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UPCOMING PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

TIME-CRITICAL REMOVAL ACTION TO DISPOSE OF RETRIEVED WASTE FROM A HANFORD BURIAL GROUND

The U.S. Department of Energy, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Washington State Department of Ecology (the Tri-Party Agreement agencies) will hold a 30-day public comment period on the Administrative Record for a Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Time-Critical Removal Action (TCRA). The Administrative Record for this TCRA contains the Action Memorandum, Removal Action Work Plan, Sampling and Analysis Plan and other supporting documentation for the disposal of waste retrieved from the 218-W-4C low-level waste burial ground. The TCRA is used to expedite response actions, and therefore does not require an EE/CA or public comment period prior to the approval of the action via an Action Memorandum.

The information found in the Administrative Record provides the basis to dispose of drums containing low-level and mixed low-level waste generated during suspect transuranic (TRU) waste retrieval operations in low-level burial ground 218-W-4C. This operation is being conducted as part of retrieval required to meet Tri-Party Agreement milestone M-91-40. It involves the retrieval of approximately 18,000 drums (55 gallon) of suspect TRU waste from burial ground 218-W-4C. Low level and mixed low level waste will be treated, if required, to meet waste acceptance criteria prior to disposal at the Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility. Waste that is determined to be TRU waste will be processed to meet the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant waste acceptance criteria and is considered outside of the scope of this TCRA.

The public comment period on the Administrative Record for this removal action is expected to run from June 20 – July 20, 2005

For more information, please contact:

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