Tri-Party Agreement Agencies  
2017 Hanford Public Involvement Summary

U.S. Department of Energy  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Washington State Department of Ecology
The Tri-Party Agreement sets milestones for cleanup at the Hanford Site. The three parties are the US Dept. of Energy, the US Environmental Protection Agency, and the Washington State Dept. of Ecology.
The TPA agencies have conducted a Hanford Public Involvement Survey annually since the early 2000s.

In early years, paper surveys were handed out at winter and spring meetings asking about the prior year. Some years we had fewer than two-dozen responses! Responses were hand written, so even though the response wasn’t huge, tallying results was difficult.

We began offering the electronic survey through Survey Monkey in 2012. The survey was available online from January 26, 2017 through March 16. The 2017 survey was filled out by 92 people. This year the 119 people participated.
The Hanford Site is a 586-square-mile site in southeastern Washington created in 1943 as part of the Manhattan Project to produce plutonium for nuclear weapons. More than 40 years of plutonium production led to hundreds of square miles of contaminated soil and groundwater, resulting in one of the nation’s largest and most complex sites. Today, waste management and environmental cleanup are the main missions at the Hanford Site.

Public involvement is needed for cleanup decisions that will impact us today and future generations.
Introduction

The Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) agencies – U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Washington State Department of Ecology – work together on cleanup of the Hanford Site. The weapons material production mission that started with the Manhattan Project, ended in the late 1980s. More than 40 years of plutonium production led to hundreds of square miles of contaminated soil and groundwater, resulting in one of the nation’s largest and most complex sites. Today, waste management and environmental cleanup are the main missions at the Hanford Site. The public has opportunities to participate in Hanford cleanup decisions.

The TPA agencies’ goals for public involvement are to:

• Engage the public by providing timely, accurate, understandable and accessible information.
• Ensure open and transparent decision-making.
• Consider public values when making decisions.
• Provide educational forums to enable informed engagement and participation.

The TPA agencies strive to accomplish the following as part of public involvement planning:

• Include public input when designing documents and planning public meetings.
• Publish advertisements and advance meeting notices that are easily understood.
• Develop creative and innovative ways to communicate information.
• Ensure meeting locations are convenient, easily accessible, and cost effective.
• Provide speakers who can communicate clearly and concisely and are sensitive to different views and opinions.
• Provide decision-makers comments so they can consider them in the decision making process.
• Provide timely feedback after public involvement activities.
• Work with individuals and organizations to identify public information needs.

The TPA agencies conduct a variety of public involvement activities, which include public meetings, workshops, public comment periods, and informal feedback periods. In order to evaluate these activities against the goals listed above, the TPA agencies conduct an annual survey. This year’s survey was available to the public online from January 26, through March 14, 2017. A message was sent to the Hanford email list inviting people take the survey, and it was also shared via the agencies’ websites and social media accounts.
Lessons Learned

There were 119 participants, up from last year’s total of 92, but lower than the two years prior. When asked who they represented, about half of participants self-identified as general public with Hanford workforce as the next largest group at 15 percent.

Lessons Learned

Public input helps the TPA agencies evaluate opportunities for continuous improvement in public involvement. The feedback received during the 2017 Annual TPA Public Involvement Survey helped identify the following information:

• When asked how people get information and where they seek information most participants indicated several sources. About 50 percent indicated they rely on direct email announcements from the TPA agencies, 53 percent rely on the media and 41 percent rely on social media. When actively seeking information about Hanford, the percentage of people who use mass media as their source remained the same at about 60 percent. The only source that saw an increase in access were interest group websites or social media, which saw a six percent bump. Other than those two choices, there was a decrease in where people sought information. The most dramatic decrease, 11 percent, was among those using the USDOE Hanford.gov website and social media sites. The TPA agencies will continue to look for creative ways to share information on Hanford.

  • Planned Action: The TPA agencies will continue to look for ways to improve the Hanford.gov website and Hanford social media sites to provide up-to-date and accurate information to the public.

• The majority of respondents prefer to receive information at least three to four weeks in advance, and most thought notice arrived early enough. The goal of the TPA agencies is to provide at least 30 days’ notice on upcoming activities. We will continue to strive to meet that commitment.

  • Planned Action: The TPA agencies will continue to issue pre-notices that describe upcoming public involvement events as well as a notice complete with detailed information at least 30 to 45 days before the start of a public comment period or public meeting.

• With regard to the notices from the TPA agencies, almost 50 percent found the information “generally helpful in understanding the topic,” but forty percent noted that it depended on the source. These results have remained within a few percentage points for several years. We hope to do better in trying to provide clear, understandable information.

  • Planned Action: The TPA agencies are continuing to work to ensure that notices are fully vetted for readability, sufficient background information, use of plain language, use of helpful graphics, and other characteristics that will result in standardization of materials used in public involvement efforts with the goal of creating helpful documents for the public to be involved in Hanford cleanup.

  Continued next page.
Lessons Learned continued

• Only about 23 percent of respondents said they attended a Hanford-related or other event hosted by a TPA agency in 2017. About 18 percent indicated they’d attended a Hanford-related event hosted by an interest group. The top two reasons listed for not attending any Hanford-related events were that the location and/or the time didn’t work. Many people expressed frustration with the lack of meetings around the region.

