

242-A Evaporator Class 3 permit modification

New wall penetrations

- Public comment period Feb. 8 – Mar. 25, 2021.
- Modification proposes facility upgrades associated with accepting new waste transfer lines from the Double-Shell Tank (DST) System.
- Reclassified from a Class 2 to a Class 3 permit modification to allow public review of additional information.

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 242-A Evaporator.

The permittees are:

U.S. Department of Energy
Office of River Protection
P.O. Box 450
Richland, WA 99352

Washington River Protection Solutions
P.O. Box 850
Richland, WA 99352

This modification proposes allowing facility upgrades associated with the new waste transfer lines from the Double-Shell Tank (DST) System to the 242-A Evaporator. The original transfer lines failed pressure tests in 2018 and must be replaced. Specifically, this modification allows penetrating a wall to install the transfer lines and to perform modifications in the pump-room. These new transfer lines will allow 242-A Evaporator to continue to treat DST waste, reducing DST waste volume, and allowing for continued Single-Shell Tank waste retrievals.

The transfer lines themselves are administratively controlled by the DST system and are being built

under applicable interim status regulations.

Construction of the lines is not a part of this permit modification.

Background

The Hanford Site occupies 560 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.

Reclassifying to a Class 3 permit modification

Originally proposed as a Class 2 permit modification, USDOE-ORP and WRPS held a 60-day comment period from May 8, 2020, through July 7, 2020. Ecology received 13 public comments at that time. Responses to those comments are attached to this permit modification as a Response to Comments Document.

During the technical review for the Class 2 permit modification, Ecology requested the permittees submit the final independent qualified registered professional engineer (IQRPE) design assessment associated with the modification. Once received, Ecology performed a review and identified deficiencies with the assessment. Since the deficiencies were not resolved in time to approve the modification, Ecology reclassified the Class 2 permit modification to a Class 3 permit modification. In addition, Ecology felt that members of the public should have the opportunity to review the IQRPE design assessment with the draft permit modification. Reclassification of a Class 2 into a Class 3 permit modification requires an additional 45-day comment period.

IQRPE Design Assessments

Ecology is including the IQRPE design assessment as part of this permit modification for public review. In addition to the IQRPE design assessment, the draft permit documents from the original Class 2 permit

modification are included. All deficiencies identified by Ecology have been resolved. The IQRPE design assessment provide information on the integrity of the tank system for the 242-A Evaporator associated with the wall penetrations.



Figure 1 Sign in front of the 242-A Evaporator facility

Reviewing the proposed changes

Ecology invites you to review and comment on this proposed 242-A Evaporator Class 3 permit modification. See the back page 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

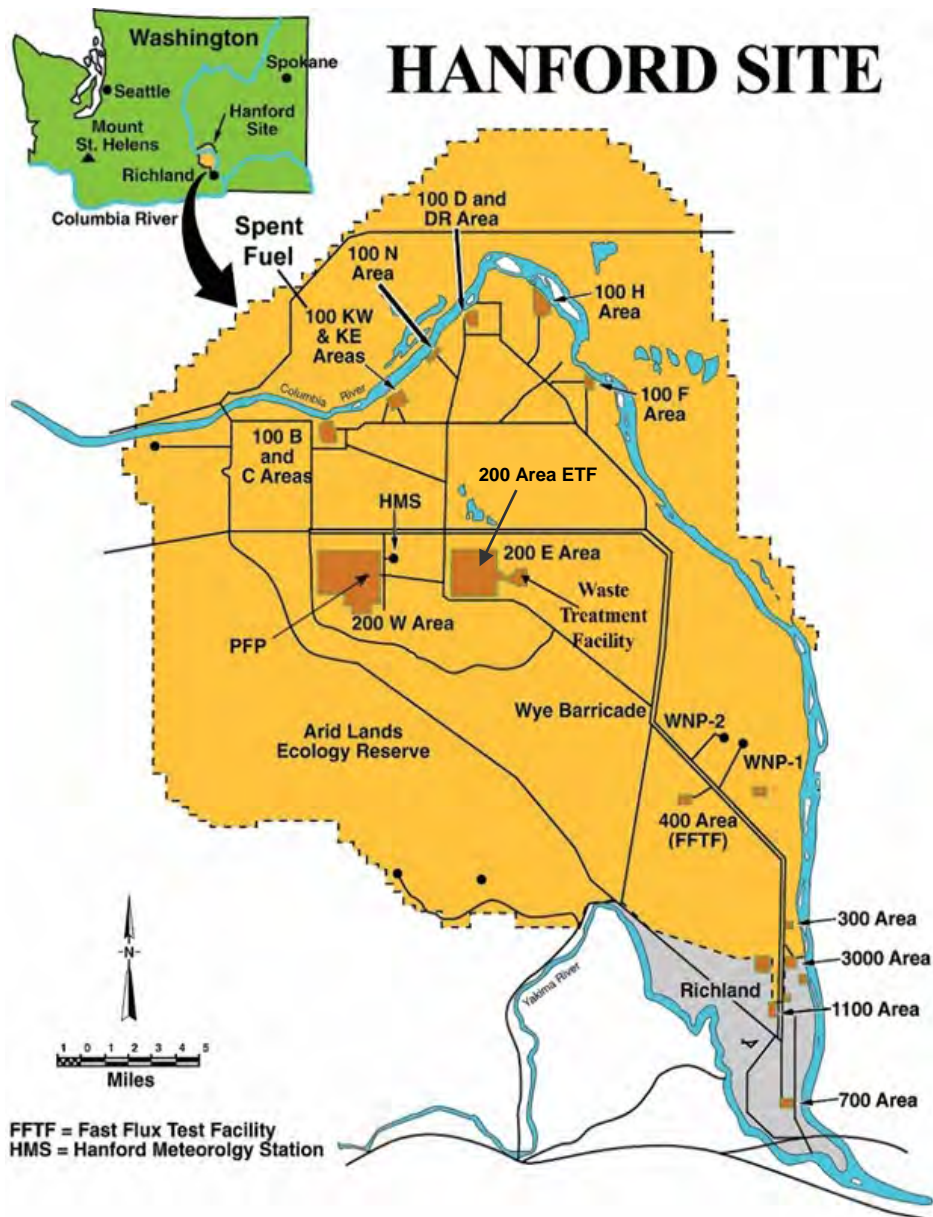
U.S. Department of Energy
Administrative Record
2440 Stevens Drive, Room 1101
Richland, WA 99354
509-376-2530

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

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Electronic submission (preferred):

http://nw.ecology.commentinput.com/?id_x2KU7

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

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