

# LERF and 200 Area ETF permit modification

## Adding a basin and waste transfer line from Hanford tank waste treatment system

### Public comment invited

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

This change affects the Dangerous Waste Portion for the Treatment, Storage, and Disposal of Dangerous Waste for the Liquid Effluent Retention Facility (LERF) and 200 Area Effluent Treatment Facility (ETF).

This permit modification would allow the addition of a liquid retention basin to LERF and a waste transfer line from the Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant (WTP) to LERF.

The permittees are:

U.S. Department of Energy  
Office of River Protection  
P.O. Box 450, MSIN: H6-60  
Richland, WA 99352

Washington River Protection Solutions  
P.O. Box 850, MSIN: H3-04  
Richland, WA 99352

We invite you to comment on this proposed LERF and 200 Area ETF Class 3 permit modification. The 45-day public comment period is from Feb. 22, 2021, through April 8, 2021.

This proposal includes changes to multiple sections of the permit, including:

- Unit-Specific Permit Conditions
- Addendum A, Part A Form
- Addendum B, Waste Analysis Plan
- Addendum C, Process Information

- Addendum F, Preparedness and Prevention
- Addendum I, Inspection Plan
- Addendum J, Contingency Plan/Facility Response Plan

### Background

The Hanford Site occupies 580 square miles in southeastern Washington State. Beginning in 1943, the site produced plutonium for the nation's defense program. Plutonium production ceased in the late 1980s. Today, waste management and environmental cleanup are the primary missions at Hanford.

The 200 Area ETF is located near the center of the Hanford Site in the 200 East Area. (See map on page 3.)

LERF and 200 Area ETF receive process wastewater from the 242-A Evaporator and other Hanford remediation and waste management activities. Wastewater from LERF is pumped to the 200 Area ETF for treatment to remove contaminants.

### Overview of changes

The improvements include:

- Construction of a fourth LERF basin, Basin 41.
- Adding a connection from the primary transfer line from WTP to LERF Basin 41.

Modifications to the permit addenda include:

- Increased storage and treatment capacity for LERF from the added Basin.
- Updated topographic map, showing Basin 41.

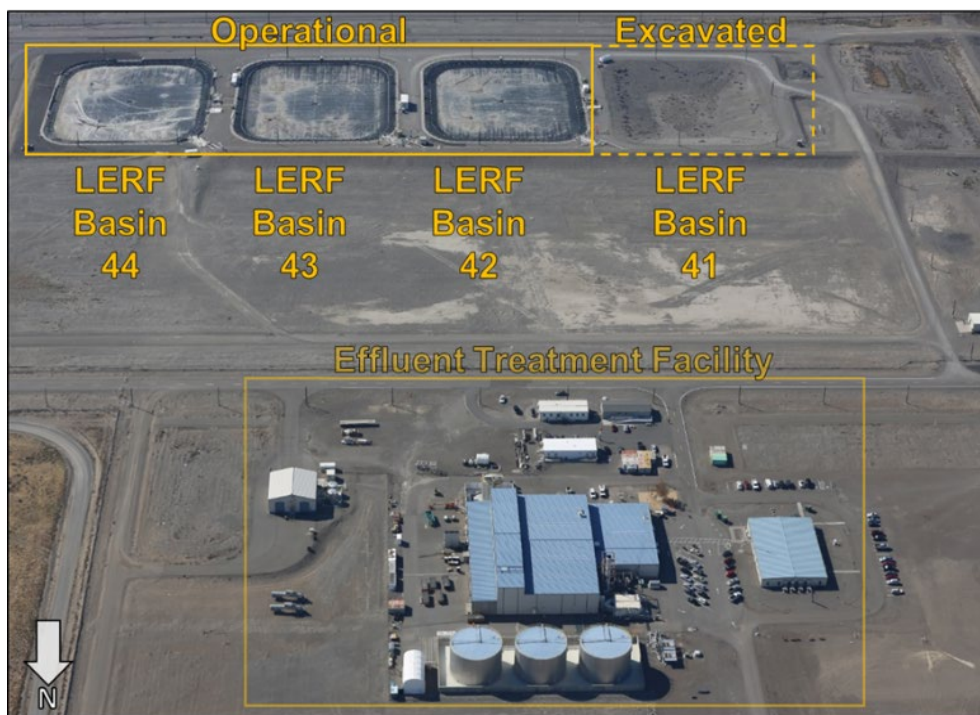
- Added references to Basin 41 for waste acceptance and process information related to the LERF Basins.
- Leak detection, inspection, preparedness and Prevention and Emergency response requirements for the additional basin.

Ecology added permit conditions that require the permittees to submit a permit modification for upgrading the leak detection system for the primary transfer line from WTP to LERF. The modification will include the installation of additional leak detectors along the transfer line.

The permittees will need to install the upgraded leak detection systems before transferring waste from WTP to LERF.

### Why this permit change matters

LERF and 200 Area ETF play a vital role in supporting Hanford’s Direct-Feed Low-Activity Waste program (DFLAW), which is an important part of the Hanford cleanup process. The proposed permit modifications will allow the permittees to construct and operate an additional LERF Basin (Basin 41) so that LERF can accept additional waste coming from WTP.



200 Area ETF and LERF with proposed Basin 41

### Reviewing the proposed changes

Ecology invites you to review and comment on this proposed LERF and 200 Area ETF permit modification. See Page 4 for comment period dates and information on how to submit comments.