  • **Planned Action:** The TPA agencies will continue to work with Hanford stakeholders and the public to try to schedule meeting times and places that are convenient for most people. The agencies have committed to have at least one regional meeting per year.

• Only 28 percent of respondents reported feeling their “...input helps influence Hanford cleanup decisions,” a slight increase from the prior year. The bulk of respondents felt neutral or disagreed with that statement. TPA agencies need to do a better job of communicating how public input affects cleanup decisions, and explain if there are times when it doesn’t.

  • **Planned Action:** The TPA agencies are working on an online tool that will identify items, which went out for public comment, and provide a link to the response to those comments so commenters can see how their input was used. The agencies are also considering providing regular updates when a final decision is delayed so that commenters are aware of the delay.

• Most said they would be “likely” or “very likely” to participate (64%) in a webinar on a Hanford topic (though 16 percent skipped the question). We will continue to look for opportunities to use webinars as appropriate for public involvement. Webinars offer a means to allow participation in Hanford meetings for those who are unable to attend in person due to the time or location.

  • **Planned Action:** The TPA agencies will look for topic-specific items that would be conducive to a webinar delivery where the main goal is to share information and promote understanding of a topic.

• Despite some frustration with TPA meetings and materials, about 91 percent of respondents indicated they plan to participate in future Hanford-related activities.

  • **Planned Action:** The TPA agencies will continue to work with Hanford stakeholders to plan future Hanford-related activities.
Conclusion

The 2017 Annual TPA Public Involvement Survey saw a moderate increase in participation from the prior year.

The TPA agencies look forward to implementing the lessons learned from this evaluation and will continue to identify ways to improve public involvement at Hanford. For more information, email hanford@ecy.wa.gov.

Summary results of the Annual Public Involvement Survey

The top responses to each question are provided in the following section.

To see the full results of the survey, including all the comments, see Appendix A.

Public involvement includes education and outreach by agency staff and contractors at public events such as the annual Hanford Health and Safety Expo.
The TPA agencies issued a survey with 24 questions. 118 people took at least part of the survey. The top responses to each question are provided in the following section. NOTE: Many questions invited respondents to ‘choose all that apply’, so totals may equal more than 100%.

To see the full results of the survey, including all the comments, see Appendix A, beginning on page 11.

**Question 1: Do you receive information about Hanford from any of the following?**
- Mass media (Newspaper, radio, TV) 53%
- Email (Hanford Listserv) 50%
- Social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) 42%

**Question 2: Where do you go for information about Hanford?**
- Mass media (Newspaper, radio, TV) 60%
- Hanford.gov website 59%
- Interest group website 45%

**Question 3: Which group do you represent?**
- General public 53%
- Hanford workforce 14%
- Interest group member 13%

**Question 4: Do you usually receive adequate notice about upcoming Hanford public involvement activities?**
- Yes 72%
- No 28%

**Question 5: How far in advance do you prefer to be notified about upcoming Hanford public involvement activities?**
- 3-4 weeks 36%
- 2 weeks 32%
- 1 week 18%

**Question 6: Are notices from the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) agencies generally helpful in understanding the topic?**
- Yes 48%
- It depends on the source and topic 38%
- No 14%
Summary results of the Annual Public Involvement Survey

Question 7: Did you attend a Hanford-related meeting or other event hosted by a Tri-Party Agreement agency in 2017?

No 77 %
Yes 23 %

Question 8: Did you attend a Hanford-related meeting or other event hosted by a Tri-Party Agreement agency in 2017? NOTE – question inadvertently included twice.

No 82 %
Yes 18 %

Question 9: Did you attend any Hanford-related meetings or activities in 2017? (e.g. hosted by an interest group)

No 72 %
Yes 28 %

Question 10: If you did not attend a Hanford-related meeting in 2017, please tell us why.

The location didn’t work for me 59 %
The time didn’t work for me 44 %
I wasn’t aware of any meetings 16 %

Question 11: In which location are you most likely to attend a public meeting/workshop or other Hanford-related activity?

Richland (Tri-Cities) 58 %
Portland 19 %
Seattle 13 %

Question 12: How would you rate the locations of the events you attended? (For example, hotel, library, etc.)

I have not attended a meeting 48 %
Good 24 %
Excellent 16 %

Question 13: How would you rate the TPA agencies’ presentations at the events you attended?

I have not seen a presentation 50 %
Good 22 %
Average 14 %

Question 14: How would you rate the discussion with TPA agency representatives at the events you attended?

Good 30 %
Don’t recall 30 %
Average 21 %
Summary results of the Annual Public Involvement Survey

Question 15: If you provided public comment during a public comment period, were you notified when responses to comments were available?

- Not applicable: 65%
- Yes, by email: 17%
- No, I was not notified: 15%

Question 16: How would you answer the following statement: “I believe my input helps influence Hanford cleanup decisions.”

- Neutral: 35%
- Disagree: 21%
- Agree: 20%

Question 17: Do you plan to participate in future activities on Hanford topics?

- Yes: 91%
- No: 9%

Question 18: Would you participate in a webinar or other online forum on Hanford topics?

- Likely: 35%
- Very likely: 29%
- Undecided: 20%

Question 19: Which Hanford topics would you most want to discuss or learn about in a public forum?

