

Hanford Site Proposed Land Conveyance Project

Hanford Advisory Board
November 1, 2012



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Richland
Operations Office

Overview

- Land transfer request
- Hanford Site Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) designations
- U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) proposed action and Environmental Assessment (EA) area of analysis
- Separate analyses required for potential land conveyance
- Scoping period overview
- Next steps



Land Transfer Request

- May 31, 2011, Tri-City Development Council (TRIDEC), the Hanford Site Community Reuse Organization, requested transfer of 1,341 acres located near the Hanford Site's southern boundary for economic development purposes
- October 13, 2011, TRIDEC amended original request to include 300 acres previously requested for lease by Energy Northwest, for total request of 1,641 acres
- TRIDEC proposal identifies probable uses of warehousing and distribution; research and development; technology manufacturing; food processing and agriculture; and "back office" (i.e. business services)
- Ultimately, TRIDEC plans to transfer ownership to a private entity or to one of its public agency partners (e.g., the City of Richland)

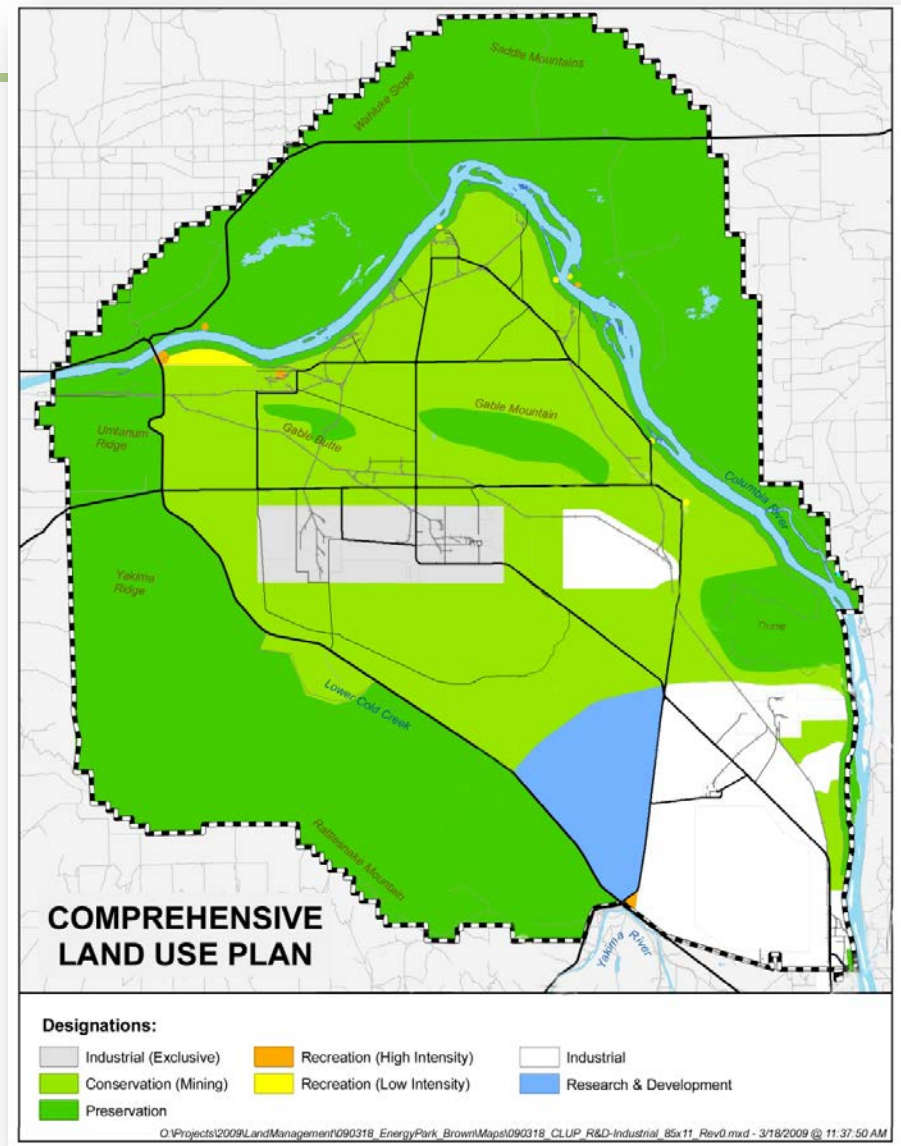


Not to Scale



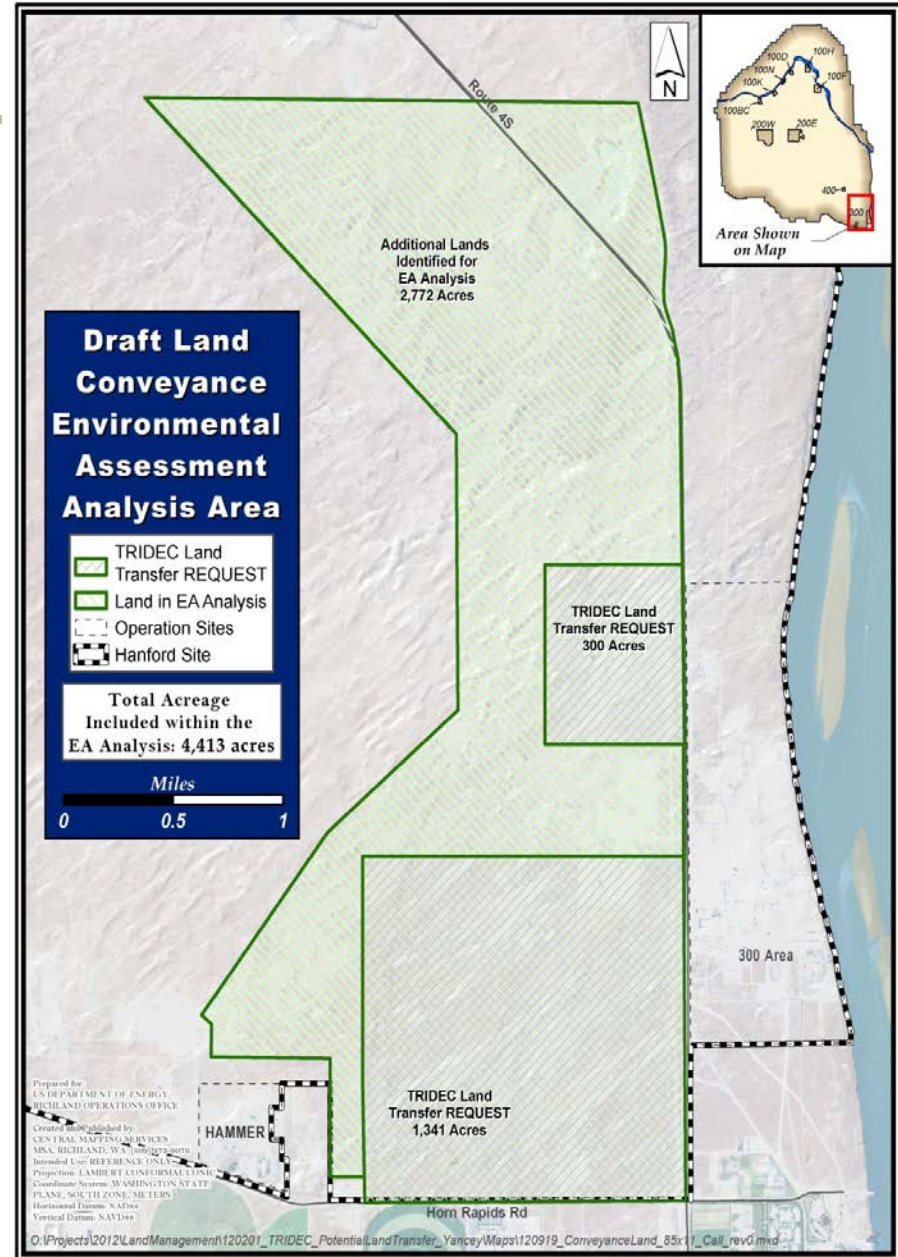
Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) Land Designations

