

# Changes Proposed to the Schedule for Cleaning Up Hanford's Plutonium Finishing Plant

U.S. Department of Energy • U.S. Environmental Protection Agency • Washington State Department of Ecology

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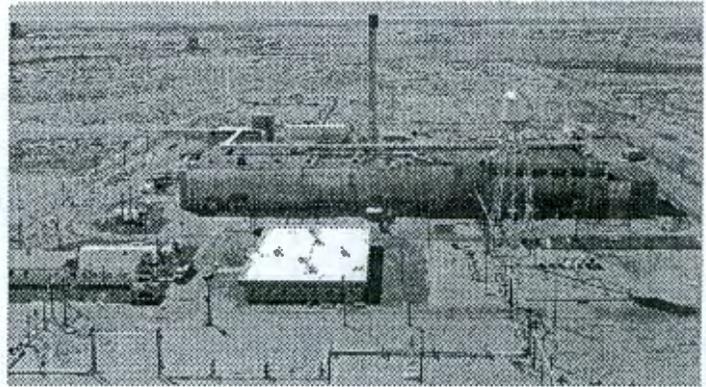
The U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Washington State Department of Ecology are the agencies responsible for Hanford cleanup and they want your input on proposed changes to the Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (Tri-Party Agreement). The proposed changes lay out schedules for eliminating hazards and reducing risks at the Plutonium Finishing Plant (PFP) located in the Central Plateau (200 West Area) of the Hanford Site.

## Background

The PFP was built in 1949 to process plutonium for use in nuclear weapons. In 1996, the USDOE made the decision to stop processing plutonium at PFP and to shut down the facility. The PFP complex is made up of several buildings, support facilities and waste sites. The PFP is focused on cleaning up and tearing down these buildings. The document that describes the scope, cost, and schedule for completing this work is the PFP Integrated Project Management Plan. PFP is the last major Hanford facility to be included in the TPA.

## What we are proposing?

The Tri-Party Agencies completed negotiations in May 2002 on the draft TPA change package that brings PFP into TPA compliance. These proposed changes identify work activities and schedules to clean up the PFP facility and tear down most



of its buildings over the next 14 years. There are 15 additional actions being proposed. Some of these actions include:

- Complete repackaging of plutonium waste residues left over from processing, and shipping the waste to the Hanford Site Central Waste Complex (200 Area) by April 2004;
- Discontinue discharges from 241-Z (a Washington State temporary treatment and storage facility) to tank farms by June 2005;
- Clean out plutonium left in equipment from past processing activities by September 2006;
- Complete closure of Tank 241-Z Treatment System by September 2011; and
- Clean up and tear down most of the facilities by September 2016

Public Comment

The Tri-Party Agencies need your input on the proposed schedule for eliminating hazards and reducing risks associated with the Plutonium Finishing Plant. The public comment period for the draft change package will be from *June 17 through July 31, 2002.*

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Tri-Party Agreement

# Hanford's Plutonium Finishing Plant

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## How can you become involved?

A 45-day public comment on the proposed changes will be held from June 17 through July 31, 2002. The Tri-Parties need your comments on these changes proposed to the Tri-Party Agreement. The agencies will consider all comments before the proposed changes are made final. There are no public meetings planned at this time; however, the agencies will consider requests for a meeting.

To submit comments or request a copy of the proposed changes, please contact:

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The proposed changes are also available for review at the Public Information Repositories listed below and on the Web at [www.hanford.gov/tpa/changelist.htm](http://www.hanford.gov/tpa/changelist.htm).

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### HANFORD PUBLIC INFORMATION REPOSITORY LOCATIONS

**Portland**  
Portland State University  
Branford Price and Millar Library  
934 SW Harrison  
Attn: Michael Bowman (503) 725-3690

**Seattle**  
University of Washington  
Suzzallo Library  
Government Publications Division  
Attn: Eleanor Chase (206) 543-4664

**Richland**  
U.S. Department of Energy Public Reading Room  
Washington State University, Tri-Cities  
Consolidated Information Center, Room 101-L  
2770 University Drive  
Attn: Terri Traub (509) 372-7443

**Spokane**  
Gonzaga University Foley Center  
East 502 Boone  
Attn: Sarah Nelson (509) 323-6548

Information Repository web site address:  
<http://www2.hanford.gov/arpir/>  
Or call the Hanford Cleanup Line at 1-800-321-2008