

### Hanford Air Operating Permit Renewal – Reopened!

The [Washington State Department of Ecology](#) (Ecology) is reopening the comment period for the Hanford Air Operating Permit (AOP). We held two comment periods on this permit last year and issued the permit on April 1, 2013.

Ecology is now inviting comments on the issued permit. We are holding this comment period because of potential confusion we may have caused in previous notifications sent to our mailing lists.

The permit, supporting documents, the previous draft permit, and the Response to Comments for the draft permit are available. (See “Online Access to Permit Information” in sidebar.)

#### About the Permit

This permit regulates the [U.S. Department of Energy \(USDOE\) Hanford site](#) in south-central Washington, north of Richland. USDOE is cleaning up wastes from making plutonium for the nation’s nuclear arsenal.

USDOE has two offices jointly applying for the permit. The Richland Operations Office has the lead. Its address is PO Box 500, Richland, WA 99352. The Office of River Protection’s address is PO Box 450, Richland, WA 99352.

State regulations for AOPs limit their duration to five years. Hanford still emits pollutants to the air and still requires a permit. The previous permit expired on December 31, 2011. The new permit was issued April 1, 2013, and remains in effect during this comment period.

Three agencies contribute underlying permits to the AOP.

- Ecology is the overall permitting authority and focuses on nonradioactive criteria and toxic air emissions.
- The [Washington State Department of Health](#) focuses on radioactive air emissions.
- The [Benton Clean Air Agency](#) focuses on outdoor burning and asbestos handling.

#### WHY IT MATTERS

The permit ensures Hanford’s air emissions stay within safe limits that protect people and the environment.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

June 30 – August 2, 2013

#### TO SUBMIT COMMENTS

Send comments or questions by e-mail (preferred), U.S. mail, or hand deliver them to:

Philip Gent  
3100 Port of Benton Blvd.  
Richland, WA 99354  
[Hanford@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Hanford@ecy.wa.gov)

#### PUBLIC HEARING

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

To request a hearing or for more information, contact:

Madeleine Brown  
800-321-2008  
[Hanford@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Hanford@ecy.wa.gov)

#### ONLINE ACCESS TO PERMIT INFORMATION

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/nw/p/commentperiods.htm>

#### SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

If you require special accommodations or need this document in a version for the visually impaired, call the Nuclear Waste Program at 509-372-7950.

Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability, call 877-833-6341.

Public Comment Period (Reopened)  
**Hanford's Air Operating Permit**  
June 30 – August 2, 2013

**How do you find the permit and supporting info?** You can find the permit and supporting information online at Ecology's Nuclear Waste Program [comment periods web page](#) (see page 1 sidebar for the full web address) and at the information repositories below.

**What's next?** When the comment period closes, we will consider the comments received and revise the permit as needed. Then we will issue the revised permit and another Response to Comments.



3100 Port of Benton Blvd  
Richland, WA 99354

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## Hanford's Public Information Repositories

University of Washington  
Suzzallo Library, Govt. Pubs Dept.  
Seattle, WA 98195  
Hilary Reinert (206) 543-5597  
Reinerth@uw.edu

Portland State University  
Government Information  
Branford Price Millar Library  
1875 SW Park Avenue  
Portland, OR 97207-1151  
Claudia Weston (503) 725-4542  
westonc@pdx.edu

Gonzaga University  
Foley Center Library  
502 East Boone Ave.  
Spokane, WA 99258  
John S. Spencer (509) 313-6110  
spencer@gonzaga.edu

Department of Ecology  
Nuclear Waste Program  
Resource Center  
3100 Port of Benton Boulevard  
Richland, WA 99354  
Valarie Peery (509) 372-7920  
Valarie.Peery@ecy.wa.gov

Washington State University  
Consolidated Information Center  
2770 Crimson Way  
Richland, WA 99352  
Janice Parthree (509) 372-7443  
Janice.parthree@pnnl.gov

Department of Energy  
Administrative Record  
2440 Stevens Drive, room 1101  
Richland, WA 99354  
Heather Childers (509) 376-2530  
Heather\_M\_Childers@rl.gov