

# Hanford Site Public Involvement Activities

## April 4, 2007

### Purpose

A key goal of public involvement is to obtain stakeholder perspectives on issues affecting the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) and to facilitate broad-based participation in the Hanford Site decision-making process. The TPA Agencies, U.S. Department of Energy's (USDOE) Richland Operations Office and Office of River Protection, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology), believe public involvement is essential to the success of Hanford Site cleanup.

The purpose of the Hanford Site Public Involvement Activities document is to provide on a quarterly basis an overview of anticipated public involvement opportunities for the coming months. It identifies the current forums and emerging opportunities to inform and involve stakeholders and the public. Stakeholders are described as individuals who see themselves affected by and/or have an interest in Hanford issues. They commit time and energy to participate in decisions. Hanford stakeholders include: local governments, local and regional businesses, Hanford workforce, local, regional and national environmental interest groups, local and regional public health organizations. The general public is comprised of those individuals who are aware of but may choose not to be involved in decisions. It is the responsibility of the agencies to provide the public with meaningful information on upcoming decisions so they can choose whether or not to become involved in Hanford decisions.

### Hanford Site Public Meetings/Forums

#### **Hanford Site Public Meetings/Forums**

The Tri-Party Agencies will conduct a series of regional public meetings/forums throughout CY 2007. Agency leadership from the U.S. Department of Energy's two Hanford field offices, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10 office and the Washington State Department of Ecology will meet with interested groups and the public throughout the region to discuss the current status of Hanford cleanup activities and the challenges for the future.

#### Public Involvement/Outreach Activities:

TRIDEC Economic Outlook Forum	January 24, 2007
Port of Benton - 300 Area Status Briefing	February 14, 2007
Hanford Retirees Association - Status of the Hanford Cleanup	February 15, 2007
Oregon Hanford Cleanup Board	March 29-30, 2007

Contacts: Karen Lutz, USDOE Richland Operations Office, (509) 376-4766; Erik Olds, USDOE Office of River Protection, (509) 372-0656; Dennis Faulk, EPA, (509) 376-8631; Nolan Curtis, Ecology, (509) 372-7954.

*The following information describes current and upcoming public involvement activities for the next six months and identifies public involvement activities completed in 2007.*

### **Current Public Involvement Opportunities**

#### **Tank Closure and Waste Management Environmental Impact Statement**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced in the Federal Register February 2, 2006 its intent to prepare the *Tank Closure and Waste Management Environmental Impact Statement for the Hanford Site, Richland, Washington* (TC & WM EIS).

In addition to the analysis of alternatives that is currently being conducted for the preparation of the *EIS for Retrieval, Treatment and Disposal of Tank Waste and Closure of the Single-Shell Tanks at the Hanford Site, Richland, Washington* (TC EIS), the TC & WM EIS will also address concerns regarding the analyses of Hanford's solid waste management operations conducted for the *Final Hanford Site Solid (Radioactive and Hazardous) Waste Program EIS, Richland, Washington* (HSW EIS). These concerns were the subject of a recent Settlement Agreement among DOE, the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology), and the State of Washington Attorney General's office.

To implement the Settlement Agreement, the TC & WM EIS will provide a single, integrated analysis of groundwater at Hanford for all waste types addressed in the HSW EIS and the TC EIS. In order to provide an integrated presentation of currently foreseeable activities related to waste management and cleanup at Hanford, DOE plans to include the ongoing *Fast Flux Test Facility Decommissioning EIS* (FFTF EIS) in the scope of the new TC & WM EIS. A scoping comment period was held from February 2 - April 10, 2006.

#### **Public Involvement Activities:**

The Model Technical Review Group (MTRG) is providing guidance to Science Application International Corporation on the development of the groundwater model.

April 16, 2007

Vadose Zone and Groundwater workshop including stakeholder concerns

April 23, 2007

The Model Technical Review Group (MTRG) a meeting on **Field Data Comparison**

April 26, 2007

The Model Technical Review Group (MTRG) a closeout meeting on **Field Data Comparison**

Meeting logistics are available at: <http://www.hanford.gov/public/calendar/>

Contact: Mary Beth Burandt, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection, (509) 373-9160

#### **Budget Workshop/Regional Forums for FY 2009 Hanford Budget Process**

The U.S. Department of Energy will seek public input and values for consideration into the development of the FY 2009 Budget submittal to DOE HQ.

Public Involvement Activities:

Hanford Communities – Budget Briefing  
Richland Budget Workshop  
Regional Meetings (Seattle, Spokane, Portland, Hood River)

March 23, 2007  
May 9, 2007  
TBD

Contacts: Karen Lutz, USDOE Richland Operations Office, (509) 376-4766; Erik Olds, USDOE Office of River Protection (509) 372-0656; Dennis Faulk, EPA, (509) 376-8631; Nolan Curtis, Ecology, (509) 372-7954.

## **DOE-HQ Environmental Management Workshops – Office of Engineering and Technology**

Engineering and Technology currently focuses on the following three areas: Tank Waste and Waste Processing; Groundwater and Soil Cleanup; and Deactivation and Decommissioning at the largest EM sites: Savannah River, Idaho, Hanford, Oak Ridge, and Portsmouth/Paducah.

