

Central Waste Complex Outdoor Storage Area-A

Class 3 Permit Modification



Figure 1. Columbia River looking at the Hanford site

At a glance:

Comments accepted July 16 12:00am – Sept. 5, 2025 11:59pm

This permit modification will allow the U.S. Department of Energy (Energy) to complete closure work of Outside Storage Area A.

Closure of this site is important, because it will be the future location of a new contact-handled waste processing facility which will package and prepare Hanford waste for offsite shipment and disposal.

Public comment invited

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) is proposing a change to the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit, Dangerous Waste Portion for the Treatment, Storage, and Disposal of Dangerous Waste, Revision 8C. (Sitewide Permit)

This change will add Closure Unit Group (CUG) 34, Outdoor Storage A (OSA-A), to the Sitewide Permit. The OSA-A is located in the Central Waste Complex (CWC).

The permittees are:

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

Central Plateau Cleanup Company LLC (CPCCo)
PO Box 1464, MSIN: A7-01
Richland, WA 99352

Background

The Hanford Site occupies 586 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.

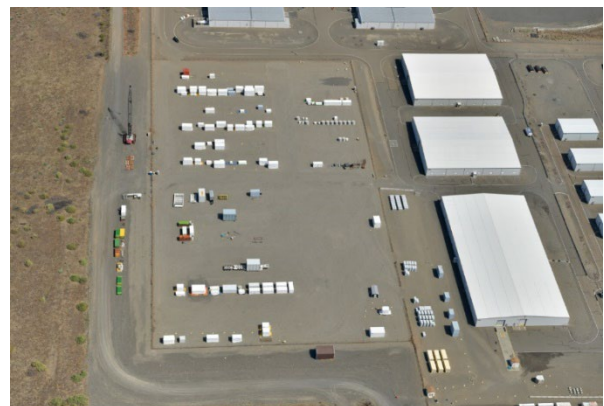


Figure 2. OSA-A aerial view (July 2020)

Overview and changes

On Dec. 1, 2020, Energy submitted a Class 3 permit modification request which transmitted two closure plans to support the Ecology-led 45-day public comment period, one of which included CWC OSA-A.

In 2013-2014 Energy held a public comment period for the first portion of a Class 3 permit modification for the Solid Waste Operations Complex. This unit is one of the 14 units that were in that modification. The OSA-A is now being added into the Sitewide Permit to allow for the unit to be closed within the next two years and then be removed from the Sitewide Permit.

Initially, 20 grid samples were proposed at OSA-A. In response to public comments and after reviewing historical data, including photos of waste storage locations, and roadways, the proposed permit has a significant increase in the number of sample locations. The 159 sample locations now reflect areas where waste was actually stored.

These revisions have been incorporated into the closure plan and the unit specific conditions for OSA-A, which support this permit modification.

Facility background

The CWC is located within the Hanford Site's 200 West Area. Dangerous waste and mixed waste management operations began at CWC in August 1988. Currently, CWC provides container storage and treatment of dangerous and mixed waste. OSA-A is located west of the 2403-series buildings in the 200 West area.

The OSA-A storage area was activated in 2008. The primary purpose of OSA-A was storing large transuranic mixed waste boxes that were removed from storage as part of a waste retrieval project. OSA-A is a graveled, rectangular-shaped, uncovered area that does not have constructed secondary containment for management of containers with

liquids. Transfer of additional dangerous or mixed waste into OSA-A is not authorized.

Reviewing the proposed changes

Ecology invites you to review and comment on this proposed modification to include OSA-A in the permit. 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 modification and fact sheet, and supporting documentation will be available during the public comment period online at Ecology's website¹. 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.



Figure 3. Photo of OSA-A (January 2017)

¹ <https://ecology.wa.gov/waste-toxics/nuclear-waste/public-involvement>

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
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 and click "Public involvement" on the left bar or visit [Hanford.gov](https://hanford.gov) "public involvement opportunities".

You can also follow us on social media.



