

# Integrated Disposal Facility

Agency-initiated Permit Modification



Figure 1. Columbia River looking at the Hanford site

- Public comment period June 3 – July 19, 2024
- Updates and modifies several Integrated Disposal Facility (IDF) Permit files.
- The proposed changes reflect changes specified within the Settlement Agreement<sup>1</sup>.

## 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 IDF.

The permittees are:

U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE)  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550  
Richland, WA 99352

Central Plateau Cleanup Company LLC  
P.O. Box 1464  
Richland, WA 99352

## Background

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

IDF is an engineered disposal site located on 202 acres of land within the south-central portion of the 200 East Area of the Hanford Site. It is designed to receive immobilized low-activity waste from the Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant and other waste from Hanford Site operations.

The IDF is currently in a “pre-active life” status and is not permitted to receive any dangerous waste. When operational (i.e., active-life phase), the IDF will provide disposal for 19,000 metric tons of dangerous radioactive and chemical waste annually.

## Overview & Changes

This permit modification will update and modify the following IDF Permit files of the final Class 3 Permit

<sup>1</sup> <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/ezshare/NWP/Appeals/2024-3-4IDFSettleAgree.pdf>

Modification 8C.2023.1F, in accordance with the settlement agreement:

- Unit-Specific Permit Conditions
- Addendum F (Preparedness and Prevention)
- Addendum I (Inspection Plan)
- Addendum J (Contingency Plan)

On May 30, 2023, Ecology issued a final Class 3 Permit Modification 8C.2023.1F to the IDF Permit in the Hanford Sitewide Permit, which updated all chapters of the IDF Permit and provided detailed information to support the operation of IDF. This included the addition of three dangerous waste management units: an additional disposal cell, storage pad, and treatment pad.

On June 28, 2023, the USDOE appealed the Modification 8C.2023.1F<sup>2</sup> with the Pollution Control Hearings Board (PCHB).

On March 4, 2024, a settlement agreement that is protective of human health and the environment was reached between Ecology and USDOE. On March 13, 2024, the PCHB granted USDOE's motion<sup>3</sup> to voluntarily dismiss the case based on the settlement between the parties.

The proposed changes have been made to these permit files to reflect the changes specified within the Settlement Agreement. Please see the Settlement Agreement (footnote 1) for the specific changes made in this proposed permit modification.

When this permit modification becomes effective, it will move IDF into the active-life phase of the facility to start receiving approved waste.



Figure 2. The Integrated Disposal Facility (Photo courtesy of USDOE)

## Reviewing the proposed changes

Ecology invites you to review and comment on this proposed IDF permit modification. See the last page for comment period dates and information on how to submit comments.

Copies of the application for the proposed permit, the draft permit and fact sheet, and supporting documentation will be available during the public comment period online at Ecology's website<sup>4</sup>. The documents will also be available electronically 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.

<sup>2</sup> <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/ezshare/NWP/Appeals/2023-06-28Appeal-IDF.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/ezshare/NWP/Appeals/2024-03-13OrdGrantingVoluntaryDismissal.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <https://ecology.wa.gov/Waste-Toxics/Nuclear-waste/Public-comment-periods>

## Hanford's Information Repositories

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

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

University of Washington  
Suzzallo Library  
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  
**\*\*PSU Library is temporarily closed\*\***  
Millar Library  
1875 SW Park Avenue  
Portland, OR 97207  
503-725-4542

For information on other comment periods or ways to get involved, go to [ecology.wa.gov/Hanford](https://ecology.wa.gov/Hanford) and click "Public comment periods" on the left bar or visit [Hanford.gov](https://Hanford.gov) "public involvement opportunities".

You can also follow us on social media.



@EcologyWAHanford



@ecyHanford



Figure 3: Nuclear Waste Program office - Richland



Nuclear Waste Program  
3100 Port of Benton Blvd  
Richland WA 99354

## Integrated Disposal Facility

June 3 – July 19, 2024



Electronic submission (preferred):

<https://nw.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=jTYPJuFgd>

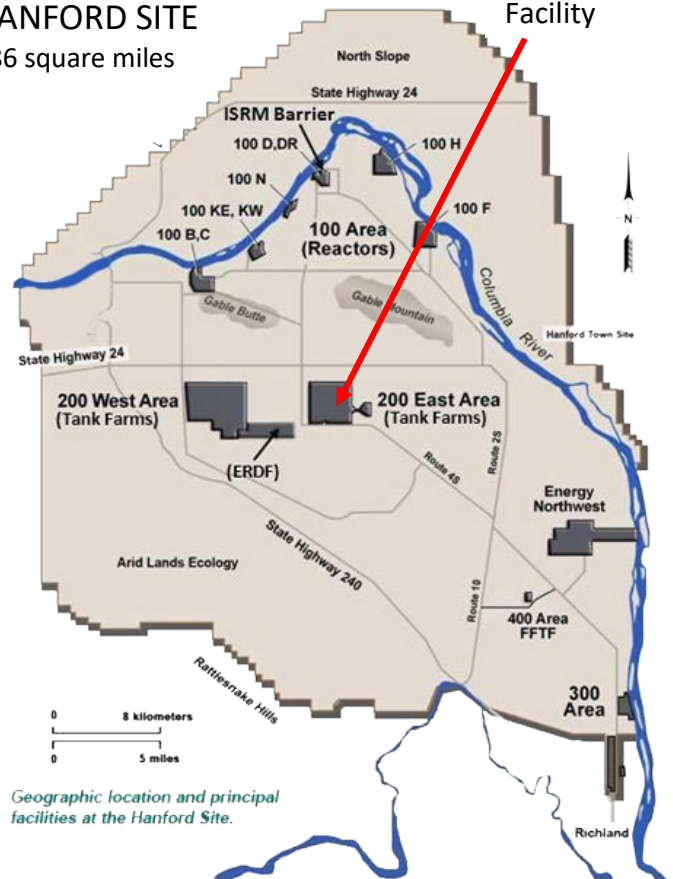
A public hearing is not scheduled, but if there is enough interest, we will consider holding one.

To request a hearing, mail or hand-deliver comments, or for more information, contact:

Daina McFadden  
509-372-7950  
3100 Port of Benton Blvd  
Richland, WA 99354  
Hanford@ecy.wa.gov

## HANFORD SITE 586 square miles

Integrated Disposal Facility



Geographic location and principal facilities at the Hanford Site.

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), or visit [ecology.wa.gov/Accessibility](https://ecology.wa.gov/Accessibility). For Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341.