- Majority of Hanford Site is designated for conservation and preservation purposes (*Hanford Comprehensive Land Use Plan EIS, September 1999/Record of Decision November 1999; Supplement Analysis June 2008/amended ROD September 2008*)
- The lands requested for transfer are designated for industrial uses
- Lands designated for Industrial uses are intended to support economic development



DOE Proposed Action and Analysis Area

- DOE is proposing to **convey** 1,641 acres; considering a range of actions such as transfer, lease, easement, license agreement, or a combination of such actions
- Due to continuing mission needs on some of the requested lands, DOE is assessing a larger area, 4,413 acres, to identify a sufficient parcel(s) totaling 1,641 acres that would be suitable to conveyance for intended uses



Separate Analyses Required to Evaluate Land Conveyance

- National Environmental Policy Act
 - Sept 19, 2012 Federal Register Notice Of Intent (NOI) announcing EA process and 30-day public scoping period
 - Develop draft EA documenting existing environment, potential impacts from proposed action, mitigation actions as necessary
 - Hold public comment period on draft EA
 - Finalize EA, decide whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement or issue a Finding of No Significant Impact
- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)
 - Identify Historic Properties via literature review, field surveys, and during discussions with consulting parties and tribes
 - Consider effects of land conveyance on Historic Properties in consultation with consulting parties and tribes
 - Work with consulting parties and tribes on options to avoid or mitigate adverse effects



Separate Analyses Required to Evaluate Land Conveyance (cont.)

- Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act Section 120 (h)
 - Determine whether hazardous substances are present, status of remediation, mechanisms in place to assure ongoing protection of human health and the environment
 - Early communication with EPA and Washington State
 - Document, as needed, information/requirement in conveyance instrument
- DOE Order 458.1, Radiation Protection of the Public and the Environment
 - Perform historical site assessment
 - Conduct radiological surveys and sampling
 - Evaluate results
 - Independent verification
 - Finalize clearance documents



Environmental Assessment Public Scoping Period Overview

- Scoping period September 19 – October 19, 2012
- DOE notification letters to tribes, federal and state agencies and stakeholder groups
- Notice of Intent, background information posted to Hanford Public Involvement calendar, NEPA website <http://www.hanford.gov/page.cfm/EnvironmentalAssessments>
- Several Hanford listserv postings
- Tri-City Herald public scoping meeting advertisement
- Public scoping meeting October 10
- Scoping comments accepted via email, regular mail, or verbally at public meeting



Environmental Assessment Public Scoping Input Summary

- Fourteen comment letters/emails received, six individuals gave public comments at Oct. 10 scoping meeting
- Major themes included:
 - Both support and opposition regarding the proposed action
 - Concerns that future uses could result in contamination or mobilization of contaminants through land use practices such as irrigation
 - Concern for potential impacts to natural and cultural resources
 - Tribal treaty rights
 - Potential for unrecorded radioactive wastes on the property
 - Opportunity for DOE to receive fair market value of the lands and use proceedings for cleanup or mitigation
 - Both support and opposition regarding the NEPA analysis approach
 - Potential impacts to traffic patterns for Hanford workforce



Next Steps

- Assessing input received during scoping period to factor into NEPA analysis
- Gathering information to develop Existing Environment section of the NEPA document
- Continuing work on environmental due diligence and radiological clearance processes
- Depending upon level of field surveys needed for the NEPA and NHPA processes, draft NEPA document anticipated to be available for public comment during 2013



