

## **Additional information on the evaluations and studies included in the Agreed Order:**

The Agreed Order (AO) requires Energy to develop a general SST System Leak Response Plan to enable a timely response to any future leaking SSTs. Energy must submit the Leak Response Plan for incorporation into Revision 9A of the Hanford Sitewide Permit (Rev. 9) as part of the contingency plan for the SST System. The Leak Response Plan must set forth a suite of potential leak response actions and interim actions that could be implemented in response to future leaking tanks, including estimates for what generally constitutes “the earliest practicable time” for initiation and completion of each potential response action. The Leak Response Plan must also establish the process that Ecology and Energy will use in the event of a new leak to determine which response actions to implement on a case-by-case basis.

The proposed Leak Response Plan is to be submitted by Energy to Ecology in August 2023 under Section V.A.1 of the AO.

Prior to Ecology completing its internal review and sharing its comments on the Leak Response Plan, and before the draft Leak Response Plan is presented for public comment, Energy will be preparing an evaluation of the practicability of accelerating retrieval schedules for leaking tanks B-109 and T-111. Among other elements, the evaluation must consider various infrastructure and technology developments that could potentially accelerate the removal of waste from tanks B-109 and T-111 and/or mitigate residual tank leakage risks. This evaluation is due in December 2023 pursuant to the Tri-Party Agreement (Milestone M-062-40).

Pursuant to a settlement agreement with Heart of America Northwest, this evaluation will also evaluate the practicability of deploying certain technologies for selective removal of the liquid fraction of the tank waste (i.e., “partial liquid retrieval” or removal of “drainable liquids”) from leaking tanks B-109 and T-111. Specifically, this part of the evaluation will consider options for use of the following technologies or processes:

- Enhanced salt well pumping
- In-Tank Pretreatment System (ITPS)

This part of the evaluation will also consider the treatment and disposal pathway for the removed liquid waste, specifically including mobile options such as transport of the removed liquid waste by truck.

Ecology and the public will have the results of the evaluation of accelerating retrieval schedules and the practicability of these technologies for removing drainable or leakable liquids from B-109 and T-111 in December 2023 to utilize in reviewing and commenting on the Leak Response Plan. The public comment period on Rev. 9 of the Hanford Sitewide Permit, including the Leak Response Plan, is anticipated to occur in 2024.

Energy must complete the Evaluation by December 2023 pursuant to the Tri-Party Agreement (Milestone M-062-40). Energy will make the evaluation publicly available before the draft SST System Leak Response Plan will be published for public review and comment as part of the Rev. 9 permitting process, as explained above. Accordingly, Ecology and the public will have the opportunity to review and consider the results of the evaluation prior to the public review and comment process on the SST System Leak Response Plan.