

Environmental Performance Demonstration Test – Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant Modification

Public Comment Period

April 23 to June 8, 2018

Submit comments to:

Electronically (preferred) via:
[http://wt.ecology.commenting
ut.com/?id=rTRau](http://wt.ecology.commenting.ut.com/?id=rTRau)

Send by U.S. Mail, or
hand-deliver to:

Daina McFadden
3100 Port of Benton Blvd
Richland WA 99354

Public hearing

A public hearing is not
scheduled, but if there is
enough interest, we will
consider holding one.

To request a hearing contact:

Daina McFadden
509-372-7950
Hanford@ecy.wa.gov

For more information

Dan McDonald
509-372-7950
Hanford@ecy.wa.gov

Public comment invited

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) is proposing a modification to the *Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Permit, Revision 8C*.

The proposed change affects the *Dangerous Waste Portion for the Treatment, Storage, and Disposal of Dangerous Waste for the Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant (WTP)*, located in Part III, Operating Unit 10.

The permittees are:

U.S. Department of Energy Office of River Protection
P.O. Box 450
Richland, Washington 99352

Bechtel National, Inc.
2435 Stevens Center Place
Richland, Washington 99354

The proposed modification will incorporate the draft Environmental Performance Demonstration Test (EPDT) Plan for the Low-Activity Waste (LAW) Facility into the WTP Permit, as well as revise the Part A and permit conditions to support the EPDT.

This proposal is one of many changes to the original WTP Permit. Periodic updates allow the permittees to continue construction while designing other parts of the WTP.

The WTP Facility includes multiple facilities: The Analytical Laboratory (LAB), the LAW Facility, the High-Level Waste Facility (HLW), the Pretreatment Facility (PTF), the Effluent Management Facility (EMF), and the Balance of Facilities (BOF). Under the Direct Feed Low-Activity Waste configuration, the EMF, the LAB, and the LAW Facility will become operational first to process the low-activity waste from Tank Farms.

This draft EPDT and associated documentation is specific to the operation of the LAW Facility under the Direct Feed Low-Activity Waste configuration.

Permit modification overview

This draft agency-initiated WTP Permit Modification (8C.2018.3D) focuses on the permitting documentation and language to support the performance of the draft EPDT. The draft EPDT Plan describes feed and testing that are proposed to prepare the LAW Facility for the final step in cold commissioning. Cold commissioning is a test of LAW Facility subsystems without the introduction of dangerous wastes. Testing will be conducted using first water and then simulated waste.

The draft EPDT is designed to demonstrate that the LAW Facility can meet the performance standards outlined in the WTP Permit. The test will collect selected emissions data for use in the human health and ecological risk assessment. The EPDT is scheduled to be performed at the end of the cold commissioning phase of the LAW Facility prior to hot commissioning, which is when Tank Farm waste supernatant would be fed via the Direct Feed Low-Activity Waste configuration. The current schedule to perform the LAW Facility EPDT is 2021.

Why this cleanup matters

The proposed permit changes affect the WTP. The WTP is located on the Hanford Site in southeastern Washington. The plant will immobilize in glass 56 million gallons of dangerous radioactive and chemical waste stored in 177 underground storage tanks at Hanford.

Some of the waste from the tanks has leaked into the ground and polluted groundwater that flows toward, and can seep into, the Columbia River. Safely treating tank waste is an important goal to help protect people and the environment.