External Technical Review Lessons Learned Workshops                      July 24 – 26, 2007

*For more information on the EM Office of Engineering and Technology Workshops visit:*  
[www.em.doe.gov/Pages/EngTech.aspx](http://www.em.doe.gov/Pages/EngTech.aspx)

*Contact:* Karen Lutz, USDOE Richland Operations Office, (509) 376-4766

## **DOE-HQ – Office of Nuclear Energy: Scoping Public Comment Period on the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (GNEP PEIS).**

The U.S. Department of Energy, Headquarters (USDOE-HQ), Office of Nuclear Energy is preparing a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership. The scoping process is an opportunity for the public to assist DOE in determining among other things, reasonable alternatives and issues for analysis.

GNEP would recycle spent nuclear fuel and destroy its long-lived radioactive components. To accomplish this, GNEP proposes the following three facilities:

- 1) A **nuclear fuel recycling center**, which would separate spent nuclear fuel into reusable and waste components and then manufacture new nuclear fast reactor fuel using the reusable components.
- 2) An **advanced recycling reactor**, which would destroy long-lived radioactive elements in the new fuel while generating electricity.
- 3) An **advanced fuel cycle research facility**, which would perform research and development into spent nuclear fuel recycling processes and other advanced nuclear fuel cycles.

Public Involvement Activities

Public comment period	January 4 - June 4, 2007 (comment period extended from April 4, 2007)
Scoping Meetings	
February 13	Oak Ridge, TN
February 15	North Augusta, SC

February 22	Joliet, IL
February 26	Hobbs, NM
February 27	Roswell, NM
March 1	Los Alamos, NM
March 6	Paducah, KY
March 8	Piketon, OH
March 13	Pasco, WA
March 15	Idaho Falls, ID
March 19	Washington, DC
March 26	Hood River, OR

Contact: Julie Ruggiero, (202) 586-4940

## **Monthly Groundwater Remediation Open Meetings**

Groundwater Remediation Project Monthly Open Meetings are held in the Fluor Building, 1200 Jadwin Ave., Richland, WA, First Floor Conf. Room; Time: 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Badging is not required for the location of this meeting.

### Public Involvement Activities:

Meetings are held the third Thursday of every month

Contact: Barbara Howard, Fluor Hanford Groundwater Remediation Project, (509) 373-3871.

## **Upcoming Public Involvement Activities**

### **Surface Barrier Test in the T Tank Farm**

*USDOE is planning to install a cover over part of the "T" Tank Farm. The cover is to go above the area around the T-106 tank. This tank had the largest known leak --115,000 gal--in June 1973. The ground under this tank has a plume, and rain and snow can drive the plume toward groundwater. The intent is to keep water off the area of the leak.*

### Public Involvement Activities

Comment Period: April 5 – May 7, 2007

Contact: Madeleine Brown, Washington State Department of Ecology, (509) 372-7936

### **Hanford's Integrated Disposal Facility Permit Change**

*Washington State's Department of Ecology seeks public comment on proposed changes to the permit for Hanford's Integrated Disposal Facility (IDF). The proposed changes reflect the fact that no waste will come to the IDF for a few years. So the changes are to remove conditions that apply to an "active" facility. The changes also will add those that apply to inactive facilities.*

### Public Involvement Activities

Public Comment Period: April 23 – June 8, 2007

Contact: Madeleine Brown, Washington State Department of Ecology, (509) 372-7936

### **Central Plateau Ecological Risk Assessment Workshops**

*The Department of Energy Richland Operations Office will hold workshops for Phase IV of the Central Plateau Ecological Risk Assessment. Phases I through III focused on the development of ecological sampling requirements as outlined in the Ecological Risk Assessment Guidance Data Quality Objective process. In Phase IV a final Ecological Risk Assessment Report will be developed. This document will be used in the Central Plateau remedial investigation, feasibility study, and proposed plan process.*

#### Public Involvement Activities

Workshop	May 2007
Other Workshops	TBD

Contact: Karen Lutz, DOE-RL, (509) 376-4766

### **100 Area and 300 Area Component of the River Corridor Baseline Risk Assessment**

*The Department of Energy (DOE) Richland Operations Office and Washington Closure Hanford will hold workshops for the 100 and 300 Area Component of the River Corridor Baseline Risk Assessment (RCBRA). The objective of the RCBRA is to assess the risk to human and ecological receptors using the river corridor. The purpose of these workshops is to solicit input, maintain an active dialog on the risk assessment approaches and seek ways to share project data with interested participants during the development of the risk assessment.*

#### Public Involvement Activities

Workshops:	
Draft results and other data analysis questions.	May 16, 2007

Meeting logistics are available at: <http://www.hanford.gov/public/calendar/>

### **Diesel Engine Replacement in Hanford 100-B Area**

*DOE's Richland Operations Office plans to apply for an air permit for Project L-626, 100B Export Water Enhancements. They want to replace existing diesel engines with three emergency backup diesel engines to pump water from the Columbia River and out of an existing reservoir for potable, process, and fire water. The project will include engine replacement, fuel storage, and installation of approximately 2,000 feet of water pipeline.*

