



# **Response to Comments 242-A Evaporator: Leak Detection Upgrades Class 2 Permit Modification**

**March 16 – May 14, 2022**

For the **Nuclear Waste Program**

Washington State Department of Ecology

Richland, Washington

July 2022, Publication 22-05-015



## Publication Information

This document is available on the Department of Ecology, [Nuclear Waste Program's Publication page](#).<sup>1</sup>

Ecology publishes this document to meet the requirements of [Washington Administrative Code 173-303-840\(9\)](#).

### Author

Andrew Pomiak, 242-A Evaporator Permit Lead

### Cover photo credit

Photo by Washington State Dept. of Ecology, July 26, 2020

## Contact Information

Daina McFadden  
Permit Communication Specialist  
Nuclear Waste Program  
3100 Port of Benton Blvd  
Richland, WA 99354  
Phone: 509-372-7950  
Email: [Hanford@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Hanford@ecy.wa.gov)

**Website<sup>2</sup>:** [Washington State Department of Ecology](#)

## ADA Accessibility

The Department of Ecology is committed to providing people with disabilities access to information and services by meeting or exceeding the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, and Washington State Policy #188.

To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 509-372-7950 or email at [Daina.McFadden@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Daina.McFadden@ecy.wa.gov). For Washington Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341. Visit Ecology's website for more information.

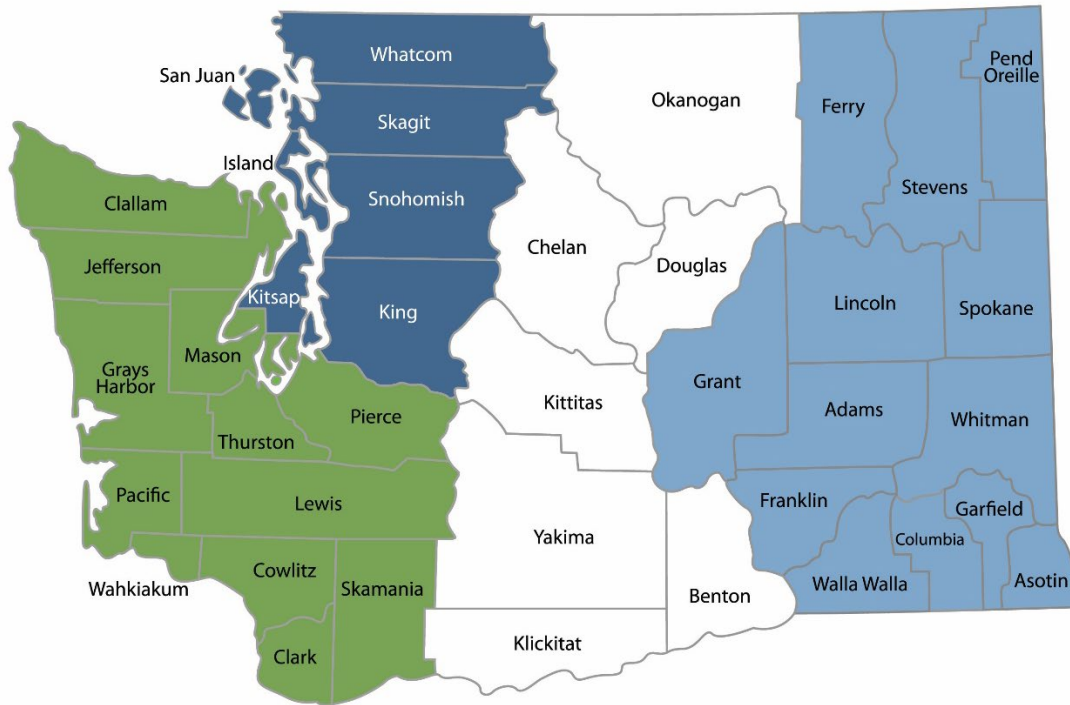
---

<sup>1</sup> <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/summarypages/2205015.html>

<sup>2</sup> [www.ecology.wa.gov/contact](http://www.ecology.wa.gov/contact)

# Department of Ecology's Regional Offices

## Map of Counties Served



<b>Southwest Region</b> 360-407-6300	<b>Northwest Region</b> 206-594-0000	<b>Central Region</b> 509-575-2490	<b>Eastern Region</b> 509-329-3400
---	---	---------------------------------------	---------------------------------------

Region	Counties Served	Mailing Address	Phone
<b>Southwest</b>	Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Mason, Lewis, Pacific, Pierce, Skamania, Thurston, Wahkiakum	PO Box 47775 Olympia, WA 98504	360-407-6300
<b>Northwest</b>	Island, King, Kitsap, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Whatcom	PO Box 330316 Shoreline, WA 98133	206-594-0000
<b>Central</b>	Benton, Chelan, Douglas, Kittitas, Klickitat, Okanogan, Yakima	1250 W Alder St Union Gap, WA 98903	509-575-2490
<b>Eastern</b>	Adams, Asotin, Columbia, Ferry, Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens, Walla Walla, Whitman	4601 N Monroe Spokane, WA 99205	509-329-3400
<b>Headquarters</b>	Across Washington	PO Box 46700 Olympia, WA 98504	360-407-6000

# Response to Comments 242-A Evaporator: Leak Detection Upgrades Class 2 Permit Modification

---

March 16 – May 14, 2022

Nuclear Waste Program  
Washington State Department of Ecology  
Richland, WA

July 2022 | Publication 22-05-015



DEPARTMENT OF  
**ECOLOGY**  
State of Washington

# Table of Contents

**Introduction ..... 6**

**Reasons for Issuing the Permit..... 7**

**Public Involvement Actions..... 7**

**List of Commenters ..... 8**

**Attachment 1: Comments and Responses**

**Appendix A. Copies of All Public Notices**

## Introduction

The Washington State Department of Ecology’s Nuclear Waste Program (Ecology) manages dangerous waste within the state by writing permits to regulate its treatment, storage, and disposal. When a new permit or a significant modification to an existing permit is proposed, Ecology holds a public comment period to allow the public to review the change and provide formal feedback. (See [Washington Administrative Code \[WAC\] 173-303-830](#) for types of permit changes.)

The Response to Comments is the last step before issuing the final permit, and its purpose is to:

- Specify which provisions, if any, of a permit will become effective upon issuance of the final permit, providing reasons for those changes.
- Describe and document public involvement actions.
- List and respond to all significant comments received during the public comment period and any related public hearings.