- General cleanup progress & challenges: 23%
- Groundwater contamination and treatment: 15%
- Underground storage tanks: 14%
- Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant (WTP/VIT): 13%
- Hanford budget & cleanup priorities: 13%

Question 20: Would you be interested in hosting a Hanford speaker from the TPA agencies for your group, classroom, or event?

- No, thank you: 86%
- Yes, please contact me: 14%

Question 21: Would you like to join the TPA agency email list to receive information about Hanford?

- I am already on the list: 59%
- Yes: 31%
- No, thank you: 10%
Finding ways to engage youth who will inherit Hanford is critical. The Nez Perce annual STEM fair in Lapwai, ID is a great way to reach kids.
Q1: Do you receive information about Hanford from any of the following? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 118   Skipped: 1

**Answer Choices**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mass media (newspaper, radio, TV)</th>
<th>53.39%</th>
<th>63</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hanford Listserv (email)</td>
<td>50.00%</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.)</td>
<td>41.53%</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest group communications (newsletter, email, etc.)</td>
<td>33.05%</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hanford Advisory Board</td>
<td>30.51%</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work announcements</td>
<td>20.34%</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hanford mailing (postal)</td>
<td>11.86%</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I don't usually receive information about Hanford</td>
<td>3.39%</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Total Respondents: 118
Q1 - Do you receive information about Hanford from any of the following? Other, Please specify

- A friend.
- (3) Friends via Interest Groups and Committees, environmental groups
- Other down winders who have a special interest in Hanford
- Hanford Google Alerts/Hanford.gov news
- (2) Hanford Watch
- Heart of America
- (2) Oregon Hanford Board
- Interested in info
- King 5 News
- TPA
- Wash Dept. Ecology
- Word of mouth, retired worker
Q2: Where do you go for information about Hanford? (Select all that apply)

Answered: 111  Skipped: 8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices</th>
<th>Responses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hanford Advisory Board meetings</td>
<td>19.82%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest group (website or social media)</td>
<td>45.05%</td>
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<tr>
<td>U.S. Department of Energy (website or social media)</td>
<td>58.56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington Department of Ecology (website or social media)</td>
<td>42.34%</td>
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<tr>
<td>U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (website or social media)</td>
<td>21.62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mass media (newspaper, radio, TV)</td>
<td>60.36%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public meetings</td>
<td>23.42%</td>
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</table>

Total Respondents: 111
Q2 Where do you go for information about Hanford? Other, please specify.

- Articles throughout websites and public media
- DNFSB web site
- Energy Northwest Website
- Friends, environmental groups
- (2) Hanford Challenge
- (2) Hanford Watch
- Heart of America NW email, Facebook or meetings
- (2) Workers
- King 5 news
- Listserv
- None of the above on a regular basis
- Tribal Program
- Word of mouth, retired worker
Q3: Which group do you represent? (Please select the one that best applies)

Answered: 111    Skipped: 8

- General Public: 53.15% (59 responses)
- Hanford Workforce: 14.41% (16 responses)
- Interest Group: 12.61% (14 responses)
- State Government: 8.11% (9 responses)
- Advisory Board: 5.41% (6 responses)
- Business/Industry: 3.60% (4 responses)
- Tribal Nation: 2.70% (3 responses)
- Federal Government: 0.00% (0 responses)

TOTAL: 111
Q4: Do you usually receive adequate notice about upcoming Hanford public involvement activities?

Answered: 117    Skipped: 2

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Answer Choices</th>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td>71.79%</td>
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<td>No</td>
<td>28.21%</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
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</table>

Q5: How far in advance do you prefer to be notified about Hanford public involvement activities?

Answered: 116    Skipped: 3

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Answer Choices</th>
<th>Responses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than a week</td>
<td>0.86%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 week</td>
<td>18.10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 weeks</td>
<td>31.00%</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-4 weeks</td>
<td>36.21%</td>
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<tr>
<td>More than 4 weeks</td>
<td>12.93%</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
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Q6: Are notices from the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) agencies generally helpful in understanding the topic?

- **Please share specific examples**
- At times (notices are) too vague.

- Email saying there is a comment period on a class "modification" to a permit without a map, description of what the potential impacts and pros and cons are, or views of the advisory board are meaningless. Why shouldn't the views of the agencies' advisory board be shared at the time of the notice, or in a follow-up, to help the public comment?
- Haven't received these
- I don't recall getting such notices.
- I don't understand a lot of the licensing lingo and I don't know who I'd contact to get help understanding it.
- I have never even seen one
- I think the Fact Sheets about issues are often very helpful (though sometimes I think they gloss over problems). I almost never find the public comment period notices to be understandable. Those need a lot of work to be accessible to the public they seek to reach.
Q6: Are notices from the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) agencies generally helpful in understanding the topic? Specific responses continued.

- Less legalistic, more public friendly.
- Need a short explanation of what it is about and if somebody wants to read the whole thing they can.
- Not following things thoroughly now
- Not sure which agencies are "TPA agencies" so my answer should be Not Sure
- Sometimes still, the notices focus on the mechanics of a permit change or a TPA change, rather than focusing on the EFFECT of the proposed change.
- The topic should be written in a more rudimentary fashion - I've got 11yrs of post high school education and a real interest in Hanford - most of the topics ???
- What notices from Tri-Party Agreement (TPA)?
- you would need to have more knowledge to understand most notices. The notices need to be dummy down and more detailed to make an educated decision.
Q7 & 8: Did you attend a Hanford-related meeting or other event hosted by a TPA agency in 2017? (note question was repeated in survey)

Answered: 109    Skipped: 10

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<th>ANSWER CHOICES</th>
<th>RESPONSES</th>
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<td>Yes</td>
<td>18.35%</td>
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<td></td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>81.65%</td>
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<td></td>
<td>89</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>109</td>
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If yes please specify.

