

Hanford Site Public Involvement Activities

February 1, 2006

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 issues. They commit time and energy to participate in decisions. Hanford stakeholders include: local governments, local and regional businesses, Hanford workforce, local and regional environmental interests, 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

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The Tri-Party Agencies will conduct a series of regional public meetings/forums throughout CY 2006. 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 Activities:

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; Tim Hill, Ecology, (509) 372-7908.

Budget Workshop/Regional Forums for FY 2008 Hanford Budget Process

The Tri-Party Agreement agencies will seek public input and values for consideration into the development of the FY 2008 Budget submittal to DOE HQ.

Public Involvement Activities:

Richland Budget Workshop:	March/April, 2006
Agency Budget local/regional outreach	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.

Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Five-Year Review

U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE), in cooperation with the Washington State Department of Ecology and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), has initiated the second Hanford Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Five-Year Review. The first CERCLA Five-Year Review was done in 2001 by the EPA. This review is lead by the USDOE and will look at some of the cleanup work done at the Hanford site to see if those actions continue to be protective of the public, site workers and the environment.

The scope of this review is limited only to operable units listed as past practice units under CERCLA. For example:

- **100 Area:** removal of contaminated soil, decontamination and/or demolition of contaminated buildings, treatment of contaminated groundwater, removal of spent nuclear fuel
- **200 Area:** inactive soil disposal sites, inactive facilities, contaminated groundwater and the Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility
- **300 Area:** removal of contaminated soil waste sites and debris, treating the material, as appropriate, and disposing of material in an appropriate facility
- **1100 Area:** cleanup completed except for a few hazardous waste areas being managed by caps and institutional controls

This review does not include ongoing waste management activities, active treatment, storage and/or disposal facilities and tank farm operations.

Public Involvement Activities:

Public Workshop was held December 7, 2005.
Information Draft Report issue/consultations with Tribes, ODOE and HAB: TBD
Public Workshop on draft report: Mid March 2006
30-Day Public Comment Period: March – April, 2006

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

Tank Closure and Waste Management Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Meetings

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) will announce 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.

Public Involvement Activities:

Public Scoping Meetings: February 2006

Contacts: Mary Beth Burandt, USDOE Office of River Protection, (509) 373-9160

Amended 324 Building Closure Plan

Ecology will be seeking comments on the revised closure plan for the 324 Building Radiochemical Engineering Cells, High-Level Vault, Low-Level Vault, and Associated Areas.

Public Involvement Activities:

45 day public comment period: January 17 – March 6, 2006

Contacts: Ginger Wireman, WA State Department of Ecology, (509) 372-7935

Proposed Changes to the M-89-00 Tri-Party Agreement Milestone

The Tri-Party Agreement agencies are seeking comment on proposed changes to the M-89-00 milestone. The proposed changes would extend the closure schedule to align with the facility demolition schedule. The M-89-00 milestone would be changed from October 31, 2005 to September 30, 2010.

Public Involvement Activities:

45 day public comment period: January 17 – March 6, 2006

Contacts: Ginger Wireman, WA State Department of Ecology, (509) 372-7935

Environmental Assessment (EA) for Proposed Sodium Residuals Reaction/Removal and Other Deactivation Work Activities, Fast Flux Test Facility (FFTF)

The U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) is preparing a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) EA to evaluate potential environmental impacts of conducting proposed deactivation work activities for the completion of reaction and removal of radioactively-contaminated sodium residuals; removal of associated equipment/components, which would allow removal of the sodium; and removal/disposal/stabilization of miscellaneous hazards remaining in the FFTF. The proposed deactivation work scope would continue to support long-term, low cost surveillance and maintenance of the facility in a safer and stable condition with reduced risk to plant workers, the public, and the environment, prior to final FFTF decommissioning.

Public Involvement Activity:

30-Day Public Comment Period: Mid to late February 2006

Contact: Douglas H. Chapin, USDOE Richland Operations Office, (509) 373-9396

Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis for the 300 Area (324/327)

The TPA Agencies will be seeking comments on the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) #2 for the 300 Area, DOE/RL-2005-84. The purpose of this engineering evaluation/cost analysis (EE/CA) is to evaluate alternatives for final disposition of the 324 and 327 buildings, and ancillary facilities located in the 300 Area of the Hanford Site. The 324 and 327 Buildings were used to perform chemical processing and metallurgical engineering studies on highly radioactive materials and to develop approaches for waste treatment and storage. Major operations have ceased in both buildings.

Public Involvement Activities:

Public Comment Period: February 27 – April 3, 2006

Contact: Rudy Guercia, USDOE Richland Operations Office, (509) 376-5494

Modification to the Hanford Site Air Operating Permit

Public Involvement Activities:

Public Comment Period: February – April, 2006

Contact: Doug Hendrickson, Washington State Department of Ecology, (509) 372-7983

Upcoming Activities

- **331-C Temporary Authorization Permit**
- **Waste Encapsulation and Storage Facility (WESF) Permit**
- **WTP Modification (2 + 2)**
- **Tri-Party Agreement M-16 Milestone Package**
- **Tri-Party Agreement M - 94 Milestone**
- **Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis for the 300 Area (Southern Portion)**

Ongoing Activities

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 first Monday of every month

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