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June 29, 2026 26-NWP-081

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Re: Transmittal of the Proposed Permit Renewal for the *Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit, Dangerous Waste Portion, Revision 9A, for the Treatment, Storage, and Disposal of Dangerous Waste* (Site-wide Permit), WA7890008967

References: See page 7

Dear Addressees:

This letter transmits the Department of Ecology's (Ecology) proposed permit renewal to the *Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit, Dangerous Waste Portion, Revision 9A, for the Treatment, Storage, and Disposal of Dangerous Waste* (Site-wide Permit).

The Permittees are the United States Department of Energy (USDOE) as the Owner and Operator for the Hanford Site and the Hanford Contractors as Co-Operators.

Ecology received a certified permit application for renewal from USDOE (Reference 1), in accordance with Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 173-303-806(11)(a). Ecology responded to the draft permit renewal application and determined it complete (Reference 2) in 2004.

Ecology transmitted the draft permit renewal as the draft Site-wide Permit, Rev. 9, for a 120-day public comment period in accordance with WAC 173-303-840. The public review period started on May 1, 2012, and was planned to close on September 30, 2012 (Reference 3).

Ecology transmitted the Single-Shell Tank Unit Group Chapter on June 28, 2012 (Reference 4) as part of the public comment period for the draft Site-wide Permit, Rev. 9. The public comment period for the full draft permit including the Single-Shell Tank Unit Group Chapter was planned to close on September 30, 2012. Ecology extended the public comment period by 54 days after receiving requests from the public for additional review time.

In response to a request from the Permittees, Ecology provided the Permittees with an electronic version of the permit (Reference 5).

Ecology received and responded to over 5,000 comments during the public comment period - 2,000 comments from members of the public and Tribal Nations, and over 3,000 comments from the Permittees. In January of 2013, Ecology sent a letter to the Permittees detailing the path forward to prepare a revised draft renewal based on the volume and content of comments received (Reference 6).

Ecology reviewed all comments received, developed permit application guidance documents, and reviewed the draft Site-wide Rev. 9 permit documents against that guidance. Ecology then worked with the Permittees to address comments and resolve deficiencies. The draft Site-wide Permit, Rev. 9A, reflects the collaborative effort formally adopted by both Ecology and the Permittees resulting in certified submittal of permit documents by the Permittees as required under WAC 173-303-810(13). The draft Site-wide Permit, Rev. 9A is a revision of the draft Site-wide Permit, Rev. 9. Certified submittals state that “the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete,” and are signed by the USDOE Manager. The document and certification statement are transmitted to Ecology via formal letter.

Ecology responded to the Permittee’s certified submittals by transmitting a letter. Each letter is included in Ecology’s Administrative Record. Some permit documents only required minor edits or were provided from the Site-wide Permit, Rev. 8C, and therefore did not require certification. For more information, see the technical Fact Sheet linked on Ecology’s website at https://www.ecology.wa.gov/waste-toxics/nuclear-waste/public-involvement/hanford-sitewide-permit.

Several unit groups were working to finalize documents as Ecology prepared for the public comment period supporting the Site-wide Permit, Rev 9A renewal. As such, the Permittee's certified submittals had not yet been accepted by Ecology via letter but were being incorporated into the renewal. The list of certified submittals below represents the documents that Ecology has accepted for the renewal via this transmittal letter:

