

Hanford Site Public Involvement Activities

April 2, 2008

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 (RL) and Office of River Protection (ORP), 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.

To access updated information on current and future Hanford public involvement activities (workshops, meetings, and public comment periods) visit the Hanford website at www.hanford.gov/ under Hanford Events Calendar.

Hanford Site Public Meetings/Forums

The Tri-Party Agencies will conduct a series of regional public meetings/forums throughout CY 2008. Agency leadership from the U.S. Department of Energy's RL and ORP 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 23, 2008
Oregon Hanford Cleanup Board	January 31- February 1, 2008
Home Builders Association	March 11, 2008
Pasco Kennewick Rotary	March 12, 2008

Contacts: Kim Ballinger, USDOE Richland Operations Office, (509) 376-6332; Karen Lutz, USDOE Office of River Protection, (509) 376-5365; 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 2008.

Current Public Involvement Opportunities

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

The U.S. Department of Energy has prepared a draft Supplement Analysis (SA) to the 1999 Final Hanford Comprehensive Land-Use Plan Environmental Impact Statement (HCP EIS). The HCP EIS evaluated the impacts of alternatives to implement a Hanford Site comprehensive land-use plan (CLUP) for at least the next 50-year planning period. The Draft Supplement Analysis looks at whether there are significant new circumstances or information relating to the Hanford land-use map, the land-use designations, policies directing land-use action and implementing procedures since the final EIS and Record of Decision were issued that would require DOE to prepare a new or supplemental environmental impact statement.

Public Involvement Activities:

Informal feedback on document content
30-day informal public comment period

October 26 – November 30, 2007
March 24 – April 23, 2008

Contact: Kim Ballinger, U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (509) 376-6332

Proposed Permit for Air Quality Standards and Equipment Changes in Hanford's AY and AZ Tank Farms

U.S. Department of Energy Office of River Protection (ORP) is seeking changes to the conditions to the air permit for the AY and AZ tank farms. The tanks in these farms have been receiving wastes from single-shell tanks, and with them come new pollutants for which Ecology must set standards. Also ORP wants to stop using and remove a high-efficiency gas absorber that was installed to capture radioiodine.

Public Involvement Activities

Public Comment Period:

April 1- April 30, 2008

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

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 and/or visit the Groundwater Remediation Project website at <http://www.hanford.gov/cp/gpp/index.cfm>

Upcoming Public Involvement Activities

Technology Information Exchange on the Treatment of Chromium Contamination in Groundwater.

DOE will hold a two-day Technology Information Exchange on the Treatment of Chromium Contamination in Groundwater. Lessons Learned treating Hanford's chromium plumes will be shared along with case studies presented by engineers/scientists from industry and another DOE site, Pantex, regarding their efforts with chromium cleanup.

Public Involvement Activities

Technology Information Exchange

April 8-9, 2008

Contact: Kim Ballinger, U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (509) 376-6332

Phase IV Central Plateau Ecological Risk Assessment Results Workshop.

This workshop is being held to share the results and conclusions of the Central Plateau Ecological Risk Assessment. Previous workshops focused on establishing sampling designs and data. This workshop will focus on the findings of the risk assessment.

Public Involvement Activities

Workshop

April 9, 2008

Contact: Kim Ballinger, U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (509) 376-6332

Proposed Plan for Waste Sites Near the Plutonium Finishing Plant (200-PW-1, 200-PW-3, 200-PW-6 Operable Units)

The Proposed Plan will evaluate cleanup alternatives for six waste sites located near the Plutonium Finishing Plant (PFP). These are past-practice, liquid-waste sites that PFP used to dispose of waste water with high levels of plutonium and carbon tetrachloride. A vapor extraction system is currently operating to remove the carbon tetrachloride, but what to do with the plutonium-contaminated soils is still in question.

The Tri-Party agencies will hold a pre-decisional workshop. This workshop is an opportunity for tribal nations, stakeholders and the public to discuss and share their values early in the decision-making process on such issues as:

1. Pros and cons of three proposed cleanup alternative – capping, remove and dispose, and insitu vitrification. What are the risks associated with each alternative? What are the tradeoffs associated with each?
2. When more than one cleanup remedy is protective of human health and the environment and in compliance with the laws, how should the balancing criteria under the Superfund law (e.g., cost, implementability, long-term effectiveness) be used to distinguish between them? What criteria are most important to the public?
3. How does this decision affect other cleanup activities on the Central Plateau?

The feedback obtained from this workshop will be used to revise the draft Proposed Plan that will discuss the evaluation of alternatives and identify the preferred alternative. The Proposed Plan will then go out for public comment. All comments will be considered prior to issuing the Record of Decision.

Public Involvement Activities

Pre-decisional workshop	April 15, 2008
30-day public comment period	Fall 2008

Contact: Dennis Faulk, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, (509) 376-8631.