- All HAB full board meetings and some HAB committee meetings. I also attended Hanford Live (and submitted a pre-recorded video question), as well as the Hanford Priorities FY 19 meeting at the Public Library.
- Application for permit mod. WESF
- April 12 - I was a participant, May 3, June 7, July 20
- All the meetings are in Richland. which is very unaccountable to folks, which is a larger group of folks, living between Hanford and the Pacific Ocean.
- Attended via web-in-air---May 3, Jun 7, both Jul 26 meetings
- August 3rd, WTP.
- Because the meetings weren't conveniently located
- Ecology Groundwater meetings and DOE/ORP meetings on WMA C
- Hanford Live
- Hanford Priorities FY 19
- I live in Seattle
Q 7 & 8: Did you attend a Hanford-related meeting or other event hosted by a TPA agency in 2017? Specific answers continued.

- I think I went to an Oregon Hanford meeting last year, but may have been 2016
- I went to a meeting at the Richland Library where we were asked to prioritize clean-up activities. It was a public meeting. Also I participated in the Hanford Live broadcast.
- Need meetings in Hood River
- No information meetings near Portland or Vancouver
- No meetings were held where I could attend. You should have to come to Seattle or Tacoma. We are all affected.
- NRD and meeting with DOE Staff
- Permit modification meeting in Richland. It is very sad that you have not had a meeting in Seattle for much longer than one year.
- Public meetings on dangerous waste permit modifications
- Several, do not recall exactly which ones.
- Sometimes
- There were none outside of the Tri-Cities during 2017. Most were of relatively minor importance.
- Too many to list, but none on your list. Not public meetings. Perhaps "public" should be included in your line of questioning.
- Traffic and parking - I did back during the 1980s
- Webinar instead of NW Hanford meetings.
- WESF/CIS public meetings
Q9: Did you attend any other Hanford-related meetings or activities in 2017? (e.g. hosted by an interest group)

Answered: 111    Skipped: 8

- If yes, please specify.
  - Attended meetings in Hood River
  - Cold War Patriots meeting.
  - Columbia Riverkeeper - Hanford Paddle
  - Columbia Riverkeepers, Hood River Sense of Place
  - HAB Budgets and Contracts Committee webinar
  - HAB Meetings
  - Hanford History events at the Richland Public Library
  - Have meeting and a committee meeting at
  - Heart of America NW Columbia River Keepers
  - History Link
  - How about holding half of them on the west side of the Cascades? That would help.
  - I attended several events hosted by Hanford Challenge and WA Physicians for Social Responsibility.
Q9: Did you attend any other Hanford-related meetings or activities in 2017? (e.g. hosted by an interest group) Specific responses continued.

- I hope to become more involved in 2018. I'm a former Richland resident/Hanford HS graduate, so while I'm living in King County, I care about what's happening at Hanford
- I spoke at a meeting of the League of Women Voters in Bellingham, WA, about the cave-in at Tunnel #1 using slides from the DOE website.
- I think I went to a Oregon Hanford Meeting but may have been 2016
- Meetings for sick workers at Hanford.
- NRD and other meetings with DOE officials
- Oregon Hanford Cleanup Board
- Oregon Hanford Cleanup Board meetings and Hanford Advisory Board meetings
- Seattle workshop and discussion, and presentation at UW, by Heart of America Northwest
- There was one that was presented on Facebook that I watched
- Too many to list.
- Visited the area
- WAND poetry reading Plume Eugene Or.
- Web conference about the tunnel collapse.
- Yakama meeting on Hanford
Q10: If you did not attend a Hanford-related meeting or other event in 2017, please tell us why. (Select all that apply)

Answered: 73    Skipped: 46

- I wasn't interested in the topic
- I wasn't aware of any meetings or events
- I didn't understand the purpose of the meeting or event
- The time didn't work for me
- The location didn't work for me

Please provide specific responses

- Come to Seattle or Tacoma
- Didn't apply to me
- How about holding half of them on the west side of the Cascades? That would help.
- I can't travel
- I live in Oregon, downwind somewhat where there are lots of cancer deaths.
- I live in Spokane
- I live on the east coast.
- I now live in Olympia and seldom return to Let me know Tri-Cities. I attend web-in-airs when available that interest me.
Q10: If you did not attend a Hanford-related meeting or other event in 2017, please tell us why. Specific responses continued.

- I’m too busy
- I'm a senior and don't go out much.
- I'm not a meeting-goer generally
- I'm very interested in Hanford - meetings in past were uneventful
- It is frustrating that the meetings all held in the Tri-Cities.
- Just haven't been very involved
- Just too busy this last year
- Need to be in or near Portland.
- Richland is a long way from Olympia to go to an hour long presentation
- Sat in on parts of 1 or 2 meetings of interest
- Short notice, schedule conflicts
- Social media
- Too lazy
- Traffic & parking
- Very concerned and interested but not always available for meetings.
- You only hold them in Richland!!!
Q11: In which location are you most likely to attend a public meeting/workshop or other Hanford-related activity?