This Response to Comments is prepared for:

Comment period	242-A Evaporator: Leak Detection Upgrades Class 2 Permit Modification, March 16 – May 14, 2022
Permit	<i>Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Permit for the Treatment, Storage, and Disposal of Dangerous Waste, 242-A Evaporator</i>
Permittees	U.S. Department of Energy Washington River Protection Solutions
Original Issuance date	November 19, 1980
Effective date	August 13, 2022

To see more information related to the Hanford Site and nuclear waste in Washington, please visit our webpage, [Hanford Cleanup](#)<sup>3</sup>.

---

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.ecology.wa.gov/Hanford>

## Reasons for Issuing the Permit

This Class 2 permit modification upgrades the leak detection system for the 3"-EVAP\_COND-PC5000-M17 (PC-5000) and 3"-WTP-002-M17 (WTP Backup) waste transfer lines. These lines transfer process effluent from the 242-A Evaporator and the Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant (WTP) to the Liquid Effluent Retention Basins, respectively. Ecology required these upgrades in a prior permit modification dated June 28, 2021.

## Public Involvement Actions

The U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE) encouraged public comment on the Chapter 4.0, "Process Information;" Chapter 6.0, "Procedures to Prevent Hazards;" Permit Conditions, and supporting documents during a 60-day public comment period held March 16 – May 14, 2022.

The following actions were taken to notify the public:

- Mailed a public notice announcing the comment period to 1,005 members of the public.
- Placed a public announcement legal classified advertisement in the Tri-City Herald on March 15, 2022.
- Emailed a notice announcing the start of the comment period to the Hanford-Info email list, which has 1,284 recipients.
- Posted the comment period notice on the Washington Department of Ecology – Hanford's Facebook and Twitter pages.

USDOE held a virtual public meeting at 5:30 p.m. April 12, 2022. Fifteen members of the public attended, and no comments were collected.

The Hanford information repositories located in Richland, Spokane, and Seattle, Washington, and Portland, Oregon, received the following documents for public review:

- Focus sheet
- Transmittal letter
- Statement of Basis for the proposed 242-A Evaporator Permit Modification
- Draft 242-A Evaporator Permit Modification

The following public notices for this comment period are in [Appendix A](#) of this document:

- Focus sheet
- Classified advertisement in the Tri-City Herald
- Notices sent to the Hanford-Info email list
- Notices posted on the Washington Department of Ecology – Hanford's Facebook and Twitter pages

## List of Commenters

The table below lists the names of organizations or individuals who submitted a comment on the 242-A Evaporator: Leak Detection Upgrades Class 2 Permit modification. The comments and responses are in [Attachment 1](#).

Commenter	Organization
Steven Lowe	Citizen



# Attachment 1: Comments and Responses

## **Description of comments:**

Ecology accepted comments from March 16 through May 14, 2022. This section provides a summary of comments that we received during the public comment period and our responses, as required by RCW 34.05.325(6)(a)(iii). Comments are grouped by individual and each comment is addressed separately.

## **I-1: STEVEN LOWE**

### **Comment I-1-1**

#### Item

Permit Condition III.4.C.4

#### Comment

The permittee added the words “end of line” which limits the permit condition to just those two leak detectors, which was not the intent. The permit condition applies to all the leak detectors. All the leak detectors must be maintained and operated continuously (subject to the limitations in Ch 4 of the permit about how no more than two leak detectors may be out of service and not two adjacent leak detectors).

#### Required Change

Delete the words “end of line.”

### **Response to I-1-1**

*Ecology has reviewed the permit condition and proposed changes. This permit condition was originally written only for the end of line leak detection systems. In order to ensure consistency with the Liquid Effluent Management Facility's conditions, and to maintain initial intent, no changes to the permit condition were made based on this comment.*

*Operation of the in-line leak detection systems are described in Chapter 4.0, Process Information. Limitations, boundaries, and alarm responses are described in Section 4.1.7.3. Since it is not clear in this section that the permittees must maintain in service in-line leak detectors, subject to the limitations in Section 4.1.7.3, the department inserted the following paragraph:*

*"The permittees must maintain and operate the in-line leak detectors for PC-5000 and WTP backup transfer line continuously during transfers, except during conditions outlined below."*

### **Comment I-1-2**

#### Item

Permit Condition III.4.C.4.a

#### Comment

The permit condition says: “If the electronic leak detection system LDS-41-5 or LDE-43-2 is not operational for transfers to the LERF...” This needs to be clarified as the permit condition is about when to use the sight glasses. Elsewhere the text refers to these as end of line leak detectors, and the word “either” should be added.

#### Required Change

Revise to say “If either end of line leak detector LDS-41-5 or LDE-43-2 is not operational for transfers to the LERF...”

## **Response to I-1-2**

*Ecology agrees. However, in order to be consistent with the other permit conditions the permit condition will still reference the "leak detection systems" rather than "leak detectors". The new permit condition III.4.C.4.a is written as:*

*"If either electronic leak detection system LDS-41-5 or LDE-43-2 is not operational for transfers to the LERF, visual inspection shall be employed at the corresponding LERF Catch Basin 242AL-41 or 242AL-43 sight glass once per shift, during transfers. For LERF Basin 41, the sight glass is FG-60M-002; for LERF Basin 43, the sight glass is FG-60M-001."*

## **Comment I-1-3**

### Item

Permit Condition III.4.C.4.b

### Comment

The permit condition says: "Ecology must be notified if either electronic leak detection system for transfers to LERF Basin 41 or Basin 43 are not operational for more than 90 days..." This is incorrectly referring to the entire leak detection system. The intent was that Ecology be notified if individual leak detectors are not operational for more than 90 days.

### Required Change

Change to say "Ecology must be notified if any leak detectors for transfers to LERF Basin 41 or Basin 43 are not operational for more than 90 days."

## **Response to I-1-3**

*III.4.C.4 specifically references the end of line leak detectors and the subordinate permit condition should be consistent in only referencing the end of line leak detectors.*

*This should also remain consistent with the LERF/ETF agreed condition which reads: "The department must be notified if the electronic leak detection system is out of service for more than 90 days. This notification must include a schedule for repairing and returning the system to service within 90 days from notification, or longer if approved by the department."*

*Recommend language remain as-is for III.4.C.4.b: "Ecology must be notified if either electronic leak detection system for transfers to LERF Basin 41 or Basin 43 are not operational for more than 90 days. This notification must include a schedule for repairing and returning the system to service within 90 days from notification, or longer if approved by the Department."*

## **Comment I-1-4**

### Item

Permit Condition III.4.C.4.e

### Comment

The permittee proposed a permit condition that says:

“The permittee shall submit to Ecology a report listing what are determined to be false leak detector alarms for LDA-049, LDA-044, LDA-031, LDA-001, LDA006, and LDA-015, and the instrument number of the leak detector that alarmed (LDE-049, LDE-044, LDE-031, LDE-001, LDE-006 and or LDE-015). The report shall be submitted no later than 15 months after Ecology accepts the installation of the new leak detectors. The report shall include the permittee conclusion if false alarms occurred due to condensate. The report shall be submitted annually until DOE can demonstrate that false alarms due to condensate are not impacting the use and reliability of the system.”

