



U.S. Department of Energy Hanford Site

October 13, 2020

20-ESQ-0095

Ms. Kathryn Hayden, P.E.
Washington State Department of Health
Wastewater Management Section
16201 E. Indiana Avenue, Suite 1500
Spokane Valley, Washington 99216

Dear Ms. Hayden:

REQUEST FOR WAIVER FROM SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS IN WASHINGTON ADMINISTRATIVE CODE 246-272A-0300, ON-SITE SEWAGE SYSTEM ABANDONMENT

In accordance with Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 246-272A-0420, "Waiver of State Regulations," the U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (RL), is requesting a waiver from specific requirements in WAC 246-272A-0300, "Abandonment," for Hanford Non-Permitted On-Site Sewage System 1607-B5.

Hanford's On-Site Septic System 1607-B5 is a 350-gallon septic tank and drain field that was installed in 1953 and has been inactive for a minimum of 20 years. The tank received sanitary waste from a restroom at the 181B River Pump Station, which is a direct intake facility from the Columbia River to the export water system at Hanford.

RL is requesting a waiver from requirements (1) and (3) of WAC 246-272A-0300:

"Persons permanently abandoning a septic tank, seepage pit, cesspool, or other sewage container shall:

- (1) Have the septage removed by an approved pumper;
- (2) Remove or destroy the lid; and
- (3) Fill the void with soil or gravel."

The bottom of the tank was placed at an approximate depth of 22 feet below ground surface. The depth of the tank causes the pumper truck suction lift to be impacted, resulting in the inability to remove the majority of the septage from the tank. Additionally, the port is an 8-inch pipe, which greatly limits access to the entirety of the tank.

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RL contractor Mission Support Alliance, LLC (MSA) proposes, rather than pumping the estimated 200 gallons of liquid in the tank, to displace the liquid into the drain field. MSA would slowly pump grout or controlled density fill into the vent pipe to backfill the tank. The diameter of the pipe does not allow for backfilling with soil and gravel.

If you have any questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact Glyn D. Trenchard, Acting Assistant Manager for Safety and Environment, RL, on (509) 373-4016.

Sincerely,



Digitally signed by Brian T. Vance
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Brian T. Vance
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Administrative Record
Environmental Portal, G3-35