

**From:** [Washington Department of Ecology](#)  
**To:** [HANFORD-INFO@listserv.wa.gov](mailto:HANFORD-INFO@listserv.wa.gov)  
**Subject:** 30-day Advance Notice of Hanford Waste Treatment Plant Public Comment Period  
**Date:** Friday, September 13, 2013 3:23:34 PM

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**The Washington State Department of Ecology Announces a  
45-Day Public Comment Period for Modifications to the  
Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit,  
Dangerous Waste Portion, Revision 8C, for the  
Treatment, Storage, and Disposal of Dangerous Waste,  
Part III, Operating Unit 10, Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant  
(WTP Permit)**

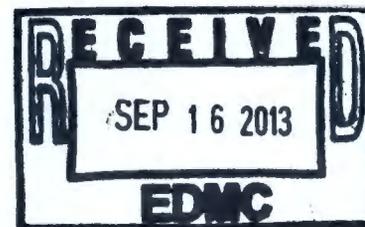
October 15, 2013, through December 3, 2013

The [Washington State Department of Ecology](#) is proposing a modification to the WTP Permit.

The Permittees are:

[United States Department of Energy](#)  
Office of River Protection  
PO Box 550  
Richland, Washington 99352

[Bechtel National, Inc.](#)  
2435 Stevens Center Place  
Richland, Washington 99354



### **Why It Matters**

The Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant (WTP) will be capable of treating 56 million gallons of dangerous radioactive and chemical waste from the 177 underground storage tanks at the [Hanford Site north of Richland, Washington](#). Treating the waste will reduce the risk to people and the environment. The proposed modifications affect facilities that are part of the WTP.

### **Two WTP Design Packages Proposed**

The proposed changes include the following two design packages that will allow new construction in the Low-Activity Waste (LAW) Facility and the Failed Melter Storage Building.

- *Miscellaneous Unit Subsystem for LAW Facility LVP System (LVP Exhausters), Design Package No. LAW-026C, Rev. 0.* This design package addresses the installation of the LAW Secondary Offgas/Vessel Vent Process System (LVP system) exhausters in the LAW Facility. The purpose of the LVP system is to remove and treat gases and solid particles from the offgas before it exits the facility through a stack.
- *Container Storage Area for Balance of Facilities (Failed Melter Storage Building), Permit Package No. BOF-001, Rev. 0.* This design package details the construction of the Failed Melter Storage Building. The Failed Melter Storage Building will mainly be used to store High-Level Waste (HLW) melters that are no longer usable. The expected service life for WTP melters is five years.

### **Two Documents Proposed**

The proposed changes also include the following two documents that detail new information and

design changes to the LAW, HLW, and Pretreatment (PT) facilities.

- *IQRPE Structural Integrity Assessment Report for LAW Secondary Containment Bulge Enclosures, Permit Change Notice 24590-LAW-PCN-ENV-12-001, Rev. 0.* A bulge is a metal box located outside a hard-to-reach room where waste will be processed. The bulges allow hands-on operation and maintenance of process equipment such as pumps, valves, instruments, and associated equipment.

Based on four prior assessments, which were incorporated during past public comment periods, the bulges are already installed. This report addresses the integrity of the bulge enclosures as secondary containment for any leaks that might occur.

- *Engineering Specification for Plate and Frame Exchangers, 24590-WTP-3PS-MEPO-T0001, Revision 0.* This engineering specification outlines requirements for heat exchangers in the PT and HLW facilities. A heat exchanger is used to either heat or cool another fluid (liquid or gas). If a fluid needs to be cooled during processing, chilled water or a refrigerant may be used. The heat is transferred ("exchanged"), and the process fluid is cooled.

This is a brief summary of the changes proposed for the WTP Permit. To review the proposed modification in detail beginning October 15, 2013, visit the Department of Ecology website at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/nwp/commentperiods.htm>.

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You can also review the proposed modification at one of the Hanford Public Information Repositories:

Washington State Department of Ecology  
Nuclear Waste Program Resource Center  
3100 Port of Benton Boulevard  
Richland, Washington 99354  
Contact: Valarie Peery 509-372-7950

Portland State University  
Branford Price Millar Library  
1875 Southwest Park Avenue  
Portland, Oregon 97207  
Contact: Claudia Weston 503-725-4542

United States Department of Energy  
Administrative Record  
2440 Stevens Drive  
Richland, Washington 99354  
Contact: Heather Childers 509-376-2530

University of Washington  
Suzzallo Library  
PO Box 352900  
Seattle, Washington 98195  
Contact: Hilary Reinert 206-543-5597

United States Department of Energy  
Reading Room  
2770 Crimson Way  
Richland, Washington 99354  
Contact: Janice Parthree 509-372-7443

Gonzaga University  
Foley Center  
502 East Boone Avenue  
Spokane, Washington 99258  
Contact: John Spencer 509-313-6110

Your views and concerns are important to the Department of Ecology. For more information on the public comment period, please contact Erika Holmes at [hanford@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:hanford@ecy.wa.gov) or (800) 321-2008.