

**This is a message from the Tri-Party Agencies**

**Notice of an Upcoming 30-day Public Comment Period  
Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis for 105-K East Reactor Decommissioning**

The Department of Energy (DOE) is preparing an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) to evaluate alternatives for decommissioning and removal of the 105-K East Reactor. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is the lead regulatory agency for this project.

The 105-K East reactor is located in Hanford's 100 Area. The reactor was built in 1952 and stopped operating in 1971. A decision was made in the *1993 Record of Decision for Decommissioning of Eight Surplus Production Reactors at the Hanford Site, Richland, WA* to place Hanford's eight reactors in interim safe storage for up to 75 years, followed by one-piece removal. On July 27, 2010, the DOE issued an amendment to this decision (see [http://www.hanford.gov/files.cfm/EIS-0119F-SA\\_01.pdf](http://www.hanford.gov/files.cfm/EIS-0119F-SA_01.pdf)) to broaden the possible decommissioning approach and include the option for immediate dismantlement. The option of immediate dismantlement would allow for reducing the potential threat to the Columbia River and groundwater from the spread of radioactive and hazardous contaminants present in the soils adjacent to and potentially underneath 105-K East Reactor. Through the Tri-Party Agreement, the agencies are evaluating the decommissioning through the *Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA)* process.

The EE/CA will examine four removal action alternatives and will identify a preferred alternative. The four alternatives that will be considered are:

- Alternative 1: No Action
- Alternative 2: Safe Storage Followed by One-Piece Removal
- Alternative 3: Safe Storage Followed by Dismantlement
- Alternative 4: Accelerated Dismantlement

The EE/CA for 105-K East Reactor Decommissioning is expected to be issued for a 30-day public comment period beginning in September. Following the public comment period and resolution of comments received, DOE and EPA anticipate making a removal action decision.

If you have any questions or need additional information, call the Hanford Cleanup Hotline 1-800-321-2008 or reply to this email.