Columbia River Component Risk Assessment (CRC)

The Columbia River Component is being prepared for characterizing hazardous substances released to the Columbia River from the Hanford Site and to assess the potential risks associated with those releases. The data quality objectives (DQO) process began in December to determine the scope of sampling needed to address data gaps identified earlier in the project scoping process. Based on input received from the February workshop, that path forward now includes performing a baseline risk assessment that will address Hanford releases to the Columbia River as a component of the River Corridor Baseline Risk Assessment. Information generated via the DQO process will be used to develop a work plan and accompanying sampling and analysis plan (SAP) for the Columbia River Component of the River Corridor Baseline Risk Assessment. Once the work plan and SAP are approved and the sampling has been completed, a screening level risk assessment will be performed to determine if a baseline risk assessment will be required.

Public Involvement Activities

Workshops:

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| • DQO process with a focus on the proposed sampling design | April 17, 2008 |
| • Present and discuss the results of the DQO Summary Report and the Sampling & Analysis Plan | TBD |
| • Public comment on the draft Columbia River Component Work Plan. | July 22-August (TBD) |

Contact: Kim Ballinger, U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (509) 376-6332

Groundwater: Columbia River Interactions Technical Workshop.

The U.S. Department of Energy - Richland Operations Office is hosting a workshop with an expert panel to review and make recommendations on the characterization and analysis of the surface water/groundwater interface along the Hanford Reach. The Thursday morning panel briefing session is open to regulators, tribal nations, stakeholders and the public.

Public Involvement Activities

Workshop:	April 17, 2008
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Contact: Kim Ballinger, U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (509) 376-6332

Proposed Change to the Hanford Air Operating Permit, formally called “Revision D”

This change will add to the current Air Operating Permit a license for Environmental Assessment Services’ sampling work being done at the Applied Process Engineering Laboratory. The license regulates air emissions resulting from preparing and analyzing water, air, plants, and animals from the Hanford site. The company’s environmental sampling measures radioactive and chemical levels. Though the facility is in north Richland, the samples come from Hanford, and require the Hanford Air Operating Permit to regulate air emissions.

Public Involvement Activities

Public Comment Period:

April 28 – May 28, 2008

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

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.

Public Involvement Activities:

Public comment period on the Draft TC&WM EIS

TBD

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

Remedial Investigation Work Plan for the Hanford Site Releases to the Columbia River (formerly known as the River Corridor Baseline Risk Assessment [RCBRA])

The Department of Energy (DOE) Richland Operations Office and Washington Closure Hanford will hold workshops for the Remedial Investigation Work Plan for the Hanford Site Releases to the Columbia River. The objective of this project 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:

TBD

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

Contact: Kim Ballinger, U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (509) 376-6332

100 Area Explanation of Significant Difference (ESD)

An Explanation of Significant Difference (ESD) at Hanford's 100 Area will be issued for public comment regarding the addition of waste sites for sampling and/or remediation. The ESD will propose changes to two Records of Decision (ROD's), these include: the 100 Area Remaining Sites ROD and the 100-NR-1/2 ROD.

Public Involvement Activities

Public Comment Period

Spring 2008

Contact: Kim Ballinger, U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (509) 376-6332

Proposed Plan for the Remediation of the 200-ZP-1 Groundwater Operable Unit

The Proposed Plan identifies the preferred alternative for cleanup of contaminated groundwater within the 200-ZP-1 Operable Unit (OU). From 1940 through the 1980's liquids wastes from materials used and produced at Hanford (e.g., solvents, mixed fission products, process chemicals) were disposed in cribs and trenches, some of which are located in the Central Plateau. Some of these waste sites overlie the groundwater in the 200-ZP-1 OU. The chemicals, carbon tetrachloride, trichloroethylene, hexavalent chromium, nitrate, technetium-99, iodine-129, and tritium, were found in the groundwater within the 200-ZP-1 OU that exceed regulatory limits. In the 1990s the Tri-Party agencies implemented interim remedial actions, the soil vapor extraction and pump-and-treat systems, to cleanup the carbon tetrachloride in the soil and groundwater. Groundwater and soil vapor monitoring results show that carbon tetrachloride concentrations continue to decline in the soil and groundwater as a result of these interim actions. Three cleanup alternatives are identified and evaluated: 1) No Action, 2) Institutional Controls Supplemented by Monitored Natural Attenuation, and 3) Full-Scale Pump-and-Treat, Institutional Controls, Monitored Natural Attenuation, plus Groundwater Flow-Path Controls. After evaluation of these alternatives, based on CERCLA criteria, the preferred alternative proposed is Full-Scale Pump-and-Treat, Institutional Controls, Monitored Natural Attenuation, plus Groundwater Flow-Path Controls.

Public Involvement Activities

30-day public comment period

Spring – Summer 2008

Contact: Dennis Faulk, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, (509) 376-8631.