Answered: 97    Skipped: 22

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANSWER CHOICES</th>
<th>RESPONSES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Richland (Tri-Cities)</td>
<td>57.73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seattle</td>
<td>13.40%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Portland</td>
<td>18.56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hood River</td>
<td>5.15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spokane</td>
<td>5.15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>97</td>
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Q12: How would you rate the locations of the events you attended? (For example, hotel, library, etc.)

Answered: 106    Skipped: 13

Any specific comments?

- Difficult to locate. Too many miles from home.
- Good seating, good sound, large room.
- HAB meetings are better attended when they occur at the Hanford House in Richland and HAB committee meetings are well attended at the Richland Public Library. Lots of parking at both locations and they are convenient.
Q12: How would you rate the locations of the events you attended? (For example, hotel, library, etc.) Specific comments continued.

- Hanford House in previous years. Ecology offices, I believe
- How about holding half of them on the west side of the Cascades? That would help.
- I attended a lecture held at PCC, Cascade Campus
- I’m disabled, >8 vapor/fumes exposures at Tank Farms in 12 months
- In Hood River
- I’ve always been comfortable when I did go
- Not applicable to 2017 for my experience, but previously the locations were generally good.
- Please share specific examples
- Richland Red Lion, Richland Public Library, Ben Franklin Transit Center, Pasco Red Lion
- Same problem
- Since leaving Tri-Cities in 2014 I use the web-in-air venue
- Sufficient seating for public and agency attendees; amplified presentations
- Workshop cancelled

Ecology outreach event
Q13: How would you rate the TPA agencies' presentations at the events you attended?

Answered: 103    Skipped: 16

Please share specific examples.

- DOE typically wants to focus on accomplishments, rather than the remaining challenges.
- DOE's presentations are usually fluff.
- Have not been to a public hearing lately to see if they have improved.
Q13: How would you rate the TPA agencies' presentations at the events you attended? Specific examples continued.

- Have only participated in the webinar that previously was accomplished as meetings throughout Washington and Portland. Hope the actual meetings return!
- Haven't been in years but were always good and at board meetings the info was good
- How about holding half of them on the west side of the Cascades? That would help.
- I appreciate honest, candid, clear presentations from all the agencies and their responses to questions.
- I haven't been to any Hanford meetings since they moved from Seattle Center
- I used to go to them in Seattle.
- Most of the time I could not hear public interactions with the speaker & the speaker failed to repeat questions/comments.
- Pretentious. Skewed toward protecting the industry. Outside reality of how to dispose of nuclear waste.
- RL and ORP briefings on planned work; Ecology response/comments
- Speakers are prepared, easy to understand, readily answer questions, slides and posters are well-done.
- They vary especially by the agencies welcoming or lack thereof of the variety of interested party and whether the agencies allow generalized comments from those who are not as informed on Hanford topics.
Q14: How would you rate the discussion with TPA agency representatives at events you attended?

Answered: 73    Skipped: 46

Any specific comments?
- A webcast is inadequate. Please have in person meetings where a dialogue is possible.
- Basically could only listen and watch with the webinar
- Can't comment
- Did not attend.
- Did not speak directly with representatives
- DOE representatives need to be more knowledgeable about the subject matter that they are presenting.
- Have not attended any.
- How about holding half of them on the west side of the Cascades? That would help.
Q14: How would you rate the discussion with TPA agency representatives at events you attended? Specific comments continued.

- I get emails from people or groups who attend, and they rate the discussions as poor, one-sided, and biased in favor of corporations and against life.
- It was what I would expect from a large bureaucracy, nothing more.
- My experience with TPA representative was several years ago. But TPA stopped those meetings.
- Skirted the real issues. Smacked of a glossy con job.
- Tell the truth about dangers to health of workers and down streamers.
- The agency staff were unable to respond to questions.
- When agency representatives are allowed by their attorneys and/or management to be candid the discussions are always more fruitful. I do appreciate the challenges agency reps have on occasions when the subject matter is in litigation but it is frustrating.
Q15: If you provided comment during a public comment period, were you notified when responses to comments were available?

Answered: 100   Skipped: 19

**Answer Choices** | **Responses**
--- | ---
Yes, by email | 17.00% 17
Yes, by mail and email | 3.00% 3
Yes, by mail | 0.00% 0
No, I was not notified | 15.00% 15
Not applicable | 65.00% 65
**TOTAL** | 100
Q16: How would you answer the following statement: “I believe my input helps influence Hanford cleanup decisions.”

Answered: 101    Skipped: 18

**Please explain**

- As media, I'm reporting on it.
- Being a thyroid cancer survivor, I usually rely on my own experience, info and requests from Columbia Riverkeepers to base my responses, and statements.
- Depends on the topic
- DOE does whatever it wants to go.
- hard to know
- Have not done any input but I am interested in Hanford, etc...
- How can I have an effect if I am never notified?
- I believe my influence is usually pretty minor, but sometimes I think we can help change some things.
Q16: How would you answer the following statement: “I believe my input helps influence Hanford cleanup decisions.” Explanations continued.