The proposed permit condition doesn't include the end of line leak detectors LDS-41-5 and LDE-43-2.

The report needs to say which leak detectors alarmed at what time, and what operations were occurring then.

The permit condition does not require advance testing by operating the leak detection system when there are no transfers occurring to see if condensation issues only occur during waste transfers, which would indicate a leak from the primary line is the cause of the alarm.

The permit condition as written allows the permittee to stop submitting annual reports when the permittee demonstrates that false alarms due to condensate are not impacting the use and reliability of the system. That change requires a Class 1' permit mod and is subject to Ecology approval [WAC 173-303-830 Appendix I item A.8]. Refer to the Sitewide permit condition for permit modifications.

Further, it is inappropriate for the permittee to write their own permit conditions. Writing permit conditions is an Ecology responsibility [-815(2)(a)].

#### Required Change

Delete the permit condition proposed by the permittee.

\*\*\*\*\*

Add a new permit condition III.4.C.1.e that says: “The permittee shall operate the upgraded leak detection system and all the leak detectors continuously for 30 days prior to start of the first cold run to confirm proper operation of the system and see if false alarms occur due to condensation. The permittee shall submit to Ecology, within 30 days of completion of the test, a letter report with the results.”

\*\*\*\*\*

Add a new permit condition III.4.C.1.f that says: “The permittee shall submit to Ecology a letter report listing all the leak detector alarms for the PC-5000 line and WTP-002 line. The report shall say which leak detectors alarmed at what time, what operations were occurring then, what was done to investigate the cause of the alarm, and the results of the investigation. The report shall be submitted quarterly for one year after the start of the first cold run, and then annually thereafter, until a permit modification request is approved by Ecology which includes a demonstration that false alarms due to condensate are not impacting the use and reliability of the system.”

## **Response to I-1-4**

1. Permit condition III.4.C.3.a is consistent with the condition proposed and agreed to in ERF/ETF leak detection modification.

2. The intent of the permit condition is to evaluate the in-line leak detection system for false alarms resulting from condensate as they are new equipment. The end-of-line leak detection systems are out of scope for this permit modification.

3 and 4. Ecology reached out to the permittees for a response on the report including which leak detectors alarmed at what time, and what operations were occurring then. The permittees stated:

*"During transfer operations, signals from the leak detection system will be responded to in a manner that protects the environment and workers. Outside of operational times, it may prove to be difficult to pinpoint the exact cause of alarms due to power cycling and maintenance activities that are not attributable to leak detection system malfunctions.*

*The Permittee intends to operate the new leak detection system prior to transferring waste for the purpose of ensuring instrumentation is functioning properly."*

*Additionally, the reports required by III.4.C.3.a and III.4.C.5 will give the department data to determine correlations with false alarms. Review of these reports, and subsequent discussion with the permittees, will give a good understanding of the use and reliability of the system.*

*The permittee intends to operate the in-line leak detection system prior to transferring waste. General permit condition I.E.12 requires the permittees to submit a certification that the install was conducted in compliance with the permit. Also, permit condition III.4.C.1.d requires the system be operational prior to transfers of waste. These, along with the limitations in Chapter 4.0, Process Information, ensure the system is reliable.*

*No changes were made to this condition based on the comment.*

5. Ecology agrees that a permit modification will be required to remove the report requirement. Consistent with permit condition III.4.C.5, Ecology added "Ecology must agree to a permit modification to delete this requirement."

6. Ecology agrees that the permittee does not write the approved permit conditions. Permittees propose changes to the permit conditions, and Ecology approves those, with or without changes. Ecology write the permit conditions that are approved.

## **Comment I-1-5**

### Item

Permit Condition III.4.C.1.a

### Comment

The permit condition III.4.C.1.a requires the permittee to install a leak detector in the caisson. Instead, the permittee is installing a leak detector in the PC-5000 and WTP-002 lines upstream of the caisson and saying that is the same thing. The permit mod also fails to say that the floor

of the caisson slopes away from where those lines connect to the caisson to the opposite side where the PC-5000 line exits the caisson. As a result, those upstream leak detectors are unable to detect any leaks from the valves and line connections which originate inside the caisson. A leak in the caisson would not be detected until it flowed some distance down the encasement of the PC-5000 line to the next leak detector. However, that leak detector now may not even be operating as this permit change allows for up to two leak detectors to be shut down and waste transfers may still continue.

#### Required Change

Provide a leak detector inside the caisson, as required by the permit. The design needs to be revised, the fact sheet updated and published online, and the public comment period needs to be extended by a minimum of 30 days. Otherwise the public needs to know the design does not comply with the permit.

#### **Response to I-1-5**

*Permit condition III.4.C.1.a states, "The upgrades must include the installation of additional leak detectors along the PC-5000 and 3"-WTP-002-M17 lines, and in the caisson MH-WTP-01." The new leak detection system in the permit modification includes two leak detectors that will be accessed by the caisson MH-WTP-01. The sensors and cables will be installed from the caisson. Additionally, the permittee has stated that the caisson secondary containment extends upstream, where the leak detection elements will be installed. This fulfills permit condition III.4.C.1.a.*

*Ecology has reviewed the design and operation of the caisson and leak detectors, and has determined that it fulfills the secondary containment requirement for detecting leaks at the earliest practicable time. Though true, that a leak in the caisson would not be detected by upstream elements, and the nearest downstream element may be OOS per Chapter 4.0, Process Information, Section 4.1.7.3, the department has concluded the design and operation fulfills the requirements of WAC 173-303-640(4)(c)(iii).*

*No changes were made based on this comment.*

#### **Comment I-1-6**

##### Item

Temporary Authorization Request 22-ECD-000379

##### Comment

The permittee requested a temporary authorization on 3/14/2022 to allow installation and functional testing of the 242-A Evaporator leak detection upgrades in advance of approval of this permit mod. That was two days before the start of the public comment period (3/16/2022) for the permit change. In the request, the permittee claimed (1) that some cold runs that are needed to support readiness assessment of the 242-A Evaporator would otherwise be delayed, and (2) that waste retrieval from the AX SSTs would be delayed. Both these claims later proved to be incorrect. The permittee themselves delayed the cold runs by six months, and AX retrievals are proceeding on schedule. Ecology approved the temporary authorization request

by letter 22-NWP-050 to allow installation of the leak detectors. All this was done without public input. There was no mention of the temporary authorization request on the public comment web page, nothing in the fact sheet, and nothing in the USDOE public presentation. The only way the public would even know about the temporary authorization is if they happened to see the letters in the administrative record. Further, if there are now significant public comments on the permit mod that require design changes, the permittee may have to un-do work already completed, or Ecology may have to accept a non-compliant system.

