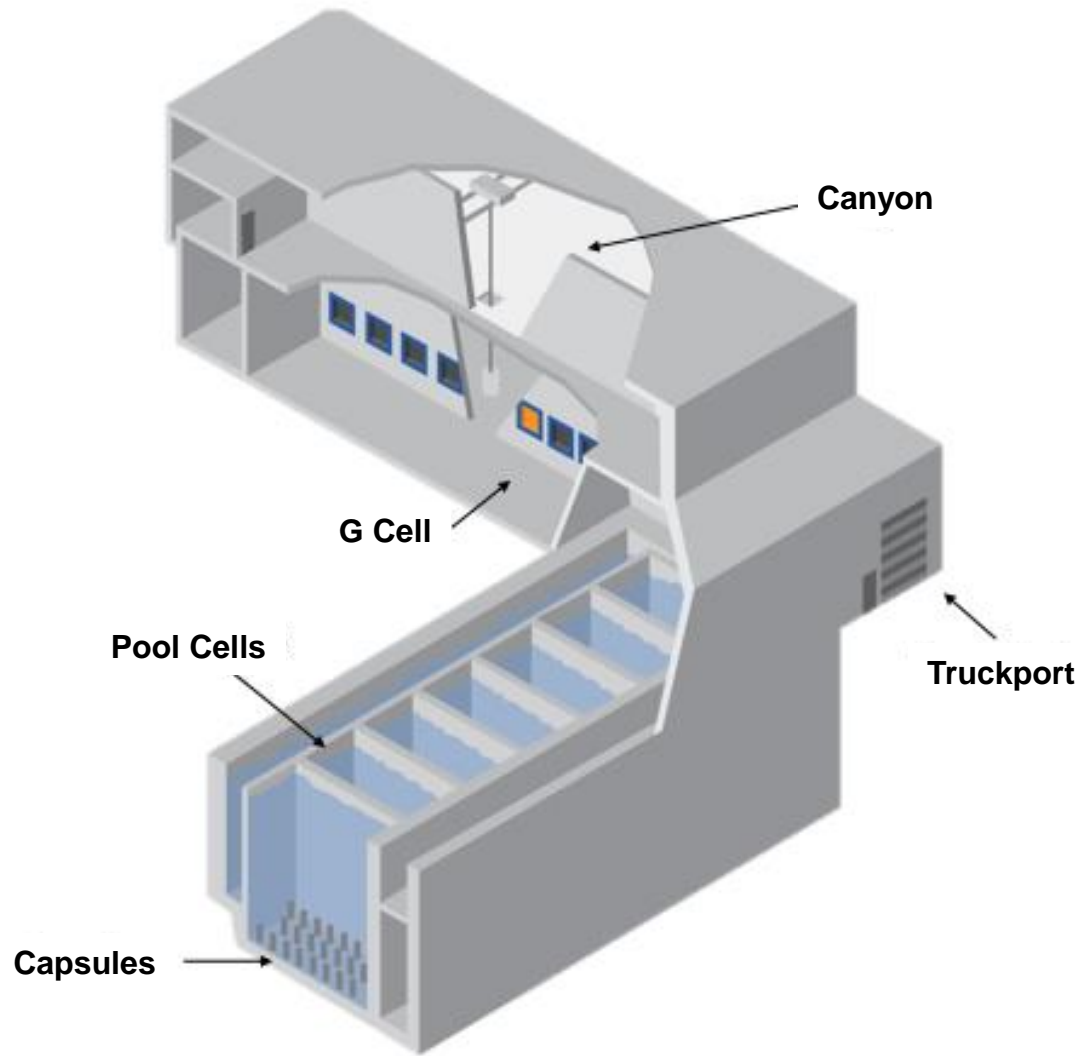


G-Cell windows and manipulators



Sample universal capsule sleeve

WESF Capsule Transfer Process (cont.)

