

STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT  
ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORMS

FOR  
THE 200 WEST ASH PIT DEMOLITION SITE  
CLOSURE PLAN

REVISION 0

November 1992

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WASHINGTON ADMINISTRATIVE CODE  
ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORMS  
[WAC 197-11-960]

A. BACKGROUND

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1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Closure of the 200 West Ash Pit Demolition Site (Ash Pit Demolition Site).

Within this checklist, "Ash Pit Demolition Site" refers to the 200 West Ash Pit Demolition Site, and "ash pit" refers to the entire, disturbed borrow and ash pit.

2. Name of applicants:

U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Field Office (DOE-RL); and Westinghouse Hanford Company (Westinghouse Hanford Company).

3. Address and phone number of applicants and contact persons:

U.S. Department of Energy	Westinghouse Hanford Company
Richland Field Office	P.O. Box 1970
P.O. Box 550	Richland, Washington 99352
Richland, Washington 99352	

Contact Persons:

J. D. Bauer, Acting Program Manager	R. E. Lerch, Deputy Director
Office of Environmental Assurance,	Restoration and Remediation
Permits, and Policy	(509) 376-5556
(509) 376-5441	

4. Date checklist prepared:

November 1992

5. Agency requesting the checklist:

Washington State  
Department of Ecology  
P.O. Box 47600  
Olympia, Washington 98504-7600

6. Proposed timing or schedule: (including phasing, if applicable):

Closure of the Ash Pit Demolition Site would begin and would be completed within 180 days after approval of the closure plan following notification by the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology).

- 1 7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further  
2 activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.  
3  
4 There are no plans for future additions, expansions, or use of the Ash  
5 Pit Demolition Site. However, the entire ash pit is scheduled to be  
6 addressed as part of a *Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation  
7 and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980* operable unit at a later date.  
8  
9 8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared,  
10 or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.  
11  
12 This *State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) of 1971* Environmental  
13 Checklist is being submitted to Ecology concurrently with the *200 West  
14 Ash Pit Demolition Site* closure plan.  
15  
16 General Hanford Site information is found in the *Hanford Site National  
17 Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Characterization* document, PNL-6415,  
18 Revision 4, Pacific Northwest Laboratory, 1991, Richland, Washington.  
19  
20 In accordance with the *Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent  
21 Order (Tri-Party Agreement)*, additional information concerning the  
22 200 West Ash Pit is located in the Waste Information Data System.  
23  
24 9. Do you know whether applications are pending for government approvals of  
25 other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal?  
26 If yes, explain.  
27  
28 No applications to government agencies are known to be pending.  
29  
30 10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your  
31 proposal, if known.  
32  
33 In accordance with the Tri-Party Agreement, Ecology is the lead  
34 regulatory agency that will approve the Ash Pit Demolition Site closure  
35 plan pursuant to the requirements of Washington Administrative Code,  
36 (WAC) 173-303-610 and 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Parts 265.381  
37 and 270.1. A *National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969* review  
38 will be required before closure can proceed.  
39  
40 11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed  
41 uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions  
42 later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your  
43 proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page.  
44  
45 The proposed action is the clean closure of the Ash Pit Demolition Site.  
46 The Ash Pit Demolition Site consists of a square parcel of land  
47 approximately 20 feet (6 meters) by 20 feet (6 meters), which is situated  
48 within a multi-use borrow pit area, the ash pit, roughly 600 feet  
49 (183 meters) by 800 feet (244 meters) in size. The Ash Pit Demolition  
50 Site was used to detonate shock-sensitive and reactive laboratory  
51 chemicals that were determined to be either excess or beyond their  
52 designated stock life. Two detonation events occurred in November of  
53 1984 and June of 1986.