- Letter 25-ECD-0065, dated May 19, 2025, "Submittal of Supplemental Information to the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit Renewal, Revision 9A, for Waste Receiving and Processing Facility Addendum J Contingency Plan"
- Letter 25-ECD-0111, dated August 6, 2025, "Submittal of Supplemental Information to the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit Renewal, Revision 9A, for the D-10 Outside Storage Area Dangerous Waste Management Unit Closure Plan"
- Letter 25-ECD-0112, dated August 6, 2025, "Submittal of Supplemental Information to the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit Renewal, Revision 9A, for the East Outside Storage Area Dangerous Waste Management Unit Closure Plan"
- Letter 25-ECD-0113, dated August 11, 2025, "Submittal of Supplemental Information to the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit Renewal, Revision 9, for the Low-Level Burial Grounds Trenches 31-34-94 Closure Plan"
- Letter 25-ECD-0114, dated August 11, 2025, "Submittal of Supplemental Information to the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit Renewal, Revision 9, for the Low-Level Burial Grounds Trenches 31 and 34 Dangerous Waste Management Units Closure Plan"
- Letter 25-ECD-0115, dated August 12, 2025, "Submittal of Supplemental Information to the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit Renewal, Revision 9, for the Low-Level Burial Grounds Trenches 31 and 34 Waste Storage Pads Dangerous Waste Management Units Closure Plan"
- Letter 25-ECD-0116, dated August 12, 2025, "Submittal of Supplemental Information to the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit Renewal, Revision 9A, for the Low-Level Burial Grounds Trench 94 Dangerous Waste Management Unit Closure Plan"
- Letter 25-ECD-0117, dated August 12, 2025, "Submittal of Supplemental Information to the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit Renewal, Revision 9A, for the 2706-TB Tank System Dangerous Waste Management Unit Closure Plan"
- Letter 25-ECD-0150, dated November 13, 2025, "Submittal of Supplemental Information to the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit Renewal, Revision 9, for the Central Waste Complex 2404-W, 2403-W, and 2402-W Series Waste Storage Dangerous Waste Management Unit Closure Plan"
- Letter 25-ECD-0151, dated November 13, 2025, "Submittal of Supplemental Information to the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit Renewal, Revision 9, for the Central Waste Complex Shipping and Receiving Area Dangerous Waste Management Unit Closure Plan"

- Letter 25-ECD-0152, dated November 13, 2025, “Submittal of Supplemental Information to the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit Renewal, Revision 9, for the Central Waste Complex H-E HERTR and Super HENC Waste Outdoor Storage Area Dangerous Waste Management Unit Closure Plan”
- Letter 25-ECD-0153, dated November 13, 2025, “Submittal of Supplemental Information to the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit Renewal, Revision 9, for the Central Waste Complex 2336-W Building Outdoor Shipping and Receiving Area Dangerous Waste Management Unit Closure Plan”
- Letter 26-ECD-0010, dated February 26, 2026, “Submittal of Supplemental Information to the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit Renewal, Revision 9A, for 221-T Tank System Addendum H Closure Plan”
- Letter 26-ECD-0011, dated February 17, 2026, “Submittal of Supplemental Information to the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit Renewal, Revision 9A, for T Plant Complex Cell 11L Addendum H Closure Plan”
- Letter 26-ECD-0012-REISSUE, dated February 25, 2026, “REISSUE Submittal of Supplemental Information to the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit Renewal, Revision 9A, for Central Waste Complex Low Flash Storage Modules Appendix H-A Closure Plan”
- Letter 26-ECD-0042, dated April 14, 2026, “Submittal of Supplemental Information to the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit Renewal, Revision 9A, for T Plant Complex Addendum H Closure Plan”
- Letter 26-ECD-0043, dated April 14, 2026, “Submittal of Supplemental Information to the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit Renewal, Revision 9A, for Central Waste Complex Addendum H Closure Plan
- Letter 26-ECD-0045, dated April 14, 2026, “Submittal of Supplemental Information to the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit Renewal, Revision 9A, for T Plant Closure Plan Appendix H-L 221-T Head End Dangerous Waste Management Unit”
- Letter 26-ECD-0046, dated April 14, 2026, “Submittal of Supplemental Information to the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit Renewal, Revision 9A, for T Plant Closure Plan Appendix H-K 221-T Canyon Deck Dangerous Waste Management Unit”
- Letter 26-ECD-0047, dated April 14, 2026, “Submittal of Supplemental Information to the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit Renewal, Revision 9A, for T Plant Closure Plan Appendix H-B 221-T Railroad Tunnel Dangerous Waste Management Unit”
- Letter 26-ECD-0049, dated April 23, 2026, “Submittal of Supplemental Information to the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit Renewal, Revision 9A, for T Plant Closure Plan Appendix H-J 221-T Operations Gallery Storage Dangerous Waste Management Unit”

- Letter 26-ECD-0050, dated April 27, 2026, "Submittal of Supplemental Information to the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit Renewal, Revision 9A, for T Plant Closure Plan Appendix H-M 221-T Cells (7L, 13R, 16R, and 17R) Dangerous Waste Management Unit"
- Letter 26-ECD-0051, dated April 23, 2026, "Submittal of Supplemental Information to the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit Renewal, Revision 9A, for Waste Receiving and Processing Facility 2336-W Building Dangerous Waste Management Unit Closure Plan"
- Letter 26-ECD-0052, dated April 23, 2026, "Submittal of Supplemental Information to the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit Renewal, Revision 9A, for Central Waste Complex Outside Storage Area-B Closure Plan"