#### Required Change

When the design is revised to provide a leak detector in the caisson, the fact sheet needs to be updated to inform the public about the temporary authorization request.

#### **Response to I-1-6**

*Ecology received the temporary authorization request and permit modification request on March 14, 2022. The temporary authorization was granted in letter 22-NWP-050 from Ecology to the permittees, dated March 23, 2022. The public comment period started on March 16, 2022 to allow Ecology time to process the incoming documents.*

*The department may grant the permittees temporary authorization without prior public notice or comment, according to Washington Administrative Code 173-303-830(4)(e). Since the request was granted after the start of the public comment period and the permittees provided notice to the mailing list, as required by WAC 173-303-830(4)(e)(ii)(C), the temporary authorization was requested and granted following all applicable regulatory requirements.*

*Claim (1) of the temporary authorization request is still true. Any delay in the install or assessment of the new leak detection system would delay the readiness assessment. The schedule of conducting cold runs may change, but the impact of issuing this permit modification will impact that schedule.*

*The 242-A Evaporator has been determined to be a critical path facility, and any delay of its operation and availability would impact single-shell tank retrievals. Though the operations schedule for AX retrieval has remained the same, that does not mean that a delay in 242-A Evaporator availability would not delay further AX retrievals. Claim (2) is still true.*

*Additionally, requesting a temporary authorization, and subsequent approval, contains inherent risk for the permittee. Upon approval, the permittee may begin construction or operation of the newly modified tank system, according to limitations in the temporary authorization. If subsequent permit modification to codify the changes into the permit are different than those approved in the temporary authorization, because of public comment, the permittee risks needing to redesign or reinstall the changes.*

*Ecology is approving the modification with changes, in accordance with WAC 173-303-830(4)(a)(vi)(B)(I). The permittees must construct and operate the upgraded leak detection in accordance with this permit. Additionally, by dint of WAC 173-303 requirements, the department cannot permit non-compliant tank systems unless otherwise directed by enforcement actions.*

*No changes were made based on this comment.*

## Appendix A. Copies of All Public Notices

Public notices for this comment period:

- Focus sheet
- Classified advertisement in the Tri-City Herald
- Notices sent to the Hanford-Info email list
- Notices posted on Washington Department of Ecology – Hanford’s Facebook and Twitter pages





### Comment Period

March 16 – May 14, 2022

### Virtual Public Meeting

April 12, 5:30 p.m. PT  
(see page 3 for details)

### Send comments by May 14 to

<https://nw.ecology.commentingp.ut.com/?id=kbUAg>

### Administrative Record:

<https://pdw.hanford.gov/document/AR-18482>

### Contact Information

Jennifer Colborn, Hanford  
Missions Integration Solutions  
(509) 528-6687  
jennifer\_m\_colborn@rl.gov

Daina McFadden, Washington  
State Department of Ecology  
(509) 372-7950  
Hanford@ecy.wa.gov



The 242 A Evaporator facility

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is holding a 60-day public comment period on a proposed Class 2 permit modification to the Hanford Dangerous Waste Permit, “242-A Evaporator” chapter. This proposed permit modification addresses 242-A Evaporator Unit Specific Permit Conditions III.4.C.1, III.4.C.1.a and III.4.C.1.b. These conditions require submittal of a permit modification for the installation of leak-detection upgrades to the 3”-EVAP\_COND-PC5000-M17 (PC-5000) and 3”-WTP-002-M17 (WTP Backup) waste transfer lines. These permit conditions were added by a prior permit modification dated June 28, 2021.

### Background

The Hanford Site is located in southeastern Washington state along the Columbia River. The 580-square-mile site was created in 1943 as part of the Manhattan Project to produce plutonium for the nation’s defense program. Today, waste management and environmental cleanup are the main missions at Hanford.

The DOE and its contractor Washington River Protection Solutions are requesting a Class 2 modification to 242-A Evaporator operating unit group of the Hanford Dangerous Waste Permit. The 242-A Evaporator facility is a mixed-waste treatment and storage unit that concentrates the liquid portion of double-shell tank waste. The facility is located in the 200 East Area of the Hanford Site (see map).



## 242-A Evaporator

The 242-A Evaporator is centrally located in the Hanford Site's 200 East Area. Since its construction in 1977, the evaporator has removed more than 81 million gallons of liquid from Hanford's tank waste. The 242-A Evaporator boils liquid tank waste to evaporate water to reduce the volume of waste stored in Hanford's underground tanks. Waste volume reduction is also critical for single-shell tank (SST) waste retrievals to double-shell tanks (DST). In order to meet consent decree milestones, DST space availability is a key factor in continuing SST retrievals. The evaporator is currently shut down for facility upgrades to prepare for future waste volume-reduction campaigns.