- I do believe occasionally the agencies use HAB advice when making decisions but they could do better in informing the HAB when they do - even when HAB advice doesn't change a decision.
- I don't believe citizen input is actually considered in the decision making, for the most part.
- I don't see any response to public concerns by the TPA.
- I don't think any decisions in this country are made on the basis of science or common sense. I think all decisions are based on money and nothing else whatsoever.
- I express the opinions of my employer, a TPA agency. Whether my comments affect actual cleanup is debatable.
- I feel more heard because I am along time Hanford activist, but as I have stated, if the public is not as educated, they don't always feel heard. The former head of ecology was welcoming and open. Jane...
- I have wanted the nuclear energy and bomb industry to shut down completely. Any other direction is insane. But so far it is still glowing.
- I leave that up to the experts
- I understand that Hanford will NEVER be cleaned up.
- If you cared, you would come to our side of the mountains. It seems you don't want more 'liberal' feedback.
- Member of HAB.
- My input, along with that of many others, could help influence Hanford cleanup decisions if we were better informed.
- Not as an individual citizen, but I do think my input helps (sometimes) as a member of the HAB.
- Rarely have enough background to contribute
- Scientists who specifically know about clean up are who should make these decisions.
- The agencies haven't even held public meetings in Seattle, Portland or Spokane for a few years. They didn't even send a response when I submitted comments.
- The regulatory agencies barely know how to handle the wastes, it is all uncharted territory in terms of technology and infrastructure. Until the science takes precedence over cost controls, it is up to the public to speak loudly and advocate for safety.
- Their minds are already made up, the meetings are just for show to say they listened.
- What progress is really being made? I am a "bottom line" person!
Q17: Do you plan to participate in future activities on Hanford topics?

Answered: 97    Skipped: 22

Please explain why or why not.

- As a citizen of the Tri-Cities area, any mismanagement of the operations at Hanford has the potential to directly impact the environment around me, and therefore my health.
- Because Hanford poses the greatest risk to the health and well-being of the Cascadia bioregion, and beyond, than any other ecological crisis.
- Because I am reinvolved on the HAB. However if I have to travel to the Tri-Cities in the middle of the week, I will not participate except through my role on the Board.
- Because I believe that informed pressure, based on interest group analyses, from many people is the only thing that changes decisions at Hanford.
- (2) Depending on the time it will be held
- Federal budget requests for Hanford will continue to be of importance as long as cleanup and monitored natural attenuation activities continue on the Hanford Site.
- Hanford facilities are becoming too old and have too much potential for problems like the Purex Tunnel. Closure of many facilities at Hanford needs to be a primary topic.
- Hanford is a very important issue, especially with the past record of poor performance
- How about holding half of the meetings on the west side of the Cascades? That would help. I get no email or mail notifications when getting them is applicable.
- I believe it is my duty as a Northwest citizen to pay attention.
Q17: Do you plan to participate in future activities on Hanford topics? Specific explanations continued.

- I believe it is my duty as a Northwest citizen to pay attention.
- I don't seem to be able to understand - just seems activities are postponed or changed.
- I keep reading about upcoming opportunities but rarely have enough background to contribute
- I live in California
- I live in GA
- I plan to help shut it down.
- I will attempt to attend
- I will be retiring and will have more time to share my expertise
- I would like to attend informational meetings regarding Medicare when they have one.
- I'm a former Hanford Worker and HAB member.
- I'm chair of the Hanford Advisory Board so I probably will participate in future Hanford topics.
- It is the right thing to do as a resident of the area.
- Just wanting to being a part of the community
- Maybe
- My family is impacted.
- Please explain why or why not?
- Possibly if the topic is of interest and the time and place works with my schedule.
- Probably not but?????
- same reason. No availability
- Somehow we must stop building nuclear devises of any kind, anywhere!
- The proverbial "barn door has been opened," now that radioactive particles are airborne. We all need to recognize the critical public safety situation facing Tri-City/Columbia Basin residents especially, but Washingtonians and Oregonians generally. Shit's getting to Code Red!!
- To help bring out the truth about Hanford and what it is doing to the workers and the public.
- To prevent as much harm from Hanford as is possible
- Uncertain.
- via internet
- via the web-in-air venue
- when I can comment by email. I can't travel
- When I can provide online input, I plan to do so, but I feel that my input will always be ignored because I'm not a rich political donor or corporation.
Q18: Would you participate in a webinar or other online forum on Hanford topics?

Answered: 102   Skipped: 17

Any specific comments?

- Depends on whether it actually is useful to the decision making process. Does it matter?
- Don't know how to do it
- GREAT idea.
- If time is good.
- It's likely, but I'd do so begrudgingly as I don't think it's optimal.
- My computer really isn't good enough for a webinar.
- Only when of interest
- Prefer in person meetings so a conversation can be held.
- Since I’m retired, I don’t get much information regarding the Hanford. If there is a monthly or quarterly handout for retirees, I would be interested in getting it.
- The power of democratic input versus the information control of Bechtel, CH2MHill?
- They are so impersonal. There is little chance for real connection which defeats trust in information and the agencies.
- Webinars are a dull way to get involvement
- Webinars and live broadcasts cannot compare with in-person interaction.
- Webinars are a cop out. They allow officials to not engage in a discussion.
Q19: Which Hanford topic would you MOST want to discuss or learn more about in a public forum?

