

Liquid Effluent Retention Facility Effluent Treatment Facility

Operating Unit #3

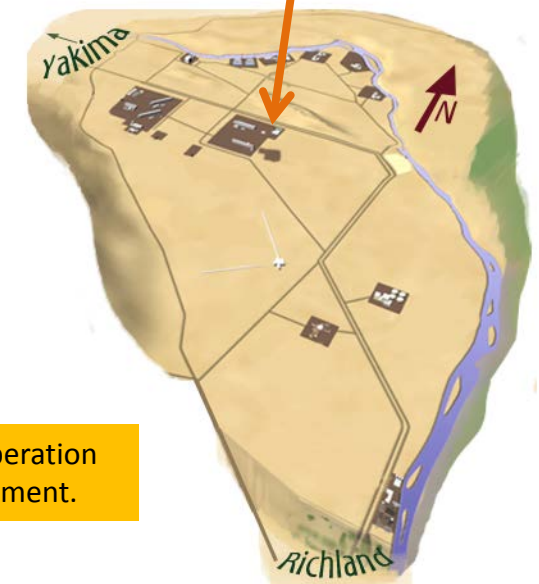
- After the 242-A Evaporator boils off liquid effluent to condense tank wastes, the Liquid Effluent Retention Facility (LERF) stores that liquid until the Effluent Treatment Facility (ETF) can treat it.
- Treated effluents go to a permitted discharge site.
- These facilities store and treat other liquid wastes from Hanford, such as contaminated groundwater from pump-and-treat systems.
- Began operating in early 1990s.

What happens to the waste it receives?

LERF has three lined basins with a capacity of 88.5 million liters. ETF removes or destroys dangerous waste in liquid waste. It uses treatments such as filters, reverse osmosis, pH adjustment, and ultraviolet light. Water is treated, then discharged at a permitted area a few miles away. Remaining sludge is solidified in containers, dried, and sent to the Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility.



Imagine 44 MILLION two-liter soda bottles



What's the risk?

We don't expect any risk from this site. The permit ensures operation and closure of this facility do not harm humans or the environment.



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