



Publication No. 13-05-004

NUCLEAR WASTE PROGRAM
3100 PORT OF BENTON BLVD.
RICHLAND, WA 99354

Working with you for a better Washington.



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Ecology to revise the draft Hanford permit and put it out for public comment again

Greetings! You are receiving this message because of your interest in Hanford's Dangerous Waste Permit, or because you're on Hanford's mailing list. The permit is the state's tool to make sure the treatment, storage, and disposal of dangerous and mixed (both radioactive and chemically hazardous) waste meets our state's Dangerous Waste Regulations. It is how we make sure waste management operations for Hanford's cleanup are performed in a way that protects people and the environment.

The Department of Ecology held a comment period for the draft permit from May 1 through October 22, 2012, and received thousands of comments. We received new information and arguments during that period. They appear to raise substantial new questions about the permit. We have determined that changes needed to address these questions should get further public comment. As a result, Ecology will prepare a new draft permit and will put it out for public comment again. We do not have a firm schedule for this second round of public comments, but we expect a two-year effort to:

- Revise the permit based on comments we've received.
- Reopen the comment period, limited to comments on the sections we changed to address the substantial new questions.
- Address the public comments.
- Reissue the permit.

We're preparing a new Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document. Send your questions to Hanford@ecy.wa.gov, or call 800-321-2008, and we will answer them in the revised FAQ.

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