Answered: 96  Skipped: 23

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<tr>
<th>ANSWER CHOICES</th>
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<tr>
<td>Central Plateau cleanup</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changes to cleanup schedules</td>
<td>7.29%</td>
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<tr>
<td>General cleanup progress &amp; challenges</td>
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<td>Groundwater contamination &amp; treatment</td>
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<td>Hanford after cleanup (plans for future land use)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hanford budget &amp; cleanup priorities</td>
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<tr>
<td>River Corridor cleanup</td>
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<tr>
<td>Underground storage tanks</td>
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<tr>
<td>Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant</td>
<td>12.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Q19: Which Hanford topic would you MOST want to discuss or learn more about in a public forum? (Other, please specify)

- 100% cleanup of Hanford in entirety
- (2) All of the above
- Also, wildlife protection and conservation on the Hanford Site.
-Cleanup has been delayed for too long.
- Come on...how about all of them? Don't limit choices.
- Cs&Sr dry casks storage
- Do you people really believe there will ever be any use for that contaminated, land, air and water?
- Each of these topics intertwine with the others. Transparency in discussions with the public is paramount if support is expected!!
- Groundwater contamination and the Columbia River
- Hanford after cleanup
- How much radiation did the 2017 Columbia Gorge fire release. Name the isotopes and give the numerical values.
- I want to know when the drinking water supply for St Helens Oregon is re-contaminated by Hanford releases.
- Interested in several of these but could only pick one
- Land use and future access.
- PFP
- PUREX Tunnel collapse: Ecology and USDOE broke their promise to hold public meetings with discussion outside Richland on the PUREX Tunnel collapse and how to stabilize and remove waste; and, meetings with comment on the spread of Plutonium and other contamination from demolition activities; protection of worker health and safety; risks for Native American and Latino/a community members using the River Corridor or working and living nearby, including how cleanup plans fail to recognize treaty and NHPA rights.
- The above topics should be available to the public, so I would choose all of the above
- The mention of "Hanford after cleanup (plans for future land use)"??
- We need an infusion of funding to improve the timeliness of cleanup projects.
- What most affects the waters is of interest to me.
- Why are we spending millions of dollars to clean up groundwater of uranium to drinking water standards when uranium going into the river from fertilizer runoff in irrigation outfalls dwarfs that coming from the site by 1-2 orders of magnitude?
Q20: Would you be interested in hosting a Hanford speaker from the TPA agencies for your group, classroom, or event?

Answered: 97    Skipped: 22

- Yes, please contact me: 14.43% (14)
- No, thank you: 85.57% (83)

Q21: Would you like to join the TPA agency email list to receive information about Hanford?

Answered: 102    Skipped: 16

- Yes (please provide your...): 31.37% (32)
- No, thank you: 9.80% (10)
- I am already on the email...: 58.82% (60)

TOTAL: 102
Q 22 Please provide any additional thoughts you may have had regarding Hanford Public Involvement opportunities

We rely on Heart of America Northwest for updates and information to comment on. Our trust in your interest in hearing from the public or keeping the public supportive is lost since there haven’t even been meetings with agency leaders after all the national attention to the collapse of the PUREX tunnel, worker contamination, the spread of Plutonium miles from demolition and concerns over the plans to leave contamination along the River,

Transparency. Safety. Exceptional healthcare for Hanford workers -- those people are heroes.

This is complex. I've been trying to follow it since 1980 and I've finally about given up. Too little progress, too much money spent for minimal results.

There just has to be more of it--it's so important. It would also be great if it included some educational component so that we could better understand what's happening there.

There is too much involvement from those that are not affected, i.e., Seattle interests. These folks are fine as watchdogs to make sure those that are affected are doing the right things. A good example is water rights. The west side and the east side needs and assets are way different.

The 'public' dealing with the DOE is less like David v. Goliath and more like an ant v. an elephant.

The presentations and the materials are too complicated for the public. The jargon needs to be reduced or eliminated.

The original purpose of the clean up was to remove all toxic waste from Hanford. Burying it, covering it up, leaving it in place is breaking the necessary safety procedures and actions intended.

The investment in Hanford public involvement is so valuable to me and the discernment process. This is an excellent way to involve the public and shareholders in a meaningful exchange of ideas.

The importance and cost of Hanford - it should be more visible to the public.

The federal government needs to make solving this unsolvable problem the highest priority.

The Federal government does not seem to take the situation seriously. The public and future generations are at risk; there are costs now and in the future. Newspaper and state coverage like the Rattlesnake Ridge needs to continue so that the situation is not forgotten. Staff booths with information during events like Earth Day, etc. Do you use Tweet, other social media to continue to get the word out and educate the public?

Thank you for your time and effort (and for asking us what we think would help improve public involvement activities). Your work is much appreciated!

Shutting down the active nuclear power plant is also high on my list.
Q 22 Please provide any additional thoughts you may have had regarding Hanford Public Involvement opportunities

Seems that we have hit a lull, because there are few topics of real substance that are coming up for comment, either through the release of documents, or because of upcoming decisions.

Regarding Hanford public involvement... The general public seems to be scared to ask questions about Hanford, holding the perspective that there is an air of secrecy surrounding the Hanford site... As if there is a futility in wanting to know what is really going on with Hanford. There should not be as much technical jargon in public relations so that the general public can actually decrypt what the technical details represent in terms of short-term and long-term benefits and consequences, as it would go a long way to help ease concerns of the citizens.

