



# Plan to Evaluate Alternatives to Clean Up Waste Sites on the Hanford Central Plateau

## (200-MG-2 Operable Unit Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis [EE/CA])

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

The U.S. Department of Energy, the Washington State Department of Ecology and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) agencies, would like feedback on a plan that evaluates cleanup alternatives for 34 waste sites in the 200 Area of the Hanford Central Plateau.

### Background

Sixty-nine waste sites in the 200 Area of the Hanford Site make up the 200-MG-2 Operable Unit (OU). The 200-MG-2 OU Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) addresses 34 of those sites. These waste sites are expected to have shallow contamination (surface to 15 feet) from potentially hazardous and/or radioactive liquids that could harm humans and/or the environment, but are not expected to pose a threat to groundwater. They include French drains, trenches, cribs, ditches, retention basins and a few sites contaminated from historic leaks or spills.

### Removal Action Alternatives

Since the waste sites being considered in this action are shallow and it would be relatively simple to remove the contaminations, select removal actions were evaluated.

The three removal action alternatives identified are:

#### Alternative 1: No Action

If no action were taken, legal restrictions, institutional controls or active measures would not be applied to these waste sites. This alternative would provide no protectiveness to humans or the environment.

#### Public Comment

The Tri-Party Agencies want your feedback on the 200-MG-2 Operable Unit Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis.

The Public comment period will run from **May 27 through June 26, 2009.**



Waste site 216-U-13

**Cost:** This alternative was not costed, because this alternative provides no protectiveness.

#### Alternative 2: Confirmatory Sampling/No Further Action (CS/NFA)

The CS/NFA alternative assumes that the waste sites do not presently pose a threat to human health and the environment, and sampling and analysis will be conducted to confirm that no further action is required. However, if contamination is found that is a threat to human health and the environment, the contamination could be cleaned up by remove, treat and dispose.

**Cost:** \$2,832,000



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### Alternative 3: Removal, Treatment, and Disposal (RTD)

The RTD alternative includes removal and disposal of soil and other materials, with treatment (if required) for disposal. If contamination is found at depths greater than 15 feet, soil samples would be taken to characterize potential risks to the groundwater.

**Cost: \$23,831,000**

### Removal Evaluation Process

Each alternative was evaluated and compared against three criteria: effectiveness, implementability and cost.

- Effectiveness is the ability to meet the removal action objectives and overall protection of human health and the environment; compliance with applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements for a removal action and other standards; short-term effectiveness; long-term effectiveness and permanence; and reduction of toxicity, mobility or volume through treatment.
- Implementability is the technical and administrative feasibility of implementing an alternative, including the availability of required services and materials.

### Next Steps

The TPA agencies will consider the public comments received on the *200-MG-2 OU EE/CA* during the public comment period before deciding on final removal action alternatives. **A 30-day public comment period will run from May 27 through June 26, 2009.** No public meeting is scheduled at this time. To request a public meeting, contact Paula Call, DOE (509-376-2048) by June 10. TPA agencies encourage you to obtain a copy of the EE/CA and provide comments on the removal action alternatives.

The TPA agencies will respond in writing to public comments in a "responsiveness summary" that will be attached to the document detailing the final removal actions, the Action Memorandum. The Action Memorandum will be available at the Administrative Record (AR) and Public Information Repository located at 2440 Stevens Center Place, Room 1101, Richland, WA. It can be viewed electronically from the AR website:

<http://www2.hanford.gov/arpir/>

**Please submit  
comments by  
June 26 to:**

#### Frank Roddy

U.S. Department of Energy  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550, MS: A6-39  
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- Cost includes estimated direct and indirect costs and costs associated with decontamination and decommissioning.



**216-T-1 waste site**

### Preferred Alternatives

Based on the findings of the removal evaluation process, in particular, given that the type, size and extent of hazardous substance contamination vary considerably across the 200-MG-2 OU waste sites, the preferred alternative is **CS/NFA for 16 waste sites and RTD for 18 waste sites.** The preferred alternative for each waste site is recommended based on its overall ability to protect human health and the environment, and its effectiveness in maintaining protection for both the short term and the long term. These alternatives best satisfy the three removal criteria based on the conditions of each waste site.

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The EE/CA can be viewed on line at <http://www5.hanford.gov/hanford/eventcalendar/> under  
Events – Public Comment Periods.

To obtain a copy of the EE/CA, call the Hanford Cleanup Line 1-800-321-2008.

The document is also available for review at the  
Public Information Repositories listed below.

### HANFORD PUBLIC INFORMATION REPOSITORY LOCATIONS

#### Portland

Portland State University  
Bradford Price Millar Library  
1875 SW Park Ave  
Attn: Don Frank (503) 725-4709  
Map: <http://www.pdx.edu/map/html>

#### Seattle

University of Washington  
Suzallo Library  
Government Publications Division  
Attn: Eleanor Chase (206) 543-4664  
Map: <http://tinyurl.com/m8ebj>

#### Richland

U.S. Department of Energy Public Reading Room  
Washington State University, Tri-Cities  
Consolidated Information Center, Room 101-L  
2770 University Drive  
Attn: Janice Parthree (509) 372-7443  
Map: <http://tinyurl.com/2axam2>

#### Spokane

Gonzaga University Foley Center  
East 502 Boone  
Attn: Linda Pierce (509) 313-3834  
Map: <http://tinyurl.com/2c6bpm>

**Administrative Record and Public Information Repository:**  
Address: 2440 Stevens Center Place, Room 1101, Richland, WA  
Phone: 509-376-2530  
Web site address: <http://www2.hanford.gov/arpir/>

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