



# PROPOSED CHANGES TO TANK WASTE TREATMENT MILESTONESTONES

*U.S. Department of Energy   U.S. Environmental Protection Agency   Washington State Department of Ecology*

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The agencies responsible for Hanford cleanup want your input on proposed changes to the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) that revise the construction and commissioning schedule for building Hanford's tank waste treatment facility and accelerate the decision-making process for completing the tank waste cleanup mission.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

July 28 – September 10, 2003

### **Background**

There are approximately 53 million gallons of highly radioactive waste stored in 177 underground tanks on the Hanford Site. The TPA requires the U.S. Department of Energy to build a waste treatment facility and treat 10% of the volume of this waste by 2018. The TPA also includes requirements for "Phase II" treatment to treat the remaining waste by 2028.

### **Proposed Changes**

Changes are proposed to three major TPA milestones: M-47, M-62, and M-90.

#### M-62

The changes proposed to M-62 include removing references to Phase I and Phase II tank waste treatment, establishing revised construction and commissioning schedules for the Hanford Waste Treatment Plant, (WTP), and accelerating the time frame when the agencies will begin discussing USDOE's proposals for treating the remaining tank waste.

These changes include:

- Changing the definition of "start of commissioning" to mean use of simulated waste rather than real waste
- Changing the date for start of commissioning from December 31, 2007 to February 28, 2009
- Changing the date when USDOE is required to submit its complete supplemental technologies report from July 31, 2014 to January 30, 2005
- Completing negotiations on treatment of the remaining waste by 2006.

#### M-47 and M-90

Changes proposed to M-47 and M-90 modify the language within these milestones to be consistent with the changes requested for M-62. These modifications include removing references to Phase I and Phase II tank waste treatment. The proposed changes also align waste feed operations and the treated tank waste storage and disposal facility with other elements of USDOE's tank waste treatment, storage and disposal system.

**How you can get involved**

The Tri-Party agencies will accept public comment on these proposed changes July 28 – September 10, 2003. Comments may be submitted in writing to:

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Copies of the proposed changes and the tentative agreement between the agencies can be viewed at the Hanford Information Repositories listed below, or on-line at: [www.hanford.gov/tpa/changelist.htm](http://www.hanford.gov/tpa/changelist.htm).

For more information, you may also contact the Hanford Cleanup Line, 800-321-2008.

**Hanford Information Repositories:**

**Portland**

Portland State University

Branford Price and Millar Library

934 SW Harrison

(503) 725-3690

bowman@lib.pdx.edu

**Seattle**

University of Washington

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Government Publications Division

(206) 543-4556

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**Richland**

U.S. Department of Energy Public Reading Room

Washington State University, Tri-Cities

Consolidated Information Center, Room 101-L

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