### Overview

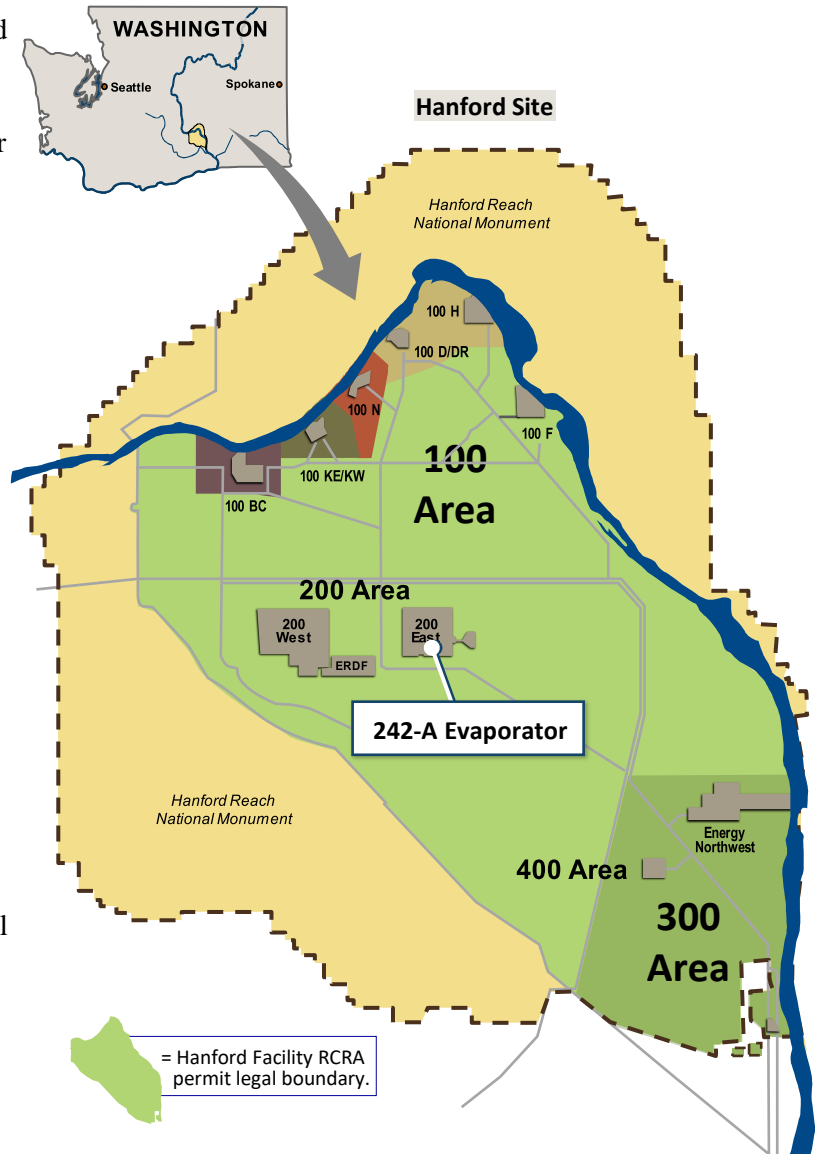
The Hanford Dangerous Waste Permit establishes requirements to ensure that waste management activities protect human health and the environment. DOE is proposing a Class 2 permit modification pursuant to [WAC 173-303-830](#), which requires a 60-day comment period, a public meeting, a newspaper notice, and a mailing list notice. This fact sheet is the mailing notice.

### Summary of Changes

If approved, the modification would allow DOE to install additional leak detectors in the 242-A Evaporator waste transfer lines.

### Permit Chapters Affected by this Modification

- Unit Specific Conditions
- Chapter 4.0, "Process Information"
- Chapter 6.0, "Procedures to Prevent Hazards"



Upgrades are underway to the transfer lines that connect the 242 A Evaporator to the 200 East Area tank farms



Rear view of the 242 A Evaporator in the 200 East Area

### Public Involvement

A 60-day public comment period will begin March 16 and continue through May 14, 2022. A virtual public meeting will be held April 12, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. PT on Microsoft Teams, and will include a presentation introducing the 242-A Evaporator modification for waste transfer line leak-detection upgrades. During the virtual meeting, you can view the presentation, hear the speakers and ask your questions. To participate, follow the instructions below:

**Join on your computer or Teams mobile app**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

<https://bit.ly/3IP3TSF>

**Join with a video conferencing device**

[197920091@teams.bjn.vc](mailto:197920091@teams.bjn.vc)

Video Conference ID: 117 565 598 6

**Or call in (audio only)**

(509) 931-1284 United States

(833) 633-0875 United States (Toll-free)

Phone Conference ID: 480 292 827#

All comments must be submitted by May 14, 2022, in writing, by mail or electronically (preferred) to:

Washington State Department of Ecology

3100 Port of Benton Boulevard

Richland, WA 99354

<https://nw.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=kbUAg> (preferred)

At the conclusion of the public comment period, the Washington State Department of Ecology will address public comments and issue a final permit.

Copies of the proposed plan and supporting documentation will be available online during the public comment period on the Hanford public involvement website at <https://go.usa.gov/xVmew>, in the Administrative Record at <https://pdw.hanford.gov/document/AR-18482>, and in the Hanford Public Information Repositories at <https://go.usa.gov/xVDTS>.

The permittee's compliance history during the life of the permit being modified is available from the Washington State Department of Ecology contact person.

*Please contact Jennifer Colborn, at [Jennifer M. Colborn@rl.gov](mailto:Jennifer.M.Colborn@rl.gov) or (509) 528-6687, at least 10 working days prior to the event to request disability accommodation. DOE makes every effort to honor disability accommodation requests.*



Jennifer Colborn  
P.O. Box 450, H6-60  
Richland, WA 99352

Daina McFadden  
3100 Port of Benton Boulevard  
Richland, WA 99354



## Public Involvement Opportunity



### Comment Period:

March 16 – May 14, 2022

Public Meeting: April 12, 5:30 p.m. PT (see page 3 for details)



# Dash-cam video shows Pasco driver slam police car then nearly hit elderly pedestrian

BY CAMERON PROBERT  
cprobert@tricityherald.com

PASCO, WA

Pasco police are searching for the woman who was driving an SUV that hit a police car and then nearly ran over an elderly pedestrian.

Officer Brad Leininger spotted the expired tags on the Hyundai Sante Fe at 5:50 p.m. Thursday near 20th Avenue and Court Street, according to

Pasco police's Facebook. Leininger had his K9 partner, Zador, riding with him at the time.

The Pasco police officer signaled for the driver to pull over, and dash cam video shows her pulling into a parking lot and stopping.

The video, shared on the department's Facebook page, shows Leininger using a light to look into the back window. Then the driver suddenly puts the SUV into reverse, rams the

police car and then takes off.

She hops the curb and drives away. Along the way, she nearly hit a pedestrian walking on the sidewalk.

Anyone with information on the driver is asked to call the non-emergency dispatch number at 509-628-0333.

Cameron Probert:  
509-416-6478,  
@cameronprobert



In this photo released by Ukrainian State Emergency Service press service, firefighters evacuate an elderly woman from an apartment building hit by shelling Monday in Kyiv, Ukraine.

FROM PAGE 1A

## UKRAINE

Previous discussions, held in person in Belarus, produced no lasting humanitarian routes or agreements to end the fighting.

Overall, nearly all of the Russian offensives remained stalled on Monday after making little progress over the weekend, according to a senior U.S. defense official who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the Pentagon's assessment. Russian troops were still about 9 miles from the center of Kyiv, the official said.

The official said that Russian President Vladimir Putin's forces have launched more than 900 missiles but that Ukraine's airspace is still contested, with Russia not achieving total air superiority.

Overnight, air raid alerts sounded in cities and towns around the country, from near the Russian border in the east to the Carpathian Mountains in the west, and fighting continued on the outskirts of Kyiv. Ukrainian officials said Russian forces shelled several suburbs of the capital.