@EcologyWAHanford

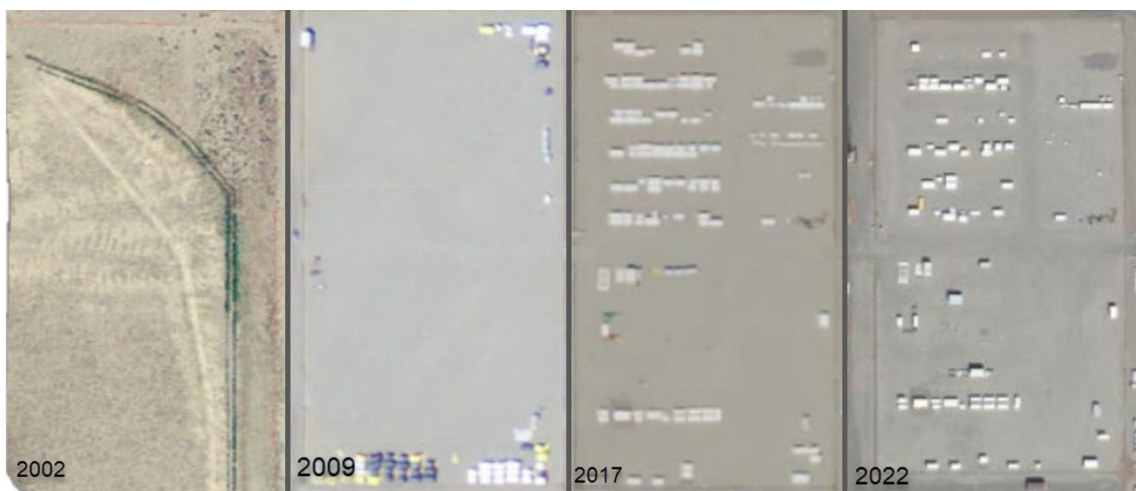


Figure 4: Aerial views of the OSA-A from 2002 to 2022



Nuclear Waste Program
3100 Port of Benton Blvd
Richland WA 99354

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Electronic submission (preferred):
[eComments link](#)

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

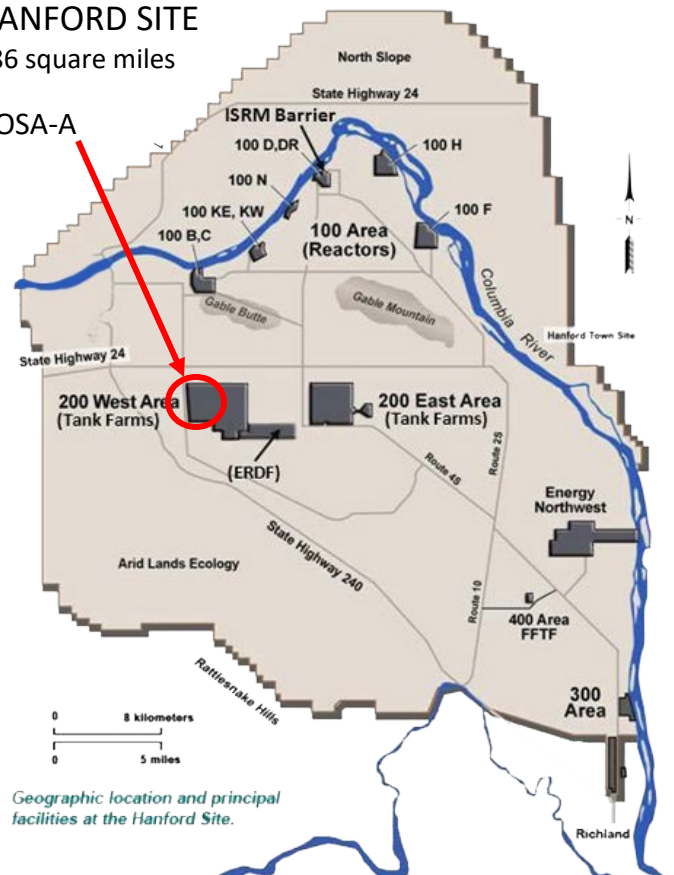
To request a hearing, mail or hand-deliver comments, or for more information, contact:

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

HANFORD SITE

586 square miles

OSA-A



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, or visit ecology.wa.gov/Accessibility. For Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341.