

# STATE OF THE HANFORD SITE

## Public Meetings

April 2014

### ***What is a State of the Hanford Site public meeting?***

Hanford cleanup schedules and activities are set by the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA). The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) – the TPA agencies – will host four State of the Hanford Site meetings in Northwest communities. These meetings provide an opportunity for the public to discuss Hanford cleanup issues with TPA agency decision-makers.

Although progress is being made at Hanford, cleanup will be decades long. The public plays an important role by providing input to cleanup priorities and TPA cleanup commitments.

Each State of the Hanford Site meeting will include an Open House style information session and moderated town hall. The TPA agencies are interested in your questions and hearing your views on a wide range of Hanford cleanup issues and activities including, but not limited to:

- ❖ Ensuring worker safety and health
- ❖ Protecting the Columbia River
- ❖ Shrinking the active footprint of cleanup
- ❖ Closing Hanford tank farms
- ❖ Accelerating groundwater cleanup
- ❖ Overall priorities of cleanup



*A member of the public at a previous meeting asked questions to decision-makers.*

### ***Who manages the Hanford Site?***

The DOE operates and manages the Hanford Site. There are two DOE offices associated with Hanford cleanup.

The Richland Operations Office (DOE-RL) oversees the projects associated with:

- ❖ Cleaning up reactors, soil, groundwater and solid waste burial sites
- ❖ Managing the demolition of facilities on the Hanford Site

The Office of River Protection (DOE-ORP) is tasked with:

- ❖ Managing nuclear and chemical waste currently stored in 177 underground tanks
- ❖ Constructing the Waste Treatment Plant, which will combine the tank waste with glass making materials in a process called vitrification. Vitrification will solidify the waste into glass, making it more stable and suitable for disposal

There are many ways to get information about Hanford cleanup from the TPA agencies:

DOE website: [www.hanford.gov](http://www.hanford.gov)

Ecology website: [www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/nwp](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/nwp)

Join a Hanford email list: [www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/nwp/lists.htm](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/nwp/lists.htm)

Got more questions? Contact us at: [Hanford@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Hanford@ecy.wa.gov) or 1-800-321-2008

## ***Who are the Regulators?***

Ecology and EPA regulate DOE's activities at the Hanford Site. The regulatory agencies divide authority for different aspects of Hanford Site cleanup.

Ecology's Nuclear Waste Program is responsible for:

- ❖ Oversight of tank waste treatment and storage
- ❖ Waste management activities
- ❖ Implementation of the state's cleanup regulations

EPA has lead oversight for Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) cleanup activities. The EPA is responsible for:

- ❖ Oversight of contaminated soil and groundwater cleanup
- ❖ Oversight of building demolition

## ***Dates, times and locations***

### **April 15, 2014 – Seattle**

Seattle Center: Allen Foundation for the Arts  
Room at McCaw Hall  
321 Mercer St.  
Seattle  
6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Open House  
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

### **April 16, 2014 – Portland**

Double Tree by Hilton: Halsey Room  
1000 NE Multnomah St.  
Portland  
6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Open House  
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

### **April 17, 2014 – Hood River**

Best Western Hotel: Gorge Room  
1108 E. Marina Dr.  
Hood River  
6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Open House  
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

### **April 29, 2014 – Richland**

Red Lion Hotel Hanford House: Ballroom  
802 George Washington Way  
Richland  
5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Open House  
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.



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