#### Public Involvement Activities

Comment Period:	April or May 2007
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Contact: Madeleine Brown, Washington State Department of Ecology, (509) 372-7936

**Hanford Integrated Groundwater and Vadose Zone Management Plan** *The Hanford Integrated Groundwater and Vadose Zone Management Plan will be issued in the Spring/Summer timeframe. This document describes the consolidation of groundwater modeling across the Hanford Site, the coordination of the groundwater and vadose zone activities under the Groundwater Remediation Project, and the integration of the groundwater, vadose zone, and source area cleanup decisions. The objective of the document is to provide information on DOE's commitment to centralize and strengthen the responsibility for groundwater and vadose zone cleanup under the DOE-RL Groundwater Remediation Project.*

#### Public Involvement Activities:

Consultation with Tribes and feedback from ODOE and HAB on Draft Report

Contact: Karen Lutz, US Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office, (509) 376-4766

## **222-S Dangerous and Mixed Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Unit**

*The Department of Ecology is preparing a draft permit for the waste management areas of the 222-S Laboratory. Just south of the REDOX canyon building on the south end of Hanford's 200 West Area, the laboratory began operations in 1951. The lab's new name is 222-S Dangerous and Mixed Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Unit. This name reflects the fact that only part of the lab is subject to permitting.*

### Public Involvement Activities

Comment Period: Fall 2007

Contact: Madeleine Brown, Washington State Department of Ecology, (509) 372-7936

## **RCRA Sitewide Permit**

*The Washington State Department of Ecology is preparing to submit revision 9 of the sitewide permit for public review.*

*This is the overarching RCRA permit under which Hanford operates its treatment, storage, and disposal activities for dangerous wastes. The comment period will be 60 days to allow public review of the extensive changes to this very substantial permit. Hanford's sitewide permit consists of the main body and completed unit-specific portions. The new revision contains all changes in the past ten years. It also brings all regulation requirements up to date.*

### Public Involvement Activities

Comment Period: Fall 2007

Contact: Madeleine Brown, Washington State Department of Ecology, (509) 372-7936

## **Waste Encapsulation and Storage Facility (WESF) Permit**

*The Waste Encapsulation and Storage Facility stores capsules of cesium chloride and strontium fluoride salts that were removed from Hanford tank wastes. WESF has operated since 1974 and began mixed waste activities in 1997. The Washington State Department of Ecology will seek public comment on a draft permit modification to add WESF to the site-wide permit.*

### Public Involvement Activities

Comment Period: 2007

Contact: Madeleine Brown, Washington State Department of Ecology, (509) 372-7936

## **Plutonium Finishing Plant Sub-grade Structures Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA)**

*This Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) supports the CERCLA removal action activities for the contaminated Plutonium Finishing Plant sub-grade structures (i.e., building slabs, vaults, pipe tunnels, duct work and diversion boxes) and installations (i.e., buried pipelines, French drains, injections wells and unknown releases).*

### Public Involvement Activities:

Public Comment Period TBD

Contact: Karen Lutz, US Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office, (509) 376-4766

## **Completed Public Involvement Activities**

### **Groundwater Science and Technology Needs Workshop**

Workshop March 27, 2007

### **Workshop on an Integrated Approach to Address One Area of Groundwater and Vadose Contamination – 200-ZP-1 Operable Unit is a groundwater operable unit, and 200-PW-1 is a vadose zone operable unit.**

Workshop: February 7 and 8, 2007

### **Tank Closure and Waste Management Environmental Impact Statement**

The Model Technical Review Group (MTRG) a meeting on **Model Calibration** February 5, 2007

The Model Technical Review Group (MTRG) a closeout meeting on **Model Calibration** February 8, 2007  
Alternatives and Cumulative Analysis Workshop February 15, 2007

### **Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant 2+2 Melter Configuration Permit Modification**

Public Comment Period: October 9 - January 5, 2007

Public Hearing November 9, 2006

### **Proposed Tri-Party Agreement Changes to the 200 Area Non-Tank Farm Waste Site and Groundwater Remediation Milestones (M-15)**

Public Comment Period: October 23 – December 7, 2006

### **100 Area and 300 Area Component of the River Corridor Baseline Risk Assessment**

Workshops:

Data summary September 20, 2006

Human health and ecological risk assessment methodology (data) October 18, 2006

Data teleconference November 15, 2006

Methodology teleconference December 14, 2006

Nature and extent of contamination and other data questions March 21, 2007

### **DOE-HQ Environmental Management Workshops – Office of Engineering and Technology**

Tank Closure Workshop March 27 -28, 2006 (Atlanta, Georgia)

Cementitious Materials for Waste Treatment,  
Disposal Remediation and Decommissioning Workshop December 12 – 14, 2006 (Aiken, South Carolina)

Aluminum/Chromium Leaching Workshop January 22 – 24, 2007

NAS Roadmap Workshop March 13, 2007

Columbia River Workshop March 27-28, 2007