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Department of Energy

Richland Operations Office
P.O. Box 550
Richland, Washington 99352

AUG 16 1995

Mr. Geoff Tallent
State of Washington
Department of Ecology
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, Washington 98504-7600

Dear Mr. Tallent:

STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (SEPA) CHECKLIST FOR THE 1300-N EMERGENCY DUMP BASIN (EDB)

Enclosed is the SEPA checklist for the 1300-N EDB as required by the State of Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology), pursuant to the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 197-11-960. This SEPA checklist is submitted to Ecology for a determination of whether a state Environmental Impact Statement will be required, or if a determination of nonsignificance can be issued.

A nonradiological air permit application for the stabilization of the EDB was submitted to Ecology's Air Branch in June 1995. Therefore, the SEPA process is required.

Please notify the U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office, of Ecology's determination regarding this SEPA checklist. Should you have any questions or comments, please contact Mr. Glenn Richardson of the Restoration Projects Division on (509)373-9629 or Mr. Hector Rodriguez of my staff on (509)376-6421.

Sincerely,

James E. Rasmussen
James E. Rasmussen, Director
Environmental Assurance, Permits,
and Policy Division

NAP:GR

Enclosure

cc w/o encl:
R. C. King, Ecology
M. E. Greenridge, BHI
L. A. Mihalik, BHI



STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

FOR

THE HANFORD SITE

1300-N EMERGENCY DUMP BASIN STABILIZATION PROJECT

REVISION 0

JUNE 1995

9513386.0332

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**WASHINGTON ADMINISTRATIVE CODE
ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORMS
(WAC 197-11-960)**

STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT
ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FOR THE HANFORD SITE
1300-N EMERGENCY DUMP BASIN STABILIZATION PROJECT

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TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

EVALUATION FOR
AGENCY USE ONLY**A. BACKGROUND****1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:**

1300-N Emergency Dump Basin (EDB) Stabilization Project, Hanford Site, Richland, Washington

2. Name of applicants:

U. S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (RL)

3. Address and phone number of applicants and contact persons:

U. S. Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office
Post Office Box 550
Richland, Washington 99352

Contact Persons:

J. K. Erickson, Director
River Sites Restoration Division
(509) 376-3603

J. E. Rasmussen, Director
Environmental Assurance, Permits, and
Policy Division
(509) 376-2247

4. Date checklist was prepared:

June 26, 1995

5. Agency requesting checklist:

State of Washington
Department of Ecology
Post Office Box 47600
Olympia, Washington 98504-7600

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

Project kickoff - July 1995

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

Surveillance and maintenance will be performed

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

- Notice of Construction (air permit application) Department of Health approval for operation anticipated July, 1995
- U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approval for operation anticipated July 1995
- Notice of Construction (air permit application) Department of Ecology anticipated July 1995
- A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) issued on May 1, 1995

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for government approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

There are no applications pending.

10. List any governmental approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

See item number 8.

- 11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions late in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page.**

The EDB is a carbon-steel-lined, uncovered retention basin. Wind blown dust and debris has created a sediment layer on the bottom of the basin. The EDB water and sediment contain mixtures of corrosion product and fission product radionuclides. The project plans to remove the water in the basin and store the water in the 109 N sumps. The remaining sludge will be removed from the basin using an High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) vacuum or mechanical methods. Once the sludge is removed, there is a sparger that rests in the center of the basin that will be cut up and removed. The side walls of the basin will be decontaminated and stabilized. The basin will be prepared for final remediation.

- 12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.**

The 1300-N Emergency Dump Basin is located just west on the 105-N Fuel Storage Basin in the 100-N Area. Section, township, and range are not known.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

- a. General description of the site: flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other.**

Flat

- b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?**

Zero percent

- c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sandy gravel, peat muck) If you know the classification of agricultural soils specify them and note any prime farmland.**

Concrete basin bordered by sandy gravel

- d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.**

No

- e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.**

None

- f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.**

No

- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?**

The entire surface EDB (100 percent) will be left in place until final remediation.

- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any.**

Not applicable

2. Air

- a. **What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities, if known.**

Setup of equipment and operations would emit exhaust gases and may stir up dust. Such emissions would be minor and would cease when setup operations are completed.