Ukrainian authorities said two people were killed when the Russians struck an airplane factory in Kyiv, sparking a large fire. The Antonov factory is Ukraine's largest aircraft manufacturing plant and is best known for producing many of the world's biggest cargo planes.

Russian artillery fire also hit a nine-story apartment building in the northern Obolonskyi district of the city, killing two more people, authorities said. Firefighters worked to rescue survivors, painstakingly carrying an injured woman on a stretcher away from the blackened and smoking building.

And a Russian airstrike near a Ukrainian checkpoint caused extensive damage to a downtown Kyiv neighborhood, killing one person, Ukraine's emergency agency said.

Kateryna Lot said she was in her apartment as her child did homework when they heard a loud explosion and ran to take shelter.

"The child became hysterical. Our windows

and the balcony were shattered. Part of the floor fell down," she said. "It was very, very scary."

A town councilor for Brovary, east of Kyiv, was killed in fighting there, officials said. Shells also fell on the Kyiv suburbs of Irpin, Bucha and Hostomel, which have seen some of the worst fighting in Russia's stalled attempt to take the capital, local authorities said.

Airstrikes were reported across the country, including the southern city of Mykolaiv, and the northern city of Chernihiv, where heat was knocked out to most of the town. Explosions also reverberated overnight around the Russian-occupied Black Sea port of Kherson.

Nine people were killed in a rocket attack on a TV tower in the western village of Antopol, according to the region's governor.

In the eastern city of Kharkiv, firefighters doused the smoldering remains of a four-story residential building. It was unclear whether there were casualties.

In the southern city of Mariupol, where the war has produced some of the greatest suffering, the city council didn't say how many people were in the convoy of cars headed westward for the city of Zaporizhzhia. But it said a cease-fire along the route appeared to be holding.

Previous attempts to evacuate civilians and deliver humanitarian aid to the city of 430,000 were thwarted by continuing fighting.

The U.N. has recorded at least 596 civilian deaths since Russia invaded Ukraine on Feb. 24, though it believes the true toll is much higher. Millions more have fled their homes, with more than 2.8 million crossing into Poland and other neighboring countries in what the U.N. has called Europe's biggest refugee crisis since World War II.

## DEATHS

### KOAH B. KAOS ZELTNER

Koah Bear Kaos Zeltner, 18 days, died March 8 at Kadlec Regional Medical Center in Richland.

He was born in Kennewick to Cheyenne R.N. Goessling and James C. Zeltner of Burbank.

Hillcrest Funerals and Cremation, Pasco, is in charge of arrangements.

### WILEY A. YEAKY

Wiley Anderson Yeakey, 64, of Benton City, died March 1 at Kadlec Regional Medical Center in Richland.

He was born in Rolla, Mo., and lived in the Tri-Cities for 35 years.

He was a quality assurance

inspector.

Hillcrest Funerals and Cremation, Pasco, is in charge of arrangements.

### MICHAEL B. DEITCHLER

Michael Byron Deitchler, 72, of Kennewick, died March 2 at Trios Southridge Hospital in Kennewick.

He was born in Denver, Colo., and lived in the Tri-Cities for 45 years.

He was the retired owner and operator of Chelsea Express Trucking Co.

Hillcrest Funerals and Cremation, Kennewick, is in charge of arrangements.

### MAXEY MILTON

Maxey Milton, 72, of Zillah, died March 10 in Yakima.

He was born in Chelan, Wash.

He was a longtime Zillah resident.

He was a janitor and a handy man.

Smith Funeral Home, Sunny-side, is in charge of arrangements.

### JERRY L. BLAIR

Jerry Lawrence Blair, 84, of Prosser, died March 4 at From the Heart hospice facility in Kennewick.

He was born in Pasco and was a lifelong resident of Prosser.

He was a farm hand and trucker and the former owner/operator of a trucking business.

Prosser Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.



BOB BRAWDY bbrawdy@tricityherald.com

A No Trespassing sign for the Lewis and Clark Ranch stands on Ruppert Road near the intersection of Keene Road in West Richland. Applications have been submitted to the City of West Richland for amendments to update land use and zoning designations for the Lewis and Clark Ranch.

FROM PAGE 1A

## DEVELOPMENT

square-miles the city limits covers.

The 750-acre portion that will be developed first is expected to be a mix of residential and commercial development. That area is nearest Ruppert Road and Highway 224.

"We're anticipating about 3,000 homes, single-family and multifamily, in that 750 acres.

There's also a commercial area about the same size as Queensgate (in Richland) that's being proposed," Community Development Director Eric Mendenhall said.

Recently the city submitted paperwork to Washington state to begin the process of shifting the 7,700 acres from "urban transition" zoning to specific use zoning districts such as residential and commercial.

Mendenhall said that as the city was looking at possibilities for the 750 acre area, it became clear they needed to look at the entire undeveloped tract in order to get a clearer picture of what future infrastructure is needed.

By doing so, they can have a plan ready to work with developers to get transit, water, sewage and other essentials into place.

How the initial 750 acres is built out will inform future growth and development plans.

"It's very much a partnership with developers, so we are working with them and sharing costs for the planning effort and then as far as the role of infrastructure, when this

all gets built out it will be on the developers to build out to carry the costs for roads, water, sewer," he said.

Tiegs said he expects the development to follow a similar trajectory to his Red Mountain properties. He anticipates between 30 and 40 developers will participate in the expansion.

Homebuilding has exploded in recent years in West Richland due to the availability of lots ready to be built on, according to the Homebuilder's Association of the Tri-Cities. In 2021, West Richland surpassed Kennewick in the number of permits requested for new home builds for the third most in the Tri-Cities after Richland and Pasco.

### THE PROCESS

The first step in the process is an environmental impact study, and a period for public comments.

The feedback period runs through March 25, with a public meeting set for 6 p.m. Thursday, March 17, at the West Richland Police Station, 7920 W. Van Giesen St., in the community room.

Mendenhall said the meeting will give the city an opportunity to discuss the long-term vision of the project, and allow residents to ask questions.

He said it's rare for a city to have so much room to grow and that inevitably leads to concerns from neighbors.

He wants residents to

know that while the city is going to expand, this isn't a project that will happen overnight.

He said with the initial 750 acres is being viewed as a 10-year plan, while developing the entire 7,700-plus acres could take 50 to 100 years.

"West Richland has a fresh start here to grow and to plan for this. We're really trying to look at it in a holistic way ...," Mendenhall said.

"We want to be taking a look at the entire piece, how it all comes together and how we plan for that as best as we can today," he said. "Fifty years from now people could be flying around in Jetson vehicles, we just don't know but we're doing our best to plan ahead."

