

# Hanford Site Public Involvement Activities

## November 1, 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

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
	July 12-13, 2007
	October 8- 9, 2007
Columbia Center Rotary	June 7, 2007
Network Tri-Cities Membership Luncheon – State of DOE	July 25, 2007
Benton-Franklin County Fair	August 21-25, 2007
Third Annual Vancouver Peace and Social Justice Fair	September 8, 2007
Richland Rotary Club	October 9, 2007
	October 30, 2007
Tri-City Sunrise Rotary	October 25, 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; Sharon Braswell, Ecology, (509) 372-7895.

*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**

#### **National Academy of Sciences Committee on Development and Implementation of Cleanup Technology Roadmap.**

The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) review team will be visiting the Hanford Site on October 31 through November 2, 2007. This is the third in a series of visits to major EM cleanup sites. The NAS is conducting site visits to gather information so they can provide technical and strategic advice to the DOE-EM's Office of Engineering and Technology to support the development and implementation of its cleanup technology roadmap and to evaluate the core capabilities of the national laboratories to support EM's long term, high risk cleanup challenges.

Public Involvement Activities:

Meeting Open to the Public

October 31 and November 2, 2007

#### **Proposed Permit for Diesel and Propane Heaters for Waste Treatment Plant**

Washington State Department of Ecology is conducting a 30-day public comment period for a Notice of Construction. The proposed permit approval would allow the use of diesel and propane heaters at the Waste Treatment Plant for concrete pours, special coating application, and worker comfort.

The heaters are needed to allow workers to pour concrete and apply special coating in cold weather to meet high quality specifications. This will allow construction at the Waste Treatment Plant to go on during cold weather.

The permit approval is needed because diesel generators and propane heaters pollute the air. The permit approval will impose operating conditions and emission limits that meet federal and state clean air regulations.

Public Involvement Activities:

Public Comment Period:

October 8 to November 7, 2007

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

#### **Draft Hanford Comprehensive Land Use Plan Environmental Impact Statement (HCP-EIS) Supplement Analysis**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is preparing a Supplement Analysis (SA) to the 1999 Hanford Comprehensive Land Use Plan Environmental Impact Statement (HCP-EIS). DOE's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations require periodic reviews of sitewide Environmental Impact Statements like the HCP-EIS. These periodic reviews are done to determine whether or not there were significant changes in the information, conditions and/or assumptions on which a sitewide EIS is based.

The HCP-EIS evaluated the potential environmental impacts associated with implementing a comprehensive land-use plan for the Hanford Site for at least the next 50 years. The Record of Decision (November 1999) adopted the DOE preferred land-use map to implement the DOE-Preferred Alternative using the policies and procedures described in Chapter 6 of the final HCP EIS.

Public Involvement Activities:

Informal feedback on document content	October 26 – November 30, 2007
30-day informal public comment period	Winter 2008
Informational Workshop	Winter 2008

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

## **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:

Informal Meeting hosted by Ecology	November 5, 2007
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Contact Madeleine Brown (509-372-7936) for meeting information.

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

## **Tri-Party Agreement Negotiations**

The Tri-Party agencies are in negotiations focused primarily on milestones for the Hanford Waste Treatment Plant (WTP), single-shell tank retrievals, and groundwater remediation. These negotiations are ongoing. If an agreement is reached, the Parties will conduct a public involvement process before the agreement is finalized.

Public Involvement Activities:

45-day public comment period	TBD
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Contact: Karen Lutz, DOE-RL (509) 376-4766, Erik Olds, DOE-ORP (509) 372-8656, Sharon Braswell, Ecology (509) 372-7895 and/or Dennis Faulk, EPA, (509) 376-8631.

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

## Public Involvement Activities:

Public comment period	Winter 2008
Regional Public Meetings	Winter 2008

## 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

### 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:

Discussion of resolution of comments on Draft A	January TBD 2008
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Meeting logistics are available at: <http://www.hanford.gov/public/calendar/>

## State of the Site

The purpose of these meetings is for decision makers from the U.S. Department of Energy Richland Operations Office, the U.S. Department of Energy Office of River Protection, the Washington State Department of Ecology and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to share the most current Hanford cleanup and budget priority information and hear the public's priorities and concerns.

