

Hanford Air Operating Permit

The [Washington State Department of Ecology](#) (Ecology) invites you to comment on proposed changes to the Hanford Air Operating Permit.

Ecology is incorporating new information into the permit. In particular, the [Washington State Department of Health](#) (Health) has issued a new radioactive air emissions license.

Also, since January 2012, Ecology has issued several “Notice of Construction” (NOC) approvals to the U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE), the permittee. Most of the approvals were for using diesel engines to continue cleanup work. For example, we approved NOCs to:

- Add a diesel-fired water heater for water used in tank waste retrievals.
- Make a temporary diesel engine permanent.
- Allow diesel-powered pumps to run longer for testing emergency equipment.
- Slightly raise ammonia limits from Hanford tank farms.

About the Permit

The Air Operating Permit regulates the [Hanford Site](#) in south-central Washington, north of Richland. USDOE is cleaning up wastes from making plutonium for the nation’s nuclear arsenal.

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

Three agencies contribute underlying permits to the Air Operating Permit.

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

WHY IT MATTERS

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

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

November 17 – December 20, 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

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

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
Hanford's Air Operating Permit
November 17 – December 20, 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 a Response to Comments.



3100 Port of Benton Blvd
Richland, WA 99354

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@pnml.gov

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