### NEXT STEPS


Once the scoping is done for the land use designations, Mendenhall said the city will host a "Public Visioning Charrette" with stakeholders in May when they attempt to resolve problems and map out solutions.

Throughout the rest of the year, West Richland officials will be working on development plans, with a draft plan expected about a year from now.

After commenting on that draft plan is done, the city will move to finalize it, and have the land ready to begin being developed in Summer 2023.

Cory McCoy covers housing and development for the Tri-City Herald. If you have information about businesses opening or closing in the area, let him know at cmccoy@tricityherald.com

## THE HANFORD SITE



**Class 2 Permit Modification to the Hanford Dangerous Waste Permit**  
PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: March 16 – May 14, 2022

The U.S. Department of Energy is holding a 60-day public comment period on a proposed Class 2 permit modification to the Hanford Dangerous Waste Permit, "242-A Evaporator" chapter. This proposed permit modification addresses 242-A Evaporator Unit Specific Permit Conditions III.4.C.1, III.4.C.1.a and III.4.C.1.b. These conditions require submittal of a permit modification for the installation of leak-detection upgrades to the 3"-EVAP\_COND-PC5000-M17 (PC-5000) and 3"-WTP-002-M17 (WTP Backup) waste transfer lines. These permit conditions were added by a prior permit modification dated June 28, 2021.

The 242-A Evaporator Facility is centrally located in the Hanford Site's 200 East Area. Since its construction in 1977, the evaporator has removed more than 81 million gallons of liquid from Hanford's tank waste. The 242-A Evaporator boils liquid tank waste to evaporate water to reduce the volume of waste stored in Hanford's underground tanks. Waste volume reduction is also critical for single-shell tank (SST) waste retrievals to double-shell tanks (DST). In order to meet Consent Decree milestones, DST space availability is a key factor in continuing SST retrievals. The 242-A Evaporator is currently shut down for facility upgrades to prepare for future waste volume reduction campaigns.

**The comment period runs March 16 through May 14.** A virtual public meeting will be held April 12 at 5:30 p.m. PT. Please follow the instructions below to participate via Microsoft Teams:

**Join on your computer or Teams mobile app**  
<https://bit.ly/3IP3T5F>  
**Or call in (audio only)**  
(509) 931-1284 United States  
(833) 633-0875 United States (Toll-free)  
Phone Conference ID: 480 292 827#


All comments must be submitted by May 14, 2022, in writing, by mail or electronically to:  
Washington State Department of Ecology  
3100 Port of Benton Boulevard  
Richland, WA 99354  
<https://nw.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=kbUAg> (preferred)

Copies of the proposed plan and supporting documentation will be available online during the public comment period on the Hanford public involvement website at <https://go.usa.gov/xVmew>, in the Administrative Record at <https://pdw.hanford.gov/document/AR-18482>, and in the Hanford Public Information Repositories at <https://go.usa.gov/xVDTS>.

Questions? Please contact Jennifer Colborn, Hanford Mission Integration Solutions, at [Jennifer\\_M\\_Colborn@rl.gov](mailto:Jennifer_M_Colborn@rl.gov), or Daina McFadden, Washington State Department of Ecology, at [Hanford@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Hanford@ecy.wa.gov).

The permittee's compliance history during the application of the relevant permit is available from the Washington State Department of Ecology contact person.

*To request disability accommodation, contact Jennifer Colborn, at least 10 working days prior to the event.*



Questions? Contact Jennifer Colborn at [Jennifer\\_M\\_Colborn@rl.gov](mailto:Jennifer_M_Colborn@rl.gov)



**From:** [Washington Department of Ecology](#)  
**To:** [McFadden, Daina \(ECY\)](#)  
**Subject:** Notice of Upcoming Public Comment Period on the 242-A Evaporator Leak-Detection Upgrades  
**Date:** Wednesday, February 16, 2022 8:46:08 AM

---

## THE HANFORD SITE

---

*This is a message from the U.S. Department of Energy*

### **Notice of Upcoming Public Comment Period on Proposed Changes to the Hanford Dangerous Waste Permit**

The U.S. Department of Energy is planning a 60-day public comment period on a proposed Class 2 permit modification to the Hanford Dangerous Waste Permit. This proposed permit modification addresses 242-A Evaporator Unit Specific Permit Conditions III.4.C.1, III.4.C.1.a and III.4.C.1.b. These conditions require submittal of a permit modification for the installation of leak-detection upgrades to the 3"-EVAP\_COND-PC5000-M17 (PC-5000) and 3"-WTP-002-M17 (WTP Backup) waste transfer lines. These permit conditions were added by a prior permit modification dated June 28, 2021.

The 242-A Evaporator is centrally located in the Hanford Site's 200 East Area. Since its construction in 1977, the evaporator has removed more than 81 million gallons of liquid from Hanford's tank waste. The evaporator boils liquid tank waste to evaporate water to reduce the volume of waste stored in Hanford's underground tanks. Waste volume reduction is also critical for single-shell tank (SST) waste retrievals to double-shell tanks (DST). In order to meet consent decree milestones, DST space availability is a key factor in continuing SST retrievals. The 242-A Evaporator is currently shut down for facility upgrades to prepare for future waste volume-reduction campaigns.

#### **The comment period is expected to begin in March, with a public meeting in April.**

The proposed modification and supporting documentation will be available online during the public comment period on the Hanford [events calendar](#), the Hanford [Administrative Record](#), and at the Hanford [Public Information Repositories](#).

A summary fact sheet and details of the public meeting will be provided when the comment period begins.

Questions? Please contact Jennifer Colborn, Hanford Mission Integration Solutions, at [Jennifer\\_M\\_colborn@rl.gov](mailto:Jennifer_M_colborn@rl.gov), or Daina McFadden, Washington State Department of Ecology, at [Hanford@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Hanford@ecy.wa.gov).

---

Update your subscriptions, modify your password or email address, or stop subscriptions at any time on your [Subscriber Preferences Page](#). You will need to use your email address to log in. If you have questions or problems with the subscription service, please visit [subscriberhelp.govdelivery.com](http://subscriberhelp.govdelivery.com).

This service is provided to you at no charge by [Washington Department of Ecology](#).

**From:** [Washington Department of Ecology](#)  
**To:** [McFadden, Daina \(ECY\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment Period on a Class 2 Permit Modification to the Hanford Dangerous Waste Permit, "242-A Evaporator" chapter  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 16, 2022 7:19:15 AM

---

## THE HANFORD SITE

---

This is a message from the U.S. Department of Energy

### **Public Comment Period on a Class 2 Permit Modification to the Hanford Dangerous Waste Permit, "242-A Evaporator" chapter**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is holding a 60-day public comment period on a proposed Class 2 permit modification to the Hanford Dangerous Waste Permit, "242-A Evaporator" chapter. This proposed permit modification addresses 242-A Evaporator Unit Specific Permit Conditions III.4.C.1, III.4.C.1.a and III.4.C.1.b. These conditions require submittal of a permit modification for the installation of leak-detection upgrades to the 3"-EVAP\_COND-PC5000-M17 (PC-5000) and 3"-WTP-002-M17 (WTP Backup) waste transfer lines. These permit conditions were added by a prior permit modification dated June 28, 2021.