Copies of the application for the proposed permit and supporting documentation will be available during the public comment period online at Ecology’s website at [Ecology.wa.gov/Waste-Toxics/Nuclear-waste/Public-comment-periods](https://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 next page.

Ecology will consider and respond to all significant comments received during the public comment period. We will document our responses and issue a response to comments document when we make our final permitting decision.

# Hanford's Information Repositories

Ecology Nuclear Waste Program  
Resource Center  
3100 Port of Benton Blvd.  
Richland, WA 99354  
509-372-7950

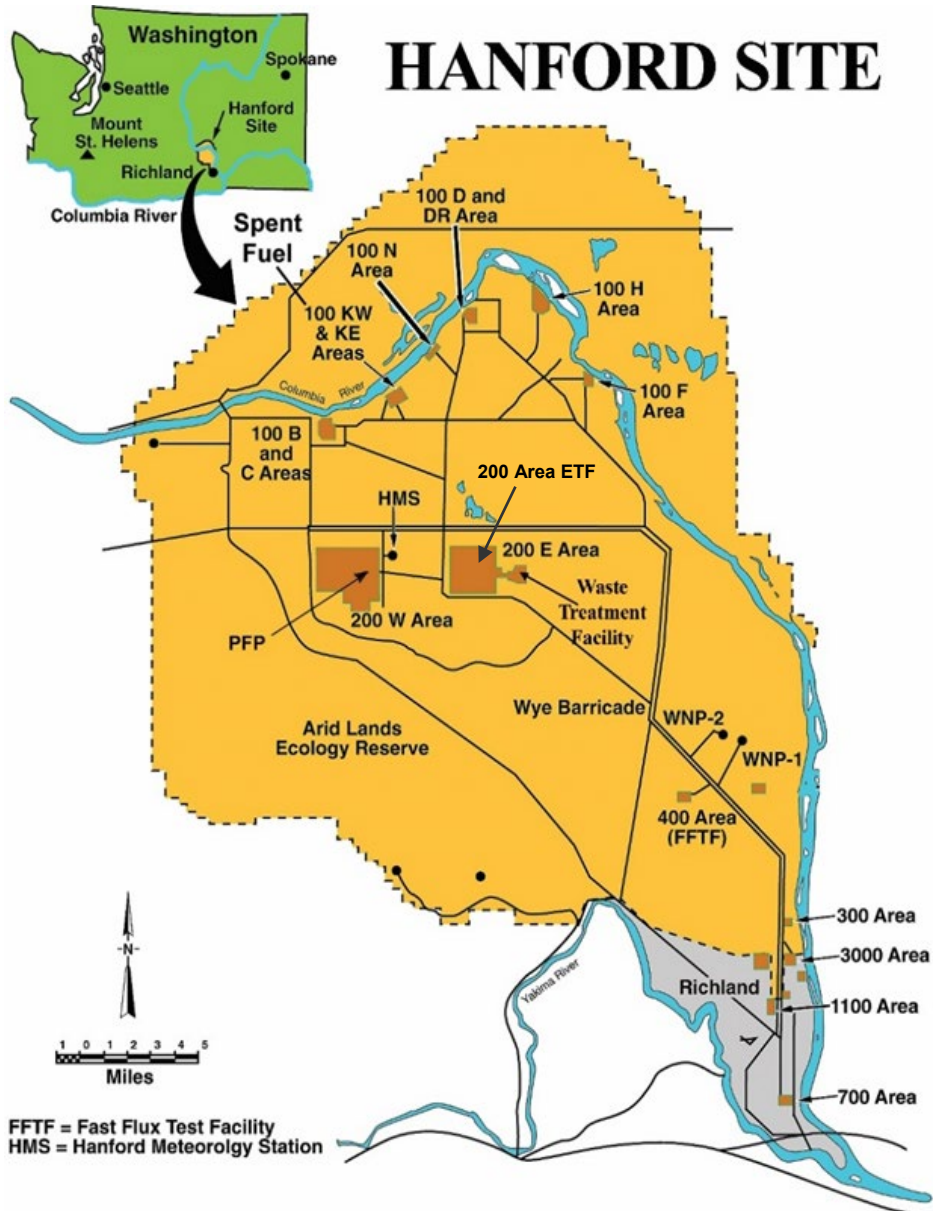
U.S. Department of Energy  
Administrative Record  
2440 Stevens Drive, Room 1101  
Richland, WA 99354  
509-376-2530

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

University of Washington  
Suzzallo Library  
P.O. Box 352900  
Seattle, WA 98195  
206-543-5597

Gonzaga University  
Foley Center  
502 E Boone Avenue  
Spokane, WA 99258  
509-313-6110

Portland State University  
Millar Library  
1875 SW Park Avenue  
Portland, OR 97207  
503-725-4542





3100 Port of Benton Blvd  
Richland WA 99354

## ***LERF and 200 Area ETF permit modification***

### **Public comment period Feb. 22 to Apr. 8, 2021**

Electronic submission (preferred):  
<http://nw.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=7FcUQ>

Mail or hand delivery

Daina McFadden  
3100 Port of Benton Blvd  
Richland, WA 99354

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:

Daina McFadden  
509 372 7950  
[Hanford@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Hanford@ecy.wa.gov)

To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 509 372 7950, email at [Daina.McFadden@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Daina.McFadden@ecy.wa.gov), or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>. For Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877 833 6341.