Most unit groups that are currently in the Site-wide Permit, Rev. 8C, are included in the draft Site-wide Permit, Rev. 9A. Documents related to unit groups in the Site-wide Permit, Rev. 8C, will be superseded by the Rev. 9A Permit after final issuance. Some permit modifications issued to unit groups in the Site-wide Permit, Rev. 8C Permit are not reflected in the draft Site-wide Permit, Rev. 9A, because they were completed after the documents had been submitted for the renewal (Enclosed). These modifications will be incorporated into the applicable permit documents prior to final issuance of the draft Site-wide Permit, Rev 9A. Additionally, some closure unit groups in the draft Site-wide Permit, Rev. 9 Permit will not be included in the draft Site-wide Permit, Rev. 9A Permit because they have been closed. Those units are no longer regulated under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

The Grout Treatment Facility (GTF) Closure Unit Group 23, included in the draft Rev. 9 Permit in 2012 is being denied in the draft Rev. 9A Permit. The public had the opportunity to comment on this decision during the Hanford Site-wide Permit Renewal public comment period in 2012. Ecology consulted with United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on the path forward and met with the Permittees. Collectively, it was decided that the GTF would be denied by Ecology and this decision is included in the transmittal letter to the USDOE.

Ecology worked with the Permittees to complete the draft Site-wide Permit, Rev. 9A renewal in support of the regulated unit groups and their certified permit documents. Therefore, Ecology is proceeding with issuance of the draft revised permit renewal for public comment.

WAC 173-303-840(3)(d) requires at least a 45-day public comment period for the draft permit renewal. Ecology has planned a 120-day public comment period from June 29 through October 27, 2026, to provide members of the public enough time to review the draft permit renewal.

The Response to Comments document from the 2012 Site-wide Permit, Rev. 9 renewal is linked on Ecology's website at https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/2605008.html.

Before making any final permitting decisions, Ecology will consider all comments received during the public comment period for the draft permit renewal according to WAC 173-303-840(4)(d).

The proposed permit renewal is available on Ecology's website at https://www.ecology.wa.gov/waste-toxics/nuclear-waste/public-involvement/hanford-sitewide-permit. The files will be removed from the website following the closure of the public comment period.

A copy of the proposed permit renewal is available at the location listed below:

Department of Ecology
Nuclear Waste Program
3100 Port of Benton Boulevard
Richland, Washington 99354

A copy of the proposed permit renewal is available at the Hanford Administrative Record at https://pdw.hanford.gov/ and the Hanford Public Information Repositories in Richland, Spokane, and Seattle, Washington, as well as Portland, Oregon.

Those documents that include Confidential Business Information or are marked Official Use Only are on file and managed separately by Ecology's resource staff in accordance with the Washington State Public Records Act and Ecology's Nuclear Waste Program's Policy, *Dealing with National Security Sensitive Materials at the Hanford Site*.

Individuals can request to inspect the permit in Ecology's Resource Center. Please contact Ecology at hanford@ecy.wa.gov, (509) 578-9298, or (509) 380-4555.

If there are questions, please contact Veronica Scott, Permit Coordinator, at (509) 975-6477 or Annette Carlson, Permit Project Manager, at (509) 578-8721.

Sincerely,

Edward Holbrook
Deputy Program Manager
Nuclear Waste Program

asc/mo
Enclosure

cc: See page 8

References:

1. Letter 04-OES-0046, dated March 30, 2004, “Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Permit Renewal”
2. Ecology Letter, dated September 1, 2004, “Receipt of United States Department of Energy (USDOE), Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Sitewide Permit Renewal Application, dated March 30, 2004”
3. Letter 12-NWP-055, dated April 27, 2012, “Transmittal of the Draft Hanford Facility Dangerous Waste Permit, Rev. 9”
4. Letter 12-NWP-096, dated June 28, 2012, “Transmittal of the Complete Draft Hanford Facility Dangerous Waste Permit, Rev 9, Including Single- Shell Tank Closing Unit Group 4 Portion”
5. Letter 12-NWP-112, dated July 10, 2012, “Transmittal of Microsoft Word Files of Draft Hanford Facility Dangerous Waste Permit, Revision 9 Including Single-Shell Tank Closing Unit Group 4 Portion”
6. Letter 13-NWP-004, January 11, 2013, “Path Forward for Rev. 9 of the Hanford Facility Dangerous Waste Permit, Reopening of Public Comment Period”

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