Presentations in Portland would involve more river users.
Please try to have more meetings west of the Cascades or by webinar. The latter option serves the most people.
Please restart local info meeting around north west
Please provide us with any other thoughts on Hanford public involvement.
Please hold more meetings and events in Portland! Us folks downriver need more opportunities to be involved.

Oversight needs to seek out employees in a way that protects them yet informs you. Vital to know from the inside.

Open-Ended Response
NO THEME PARK. Just get the !@#$% thing cleaned up.

Need broader coverage of national issue.
Most important of anything, again, you MUST schedule meetings on the coast if you really care about feedback. Politically, everything on that side of the mountains is more conservative. This is not democracy. Democracy demands and even hearing of the news and situations that affect everyone. Since Hanford IS the most polluted place in N America the situation demands fuller participation, which you DO NOT PROVIDE. I am very unhappy about this.

Might already be occurring but a tour and site visit of the field cleanup areas.
Make public outreach more frequent, not during the day. Let real people know what is going on through monthly op-eds or other communications from ECY.
Q 22 Please provide any additional thoughts you may have had regarding Hanford Public Involvement opportunities

Let the truth be known about what is really going on at Hanford. The large contamination spread that could affect a large number of people. How no government agency will tell the truth about what everybody is being exposed to such as vapors and radiation. Get detection equipment that works for the job it is needed. Vapor instrumentation that tells what chemicals are in the air everybody is breathing not just a few chemicals. Get radiation detection equipment that can detect contamination spread. Independent testing for contamination spread and vapors because nobody can find anything that is there or they do not want to find it so they use the wrong equipment.

Keep up the good work!
It would be nice if a broader cross-section of the populace would participate in public meetings.

It seems that once again, safety was sacrificed for "getter done" where cleanup at PFP is concerned. Management rolled the dice, predictably, and with very unsatisfactory results. The responsible contractor should be fined, denied any payment for the work and DOE safety should be required to attend retraining for allowing the work of demolition to commence. Gambling with the health of the workforce is reprehensible!

It is such a long term complicated mess, that at least you all have job security. Keep the info coming, the more folks are engaged and knowledgeable the more they will work to get it cleaned up well and to keep funding flowing

I think there needs to be more information posted on social media sites and on your website regarding times for public input - maybe reach out to the news media where applicable to help spread notice and awareness. I think more people would like to be involved but they don't know where to start.

I think it would be beneficial if the Vice President visited Hanford so they could see how far the Site has come. The constant threat to shutdown the government only delays progress and should avoided.

I really enjoyed the news reports on the radioactive rabbits at Hanford. Bugs Bunny meets The Apocalypse.

I implore the agencies to always keep the long term consequences in view when making short term cleanup decisions.

I don't think we live in a democracy and I don't think public involvement counts for much. In my experience (I'm 77 years old), public sentiment is mostly ignored in favor of corporate profits. I've been anti-nuke for many decades. No authority has ever listened to me and I don't expect that any ever will. Some are required by law to put on a show of asking for public comment, which they promptly ignore. There is no accountability. Power is not vested in the hands of the people, it is vested in the hands of politicians and courts which have been bought off by corporations. I had/have no more say over Hanford than I did over Chernobyl and Fukushima.
I am concerned that groups like Columbia River Keeper and Heart of America NW are not receiving funding to educate the public on what is going on in the area. I am concerned about shipment of high level and low level waste on Washington highways and rail. I am also concerned about Columbia Generating Station and its fuel rod storage located so close to the WWII and cold war remains. The TPA needs to have more transparency.

How much radiation was released in the Columbia Gorge Fire in 2017. Those trees sucked up elemental isotopes for about 74 years and when it burned it was all released. Where did it go? How much was released. Let's list the isotopes and their quantities. Just what does airborne Cs137, Sr90 and Pu239 do to a city enveloped in a smoky radioactive cloud for weeks? There are many more isotopes released, Batelle(Pacific Northwest Lab) in the 1993 study on Sturgeon in the Columbia River list 3 pages of radioactive isotopes in the Columbia River, well that's just in the river but what about the surrounding airshed? So let's review here. What elemental radioisotopes were released in the 2017 Columbia River Gorge Fire and please list the amounts measured. Just who did the measuring? Was it the US DOE, Washing state Department of Ecology, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Oregon Radiation Protection Division?

Funding; continued clean up "options" (outside the box). I have participated in a successful, solution oriented, broad based problem solving group and would hope a similar group is in place or that there is a willingness to try one out.

Cleanup is way too slow, and seems to be incomplete. All the money spent for the cleanup, like most government projects, is slipshod. Allowing radiation into the Columbia? Allowing radiation to seep? Replace all the single shell tanks! What happen to glassification - that was supposed to happen in the 1970s! Dumping more radioactive waste at Hanford - we already have the most lethal site in the country!! Hanford is a political clusterfuk!

Bring back the state of the site meetings

As I have said, after 70 years of trying, there is no safe way to store or decontaminate nuclear waste, so why keep making it? Oh yes, vast amounts of money to the owners for poisoning the rest of us.

A little late to ask that question.
Q24: Demographic information (Optional)

Answered: 91

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Q24: Demographic information (Optional)

Answered: 91  Skipped: 28

Gender

Male 50.00% 45  Female 50.00% 45  TOTAL 90
Q24: Demographic information (Optional)

Answered: 91    Skipped: 28

Race/Ethnicity

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TPA Public involvement Survey 2017