1 The discarded chemicals were placed in shallow depressions to control the  
2 detonation process. Explosives were placed around the chemicals and  
3 detonated using electric blasting caps and primer cord.  
4

5 Because of the location of the ash pit within the 200 West Area, the  
6 closure investigation began with a radiation survey of the demolition  
7 site. The results of the radiation survey confirmed that there is no  
8 radiation above background levels at the Ash Pit Demolition Site. Any  
9 radiation encountered would have been from 200 West Area activities not  
10 associated with the Ash Pit Demolition Site. Soil samples would be taken  
11 to determine if there is any contamination and the resulting action  
12 levels would be determined. Action levels are contaminant concentrations  
13 that would require a cleanup response and would be negotiated with  
14 Ecology. If it is found that all contamination present is from the Ash  
15 Pit Demolition Site activities alone and is above action levels, the soil  
16 would be treated and/or disposed of in a permitted landfill and the  
17 demolition site closed as a RCRA site. If it is found that all  
18 contamination is from other nearby sources, the Ash Pit Demolition Site  
19 would be closed as a RCRA site and remediated under CERCLA as part of  
20 200-SS-2 operable unit, which contains the ash pit. If, however, the  
21 soil is contaminated from other sources in addition to the Ash Pit  
22 Demolition Site activities, the soil would be remediated in coordination  
23 with CERCLA as part of the 200-SS-2 operable unit. All equipment used in  
24 performing closure activities would be decontaminated or disposed of at a  
25 permitted facility.  
26

27 Postclosure care would be required only if the treatment unit cannot  
28 attain clean closure. If the underlying soils or the groundwater are  
29 contaminated, the site will not be considered closed until the  
30 remediation under CERCLA is complete.  
31

- 32 12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to  
33 understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a  
34 street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a  
35 proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or  
36 boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan,  
37 vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you  
38 should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to  
39 duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications  
40 related to this checklist.  
41

42 The ash pit site is located on the eastern boundary of the 200 West Area.  
43 The demolition site is located within the ash pit. The location within  
44 the 200 West Area is approximately 1,500 feet (457 meters) northeast of  
45 the U Plant and approximately 1,000 feet (305 meters) southwest of the  
46 main entrance to the 200 West Area (20th Street). The 200 West Area is  
47 located roughly in the center of the Hanford Site, Section 6,  
48 Township 12 N, Range 26 E.  
49

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

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1. Earth

- a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other \_\_\_\_\_.
- Flat terrain.
- b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?
- The steepest slope in the 200 West Area is less than 10 percent.
- c. What general types of soils are found on the site? (for example, clay, sandy gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.
- The main soil types found in the area are sand and loess. Some of the sand present is in the form of shallow sand dunes.
- d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.
- The presence of sand dunes in the area indicate some instability of the soils in the vicinity, but the floor of the ash pit has been disturbed in such a manner as to stabilize the soil.
- e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.
- No fill will be required by this closure.
- f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.
- No.
- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?
- None.
- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:
- None.

1 2. Air

- 2  
3 a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal  
4 (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during  
5 construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally  
6 describe and give approximate quantities, if known.

7  
8 There could be minor dust and vehicle exhaust from closure  
9 activities. No volatile organic carbon emissions are expected  
10 because the detonation events were designed to eliminate most of the  
11 chemicals and the events occurred in 1984 and 1986.

- 12  
13 b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odors that may affect  
14 your proposal? If so, generally describe.

15  
16 No.

- 17  
18 c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to  
19 the air, if any?

20  
21 None.

22  
23 3. Water

24  
25 a. Surface

- 26  
27 1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity  
28 of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams,  
29 saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and  
30 provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it  
31 flows into.

32  
33 No.

- 34  
35  
36 2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to  
37 (within 200 feet ) the described waters? If yes, please describe  
38 and attach available plans.

39  
40 No.

- 41  
42 3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be  
43 placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate  
44 the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source  
45 of fill material.

46  
47 None.

- 48  
49 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or  
50 diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate  
51 quantities if known.

52  
53 No.

1 5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note  
2 location on the site plan.

3  
4 No.