The 242-A Evaporator is centrally located in the Hanford Site's 200 East Area. Since its construction in 1977, the evaporator has removed more than 81 million gallons of liquid from Hanford's tank waste. The evaporator boils liquid tank waste to evaporate water to reduce the volume of waste stored in Hanford's underground tanks. Waste volume reduction is also critical for single-shell tank (SST) waste retrievals to double-shell tanks (DST). In order to meet consent decree milestones, DST space availability is a key factor in continuing SST retrievals. The 242-A Evaporator is currently shut down for facility upgrades to prepare for future waste volume-reduction campaigns.

**The comment period runs from March 16 through May 14, 2022.** A virtual public meeting will be held on April 12, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. PT. To participate via Microsoft Teams, please follow the instructions below:

**Join on your computer or Teams mobile app**

[Click here to join the meeting](#) .

<https://bit.ly/3IP3TSE>

**Join with a video conferencing device**

[197920091@teams.bjn.vc](mailto:197920091@teams.bjn.vc)

Video Conference ID: 117 565 598 6

**Or call in (audio only)**

(509) 931-1284 United States

(833) 633-0875 United States (Toll-free)

Phone Conference ID: 480 292 827#

Please submit any comments by **May 14, electronically** (preferred) or by mail to:

Washington State Department of Ecology  
3100 Port of Benton Boulevard  
Richland, Washington 99354

The proposed permit modification and supporting documentation is available online during the public comment period on the Hanford [events calendar](#), the Hanford [Administrative Record](#), and at the Hanford [Public Information Repositories](#). Please see the attached summary fact sheet.

Questions? Please contact Jennifer Colborn, Hanford Mission Integration Solutions, at [Jennifer\\_M\\_Colborn@rl.gov](mailto:Jennifer_M_Colborn@rl.gov), or Daina McFadden, Washington State Department of Ecology, at [Hanford@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Hanford@ecy.wa.gov).

*To request disability accommodation, please contact Jennifer Colborn, [Jennifer\\_M\\_Colborn@rl.gov](mailto:Jennifer_M_Colborn@rl.gov), at least 10 working days prior to the event.*

- [Fact Sheet\\_242-A Leak Detection\\_FINAL.pdf](#)
- 

Update your subscriptions, modify your password or email address, or stop subscriptions at any time on your [Subscriber Preferences Page](#). You will need to use your email address to log in. If you have questions or problems with the subscription service, please visit [subscriberhelp.govdelivery.com](http://subscriberhelp.govdelivery.com).

This service is provided to you at no charge by [Washington Department of Ecology](#).

---

This email was sent to dmc461@ecy.wa.gov using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of: Washington Department of Ecology · 300 Desmond Drive SE · Lacey, WA 98503





---

# Class 2 Permit Modification for the 242-A Evaporator

March 16, 2022 – May 14, 2022

The U.S. Department of Energy (Energy) is holding a 60-day public comment period on a proposed Class 2 permit modification to the Hanford Dangerous Waste Permit, "242-A Evaporator" chapter.

## Proposed changes

This proposed permit modification addresses 242-A Evaporator Unit Specific Permit Conditions III.4.C.1, III.4.C.1.a and III.4.C.1.b. These conditions require submittal of a permit modification for the installation of leak-detection upgrades to the 3"-EVAP\_COND-PC5000-M17 (PC-5000) and 3"-WTP-002-M17 (WTP Backup) waste transfer lines. These permit conditions were added by a prior permit modification dated June 28, 2021.

## Facility background

The 242-A Evaporator is centrally located in the Hanford Site's 200 East Area. Since its construction in 1977, the evaporator has removed more than 81 million gallons of liquid from Hanford's tank waste. The evaporator boils liquid tank waste to evaporate water to reduce the volume of waste stored in Hanford's underground tanks.

Waste volume reduction is also critical for single-shell tank (SST) waste retrievals to double-shell tanks (DST). In order to meet consent decree milestones, DST space availability is a key factor in continuing SST retrievals. The 242-A Evaporator is currently shut down for facility upgrades to prepare for future waste volume-reduction campaigns.

## Review and comment

For more information on the public comment period and supporting documents, visit [Energy's website](#).

Please submit any comments by **May 14, 2022**, [electronically](#) (preferred), or by mail to:

Washington State Department of Ecology  
3100 Port of Benton Boulevard  
Richland, Washington 99354

## Public meeting

Energy is holding a virtual public meeting 5:30 p.m. PT, **April 12, 2022**. To participate via Microsoft Teams, please follow the instructions below:

### Join on your computer or Teams mobile app

- [Use this link](#) or <https://bit.ly/3IP3TSE>

### Join with a video conferencing device

- [197920091@teams.bjn.vc](mailto:197920091@teams.bjn.vc)
- Video Conference ID: 117 565 598 6

### Or call in (audio only)

- (509) 931-1284 United States
- (833) 633-0875 United States (Toll-free)
- Phone Conference ID: 480 292 827#

Questions? Please contact [Jennifer Colborn](#), Hanford Mission Integration Solutions, or [Daina McFadden](#), Ecology.

**Washington Department of Ecology - Hanford**  
 Published by Ecology Ryan · 1h · 🌐

Two new [Hanford Site](#) public comment periods begin today, involving the Liquid Effluent Retention Facility, 200 Area Effluent Treatment Facility, and the 242-A Evaporator.

Check them both out and get your input in by May 14:  
<https://ecology.wa.gov/.../Nuclear.../Public-comment-periods>

Washington Department of Ecology U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection U.S. EPA, Region 10



**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIODS**

Begin today!

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY  
 STATE OF WASHINGTON

 Ecology - Hanford  @ecyHanford · 1h

Two new @HanfordSite public comment periods begin today, involving the Liquid Effluent Retention Facility, 200 Area Effluent Treatment Facility, and the 242-A Evaporator.

Check them both out and get your input in by May 14:  
[ecology.wa.gov/Waste-Toxics/N...](https://ecology.wa.gov/Waste-Toxics/N...) @EcologyWA @RiverProtection



**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIODS**

Begin today!

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY  
 STATE OF WASHINGTON

0:00 7 views