## Public Involvement Activities

Seattle, Washington	November 27, 2007
Kennewick, Washington	November 29, 2007
Portland, Oregon	December 11, 2007
Hood River, Oregon	December 12, 2007

## **Sitewide Dangerous Waste Permit**

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

*This is the overarching Dangerous Waste Permit under which Hanford operates its treatment, storage, disposal and closure activities for dangerous wastes. The comment period will be 60 days to allow public review of the extensive changes to this very substantial permit. The new revision incorporates all changes for the past ten years. It also brings all regulatory requirements up to date.*

### Public Involvement Activities

Comment Period:

TBD, after December 2007

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

## **BC Controlled Area Waste Site Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis**

*The Tri-Party Agencies plan to issue a Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) non-time critical removal action engineering evaluation/cost analysis (EE/CA) to evaluate a removal action for contaminated soil on the northern part of the BC Controlled Area. This EE/CA will evaluate and discuss cleanup options to deal with contaminated soil in this area, which is located south of the 200 East Area (in what is commonly called the 600 Area) near the center of the Hanford Site. The BC Controlled area is part of the 200-UR-1 operable unit and is Hanford's largest waste site at approximately 13 square miles. The area addressed in the EE/CA is approximately seven square miles of the waste site. The southern part of the BC Controlled Area is not addressed by this EE/CA.*

*Animal intrusion and wind dispersion of contaminants originating in the BC Cribs and Trenches (waste sites that are not part of the BC Controlled Area waste site) resulted in shallow contaminated soil within the BC Controlled Area. Potential contaminants of concern include Cesium-137 and Strontium-90. After this proposed removal action is complete, the CERCLA process for the 200-UR-1 operable unit will evaluate final cleanup alternatives for any remaining contamination in the BC Controlled Area.*

### *Public Involvement Activities:*

30-day public comment period

Late Winter

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

## **Completed Public Involvement Activities**

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

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

### **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 (TC & WMEIS)**

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

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

The Model Technical Review Group (MTRG) a meeting on Vadose Zone and Groundwater workshop including stakeholder concerns April 16, 2007

The Model Technical Review Group (MTRG) a meeting on **Field Data Comparison** April 23, 2007

The Model Technical Review Group (MTRG) a closeout meeting on **Field Data Comparison** April 26, 2007

The Model Technical Review Group (MTRG) a meeting on **Model Sensitivity** June 11, 2007

The Model Technical Review Group (MTRG) a closeout meeting on **Model Sensitivity** June 14, 2007

Comparison Discussion of Alternatives and other EIS Projects Sept. 17, 2007

**Tri-Party Agreement Negotiations**

Meetings with Yakama Nation, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian

Reservation, the Nez Perce and the State of Oregon August 27-28, 2007

Hanford Advisory Board Meeting September 6, 2007

Hanford Public Interest Network September 26, 2007

Oregon Hanford Cleanup Board October 8-9, 2007

Public Workshop October 10, 2007

**Groundwater Science and Technology Needs Workshop**

Workshop March 27, 2007

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

Public Comment Period: April 5 – May 7, 2007

**Hanford’s Integrated Disposal Facility Permit Change**

Public Comment Period: April 23 – June 8, 2007

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

Hanford Communities – Budget Briefing March 23, 2007

Richland Budget Workshop May 9, 2007

Seattle June 4; Spokane June 6; Hood River June 12; Portland June 13

**Replacing Emergency Diesel Pumps for Hanford’s Water Supply**

Public Comment Period: May 14 – June 13, 2007

**Phase III Central Plateau Ecological Risk Assessment**

Workshop May 15, 2007

**Hanford Site Air Operating Permit Changes**

Public Comment Period June 11 – July 13, 2007

Public Hearing July 12, 2007

**Plutonium Finishing Plant Sub-grade Structures Engineering Evaluation/Environmental Analysis**

Briefing to the HAB River and Plateau Committee June 20, 2007

**Hanford Integrated Groundwater and Vadose Zone Management Plan**

Consultation with Tribes and feedback from ODOE and HAB on Draft Report June 29 – September 7, 2007

**Setting New Air Quality Standards in Hanford's Tank Farms**

Public Comment Period June 25 – July 25, 2007

**100 and 300 Areas Groundwater Workshop**

July 24, 2007

**Public Scoping Process for Greater than Class C Low-Level Waste Disposal**

Public Comment Period: July 23 - September 21, 2007

Scoping meetings:

August 13 Carlsbad, NM, August 14 Los Alamos, NM, August 22 Oak Ridge, TN, August 23 North Augusta, SC, August 27 Troutdale, OR, August 28 Pasco, WA, August 30 Idaho Falls, ID, September 4 Las Vegas, NV, September 10 Washington, D.C.

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

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

**300-FF-5 Operable Unit Update Workshop (Groundwater)**

August 29, 2007

**100 Area Burial Ground Record of Decision Explanation of Significant Difference**

Public Comment Period August 27 – September 27, 2007

**400 Area Waste Management Unit (new treatment, storage, or disposal unit to the Hanford Sitewide Permit)**

Public Comment Period August 27 through October 11, 2007

**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
Draft results and other data analysis questions.	May 16, 2007
Data Gap Analysis	June 5-6, 2007
Discuss Draft Report	July 25, 2007
Introduce proposed new overarching scope, themes and structure of revised document.	October 30, 2007

**Central Plateau Ecological Risk Assessment Workshops**

Phase III Central Plateau Ecological Risk Assessment and Phase IV

Data Quality Assessment schedule and future meeting Workshop September 19, 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

**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