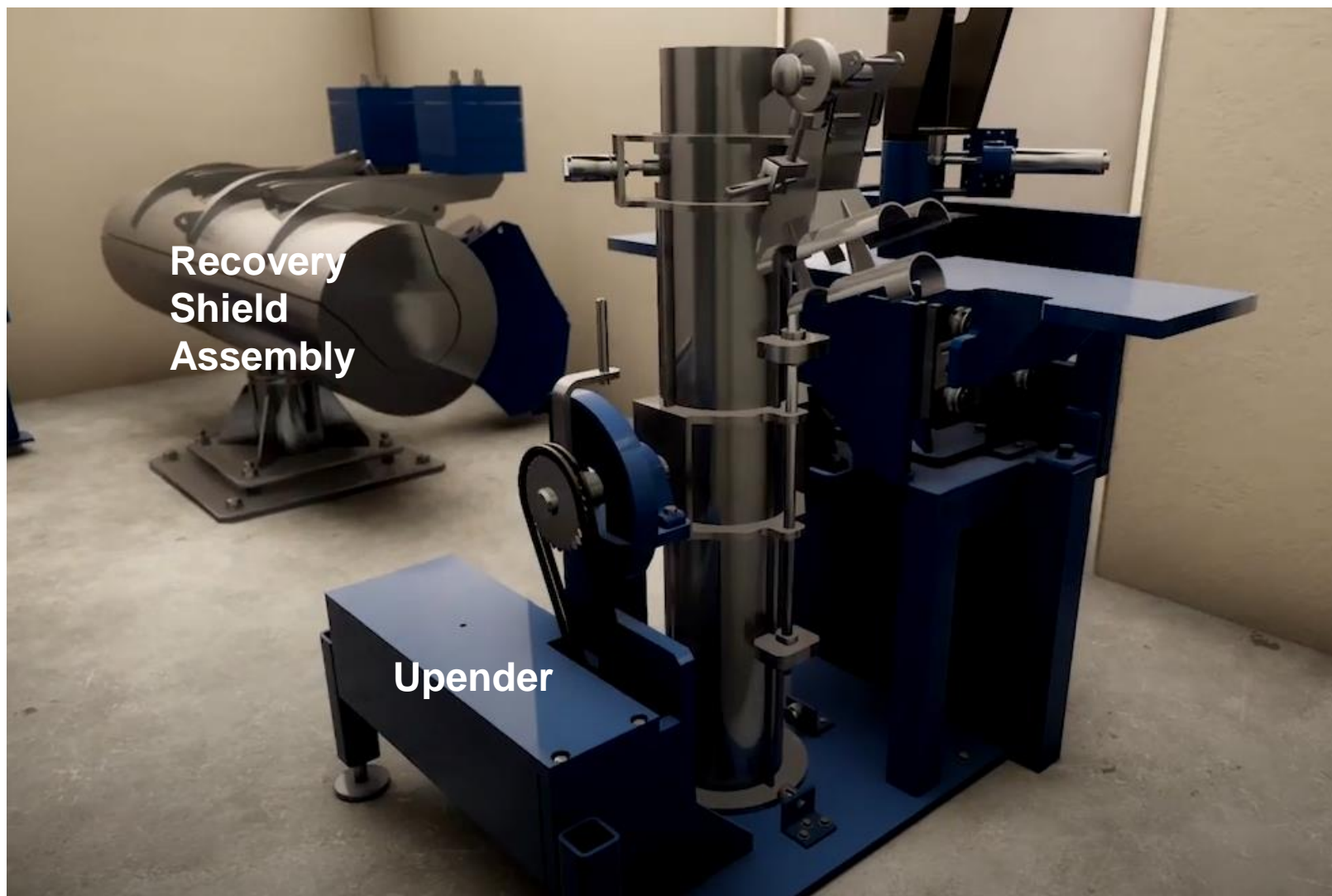


This Class 2 permit modification request includes the following:

- Updates to Part A and Addendum C, “Process Information,” to increase the storage capacity of G Cell
- Updates to Addendum C to discuss the process to safely manage the capsules during transfer activities
- Updates to Addendum G, “Personnel Training,” to include new personnel positions and associated qualifications

Proposed Permit Modifications (cont.)

- Increasing the capacity of G Cell from nine to 14 capsules supports the move to dry storage by providing WESF more flexibility to safely manage the capsules during off-normal conditions
- During capsule loading operations, G Cell can store two full universal capsule sleeves (holding up to six capsules each), one capsule in the shielded storage unit G-7A, and an additional capsule in the transfer chute



Recovery
Shield
Assembly

Upender

A 60-day public comment period on the proposed WESF Class 2 permit modification is open through Sept. 4

Submit comments electronically (preferred) to <https://bit.ly/3NQyFg9> or via mail to:



Daina McFadden
Washington State Department of Ecology
3100 Port of Benton Boulevard
Richland, WA 99354

See the Hanford Events Calendar on Hanford.gov for more information

Questions?

The Hanford Reach
White Bluffs Overlooking the Columbia River