5  
6 6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to  
7 surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and  
8 anticipated volume of discharge.

9  
10 No.

11  
12 b. Ground

13  
14 1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to  
15 ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate  
16 quantities if known.

17  
18 No.

19  
20 2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground  
21 from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example:  
22 Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following  
23 chemicals...; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of  
24 the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to  
25 be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the  
26 system(s) are expected to serve.

27  
28 None.

29  
30 c. Water Run-off (including storm water)

31  
32 1) Describe the source of run-off (including storm water) and method  
33 of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if  
34 known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into  
35 other waters? If so, describe.

36  
37 The Hanford Site receives approximately 6 to 7 inches (15 to  
38 18 centimeters) of annual precipitation that seeps into the  
39 ground through the porous soils at the site. Because of the low  
40 rainfall and the warm climate, this water will return to the air  
41 through evapotranspiration.

42  
43 2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so,  
44 generally describe.

45  
46 No.

47  
48 d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and run-off  
49 water impacts, if any:

50  
51 None.  
52

1 4. Plants

2  
3 a. Check or circle the types of vegetation found on the site.

- 4  
5  deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other  
6  evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other  
7  shrubs  
8  grass  
9  pasture  
10  crop or grain  
11  wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bulrush, skunk cabbage,  
12 other  
13  water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other  
14  other types of vegetation

15  
16 Forbes and grasses might be seasonally present.

17  
18 b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

19  
20 The 200 West Ash Pit is a disturbed site and contains only small  
21 quantities of grasses and/or forbes.

22  
23 c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the  
24 site.

25  
26 There are no known threatened or endangered species found to exist in  
27 or near the demolition site.

28  
29 d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to  
30 preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:

31  
32 Because the entire ash pit might still be used for occasional ash  
33 disposal, and is scheduled to be remediated under future CERCLA  
34 activities, no revegetation or landscaping would occur under this  
35 closure plan.

36  
37 5. Animals

38  
39 a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the  
40 site or are known to be on or near the site:

41  
42 birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:.....  
43 mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:.....  
44 fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:.....

45  
46 While there are many species of animals found on the Hanford Site,  
47 none of these exclusively use the demolition site area. Additional  
48 information on the Hanford Site animals can be found in the  
49 environmental document referred to in the answer to Checklist  
50 Question A.8.  
51

- 1 b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the  
2 site.  
3

4 The demolition site is not known to be used by any threatened or  
5 endangered species. Additional information regarding endangered  
6 species on the Hanford Site can be found in the environmental  
7 document referred to in the answer to Checklist Question A.8.  
8

- 9 c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.  
10

11 While the Hanford Site and the adjacent Columbia River are part of  
12 the broad Pacific Flyway for waterfowl migration, the ash pit site  
13 itself is not used in such a manner.  
14

- 15 d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:  
16

17 None.  
18

19 6. Energy and Natural Resources  
20

- 21 a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar)  
22 will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe  
23 whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.  
24

25 None.  
26

- 27 b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by  
28 adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.  
29

30 No.  
31

- 32 c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans  
33 of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control  
34 energy impacts, if any:  
35

36 None.  
37

38 7. Environmental Health  
39

- 40 a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to  
41 toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous  
42 waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so,  
43 describe.  
44

45 It is believed that the waste inventory that was treated, which  
46 consisted of discarded explosive, ignitable, and/or reactive,  
47 nonradioactive chemical compounds, was totally consumed during the  
48 various thermal detonation events. It also is believed that any  
49 remaining residues should have been decomposed by the natural  
50 processes of oxidation and hydration. It is also possible that some  
51 dangerous residues might have remained on the site along with small  
52 shards of glass or metal remnants from the containers that were  
53 detonated.

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

Hanford Site security, fire response, and ambulance services are on call at all times in the event of an onsite emergency.