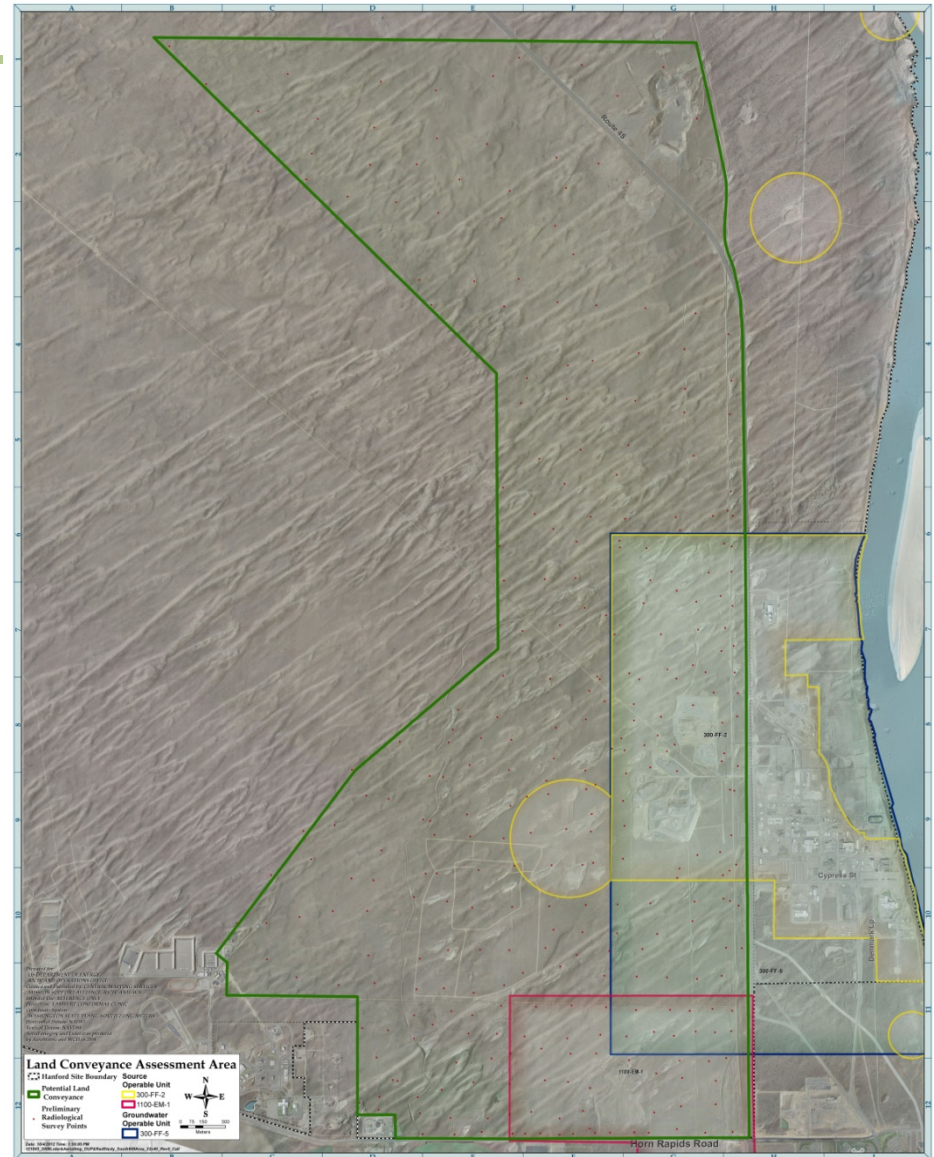
QUESTIONS?

BACKGROUND

Analysis Area in Context of Regulatory Cleanup

Includes portions of National Priority List 1100, 300, 200 Areas:

- *1100 Area* - Deleted in 1996, Horn Rapids Landfill under Institutional Controls (maintain cap, fencing, access control, signs, monitor groundwater 1100-EM-1)
- *300-FF-2 Source Operable Unit* - waste site remediation per interim ROD partly complete/in progress
- *300-FF-5 Groundwater OU* – CERCLA proposed plan under development



DOE Land Transfer Authority

- Primary DOE authority for land transfer is the Atomic Energy Act of 1954
- TRIDEC request was made under Title 10, part 770 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR part 770) - Transfer of Real Property at Defense Nuclear Facilities for Economic Development
- 10 CFR part 770 is one mechanism for land transfer; it recognizes DOE responsibility to assist local communities impacted by the nation's nuclear weapons complex