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

Public Comment Period:

Fall 2008 or Winter 2009

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

300 Area Explanation of Significant Difference (ESD)

A 300 Area Explanation of Significant Difference (ESD) will be issued for public comment regarding recommendations on adding remediation sites to the 300-FF-2 Record of Decision.

Public Involvement Activities

Public Comment Period

Fall 2008

Contact: Kim Ballinger, U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (509) 376-6332

DOE-HQ – Office of Nuclear Energy: 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.

Public Involvement Activities:

Public comment period

Spring 2008

Regional Public Meetings

Spring 2008

Contact: Debby Swichkow, Office of Nuclear Energy, 202-586-1616

Public Process on the Draft Manhattan Study of Alternatives.

The United States Department of the Interior will hold a public comment period and public meetings on the draft Manhattan Project Study of Alternatives. The recommendation for the B Reactor will be discussed in this report.

Public Involvement Activities:

Public comment period

Spring 2008

Public Meetings

Spring 2008

Postcard and Mailing List

DOE-RL and DOE-ORP will be sending out two postcards to members of the public who have expressed an interest in receiving Hanford cleanup information to verify/confirm they would like to remain on current Hanford mailing and listserv lists.

The first postcard will ask individuals if they would like to continue to be on the Tank Closure and Waste Management Environmental Impact Statement (TC&WM EIS) mailing list to receive information about the EIS, and if they would like to receive a copy of the draft TC&WM EIS.

The second post card will be sent to individuals on the recently compiled comprehensive Hanford mailing list. DOE is currently integrating four mailing lists – The Hanford Comprehensive Land-Use Plan EIS, the Hanford Site Solid (Radioactive and Hazardous) Waste Program EIS, the TC&WMEIS and the Tri-Party Agreement mailing lists – they are being reviewed, integrated and cross checked to eliminate duplicate names. The post card will ask individuals if they would like to continue to receive Hanford cleanup information.

The Washington State Department of Ecology will be sending out a postcard to identify individuals to add to its Nuclear Waste Program mailing list. The list is for those who wish to receive information from Ecology's Nuclear Waste Program on issues and public involvement activities which may be of interest, but do not fall under the scope of the Tri-Party agencies.

Public Involvement Survey

On behalf of the Tri-Party Agencies, the Washington State Department of Ecology will be sending out an electronic survey on public involvement. The annual survey is used to measure and acquire input for the agencies' public involvement efforts.

Contact: Nolan Curtis, Washington State Department of Ecology, (509) 372-7954

Completed Public Involvement Activities

Proposed Permit for Diesel and Propane Heaters for Waste Treatment Plant

Public Comment Period:

October 8 to November 7, 2007

State of the Site Regional Meetings

More than 300 members of the public turned out to the November and December meetings in Kennewick, Seattle, Portland and Hood River. The issues discussed included worker health and safety, the cost and schedule for the Waste Treatment Plant, past tank leaks and tank integrity, waste transportation and possible importation to Hanford, TPA commitments, and other DOE initiatives. A listing of themes from the meetings is available on the Hanford website, at www.hanford.gov/ under Public Involvement - 2007 State of the Site Meetings

Seattle, Washington

November 27, 2007

Kennewick, Washington

November 29, 2007

Portland, Oregon

December 11, 2007

Hood River, Oregon

December 12, 2007

Remedial Investigation Work Plan for the Hanford Site Releases to the Columbia River (formerly known as the River Corridor Baseline Risk Assessment [RCBRA])

Public Involvement Activities

Workshops:

Discussion of resolution of comments on Draft A

January 10-11 2008

Columbia River Component Risk Assessment (CRC)

Public Involvement Activities

Workshops:

- Discuss the scope, schedule and input received from data quality objective interviews and upcoming activities; Location: Ecology, Richland Office. February 5-6, 2008

Draft Planning Report/Environmental Impact Statement Yakima River Basin Water Storage Feasibility Study

Public Involvement Activities

Public Comment Period:

January 29 – March 31, 2008

Public Hearings:

Yakima – February 27, 2008

Kennewick – February 28, 2008

Public Comment Period on the Proposed Approval of the Transuranic Waste Characterization Program at the Hanford Site.

Public Involvement Activities:

Public comment period January 30 – March 17, 2008

Draft Deep Vadose Treatability Test Plan

Public Involvement Activities

Informal comment period February – March 2008

Workshop: February 19, 2008

U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Public Meeting Regarding a Review of the U.S Department of Energy Regulatory Process for the Hanford Waste Treatment Plant.

Public Involvement Activities:

Public Meeting February 13, 2008

BC Controlled Area Waste Site Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis

Public Involvement Activities:

30-day public comment period February 25 – March 26, 2008

FY 2010 Hanford Budget Development Workshop

Public Involvement Activities

Budget Development Workshop March 26, 2008