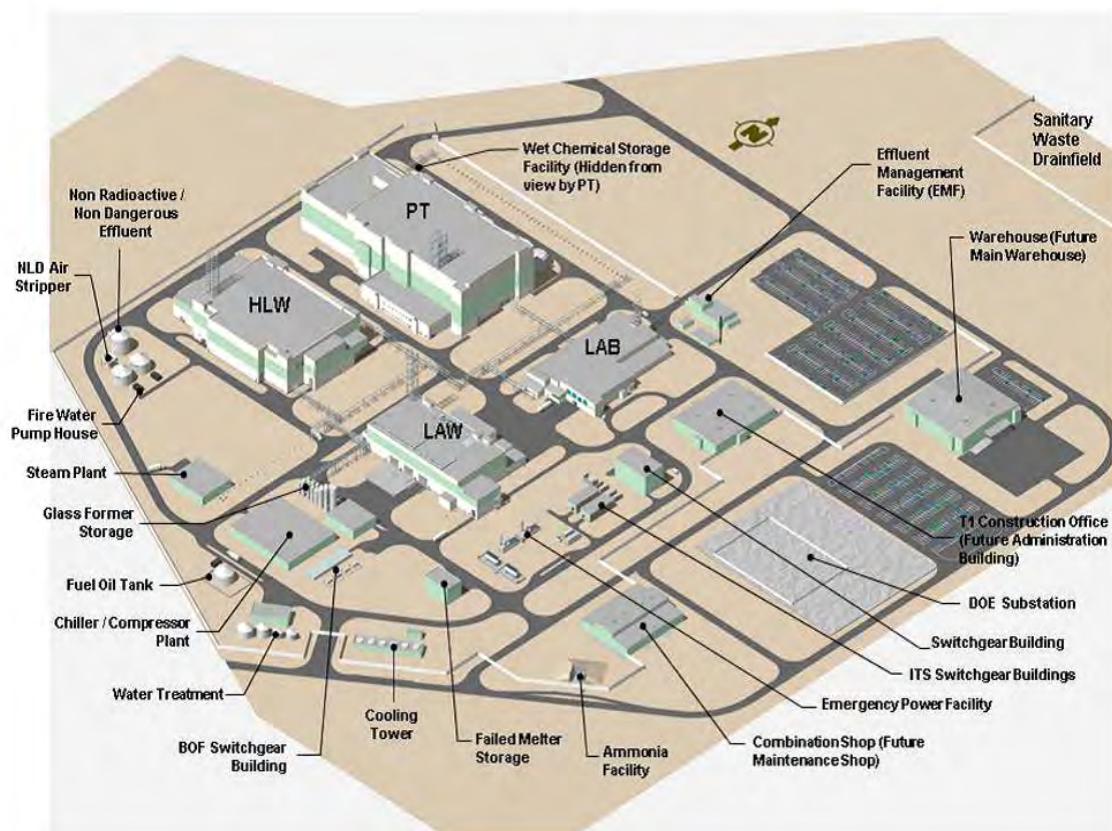
LAW Facility

Reviewing the proposed changes

Ecology invites the public to review and comment on the proposed modification to the WTP Permit. Only those portions that are being modified are open for public comment and review. All other portions remain in effect. See page 1 for comment period dates and information on how to submit comments.

Copies of the proposed modification and supporting documentation will be available during the public comment period online at Ecology's website at <https://www.ecology.wa.gov/Waste-Toxics/Nuclear-waste/Public-comment-periods>. The documents will also be available at the Hanford Public Information Repositories listed on the last page.

Waste Treatment Plant



Drawing of the Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant

Special accommodations

To request ADA accommodation including materials in a format for the visually impaired, call Ecology at 509-372-7950 or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>. People with impaired hearing may call Washington Relay Service at 711. People with speech disability may call TTY at 877-833-6341.



3100 Port of Benton Blvd
Richland, WA 99354

Hanford's Information Repositories and Document Review Locations

WASHINGTON

Richland

Washington State Department of Ecology
Nuclear Waste Program Resource Center
3100 Port of Benton Blvd.
Richland, WA 99354

U.S. Department of Energy
Administrative Record
2440 Stevens Drive
Richland, WA 99354

Washington State University Tri-Cities
Department of Energy Reading Room
2770 Crimson Way, Room 101L
Richland, WA 99354

Seattle

University of Washington, Suzzallo Library
4000 15th Avenue Northeast
Seattle, WA 98195

Spokane

Gonzaga University, Foley Center
502 E Boone Avenue
Spokane, WA 99258

OREGON

Portland

Portland State University
Branford Price Millar Library
1875 SW Park Avenue
Portland, OR 97207