2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

The sampling will determine if there are any remaining residues that might pose a threat to human health or the environment. If there are, the contaminated soil will be removed and disposed of in permitted disposal sites. Removal would be carried out in accordance with approved procedures for removal of dangerous waste by trained waste workers.

b. Noise

1) What type of noise exists in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?

None.

2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.

There would be minor noise from equipment used for sampling and closure activities during normal day shift operations.

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

None.

8. Land and Shoreline Use

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?

The Ash Pit Demolition Site is currently part of the larger ash pit. This larger ash pit was used and might still be used for a variety of activities such as tumbleweed incineration and ash disposal. These other uses of the ash pit do not impact the proposed activities for the demolition site.

b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.

No portion of the Hanford Site, including the site of the proposed unit, has been used for agricultural purposes since 1943.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

None.

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- d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?  
No.
- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?  
The Hanford Site is zoned by Benton County as an Unclassified Use (U) district.
- f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?  
The 1985 Benton County Comprehensive Land Use Plan designates the Hanford Site as the "Hanford Reservation." Under this designation, land on the Site may be used for "activities nuclear in nature." Nonnuclear activities are authorized "if and when DOE approval for such activities is obtained."
- g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?  
Not applicable.
- h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.  
No.
- i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?  
None.
- j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?  
None.
- k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:  
None.
- l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:  
Does not apply. (Refer to answer to Checklist Question B.8.f.)

9. Housing

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.  
None.

1 b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate  
2 whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

3  
4 None.

5  
6 c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

7  
8 None.

9  
10 10. Aesthetics

11 a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not  
12 including antennas; what is the principal exterior building  
13 material(s) proposed?

14  
15 No structures are proposed.

16 b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

17  
18 None.

19 c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

20  
21 None.

22  
23 24  
25 11. Light and Glare

26 a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of  
27 day would it mainly occur?

28  
29 None.

30 b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or  
31 interfere with views?

32  
33 No.

34 c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your  
35 proposal?

36  
37 None.

38 d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if  
39 any:

40  
41 None.

42  
43 44  
45 12. Recreation

46 a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the  
47 immediate vicinity?

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49 None.

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b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses?  
If so, describe.

No.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation,  
including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or  
applicant, if any?

None.

13. Historic and Cultural Preservation

a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national,  
state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the  
site? If so, generally describe.

No places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or  
local preservation registers are known to be on or next to the site.  
Additional information regarding the cultural resources on the  
Hanford Site environment can be found in the environmental documents  
referred to in the answer to Checklist Question A.8.

b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic,  
archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or  
next to the site.

There are no known archaeological, historical, or Native American  
religious sites on or next to the unit. Additional information  
regarding this can be found in the environmental documents referenced  
in the answer to Checklist Question A.8.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:

None.

14. Transportation

a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe  
proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans,  
if any.

Does not apply.

b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the  
approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

The unit is a controlled location and public transportation is not  
allowed to the site.

1 c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many  
2 would the project eliminate?

3  
4 None.

5  
6 d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements  
7 to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so,  
8 generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

9  
10 No.

11  
12 e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water,  
13 rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

14  
15 No.

16  
17 f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed  
18 project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

19  
20 None.

21  
22 g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts if any:

23  
24 None.

25  
26 **15. Public Services**

27  
28 a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services  
29 (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care,  
30 schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

31  
32 No.

33  
34 b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public  
35 services, if any:

36  
37 None.

38  
39 **16. Utilities**

40  
41 a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity,  
42 natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic  
43 system, other:

44  
45 None.

46  
47 b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility  
48 providing the service, and the general construction activities on the  
49 site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

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51 None.

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**SIGNATURES**

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. We understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

James D. Bauer  
J. D. Bauer, Acting Program Manager  
Office of Environmental Assurance,  
Permits, and Policy  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Richland Field Office

11/20/92  
Date

R. E. Lerch  
R. E. Lerch, Deputy Director  
Restoration and Remediation  
Westinghouse Hanford Company

10-30-92  
Date