Minor amounts of exhaust will be generated by automobiles used to gain access to the worksite. During stabilization operations, there is a slight potential for small quantities of particulates air emissions. A HEPA filter would be installed on the vacuum and the grout mixer to control the emissions.

- b. **Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odors that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.**

No

- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to the air, if any?**

All work will be conducted in wet conditions. A HEPA filter would be installed on the vacuum and the grout mixer to control air emissions. These controls were determined to satisfy the Best Available Radionuclide Control Technology (BARCT).

3. Water

a. Surface

1. **Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.**

The closest body of water is the Columbia River that is approximately one half mile away. No streams flow into the River from the project area.

2. **Will the project require any work over, in , or adjacent to (within 200 feet) of the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.**

No

3. **Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.**

Not applicable

4. **Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities, if known.**

No

5. **Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.**

No

6. **Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.**

No

b. Ground Water

- 1. Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

No

- 2. Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals; agricultural..., etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.**

There would be no discharge to ground water.

c. Water Run-off (including storm water)

- 1. Describe the source of run-off (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.**

The Hanford Site has a mild desert climate and receives only six to seven inches of annual precipitation. Any precipitation that occurs at the site seeps into the soil on or near the site, consequently none would enter any surface waters.

- 2. Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.**

No

- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and run-off water impacts, if any:**

No impacts to water are expected.

4. Plants

- a. Check or circle the types of vegetation found on the site.

deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
 evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
 shrubs
 grass
 pasture
 crop or grain
 wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bulrush, skunk cabbage, other
 water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
 other types of vegetation

None

- b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

None

- c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

None

- d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:

None

5. Animals

- a. Indicate birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

Starlings, pigeons, coyotes, and rabbits have been observed nearby. Large mammals cannot enter the fenced 100 Area. The Columbia River is approximately 250 feet away, however, within the project limits, there are no bodies of water and, therefore, no fish exist.

b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

The EDB is located within a previously disturbed area. An ecological survey of the proposed location found that no sensitive species occur in the general vicinity.

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

The nearby Columbia River is part of the broad Pacific Flyway.

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

None at this time

6. Energy and Natural Resources**a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.**

All energy is supplied through electricity.

b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

No

c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

Energy efficiency will be achieved using Best Available Demonstrated Technology (BADT).

7. Environmental Health

7. Environmental Health

- a. **Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.**

No

1. **Describe special emergency services that might be required.**

Hanford Site security, fire response, and ambulance services are on call 24 hours a day in the event of a site emergency. The Hanford 100 Area Fire Station is located close to the site.

2. **Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:**

HEPA controls will be used.

- b. **Noise**

1. **What type of noise exists in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?**

Low background noise from the operations

2. **What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.**

Short term construction noise would be possible during the proposed site setup. Hours of operation would be a normal 8 hour per day shift from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. During hot weather, shift start time is 6:30 a.m.

3. **Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:**

None

8. Land and Shoreline Use

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?

The site is not currently used. Adjacent areas are used by the Department of Energy.

b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.

An orchard existed on the site in the 1940's.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

Industrial buildings

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

No

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

The Hanford Site is classified as an Unclassified Use District.

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

The 1985 Benton County Comprehensive Land Use Plan designates the Hanford Site as the "Hanford Reservation." Under this designation, land on the Site may be used for "activities nuclear in nature." Non-nuclear activities are authorized "if and when DOE approval for such activities is obtained."

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

Not applicable

h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.

No

- i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?**

Current plans are to have a subcontractor perform the stabilization activities at the EDB. Once the stabilization activities are complete, surveillance and maintenance of the EDB will occur until final remediation.

- j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?**

None

- k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:**

Not applicable

- l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:**

Not applicable

9. Housing

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.**

Not applicable

- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.**

Not applicable

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:**

Not applicable

10. Aesthetics

- a. **What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?**

There are no structures proposed.

- b. **What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?**

None

- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:**

None

11. Light and Glare

- a. **What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?**

None

- b. **Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?**

No

- c. **What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?**

None

- d. **Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:**

Not applicable

12. Recreation

- a. **What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?**

None

- b. **Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.**

No

- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any?**

Not applicable

13. Historic and Cultural Preservation

- a. **Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.**

A cultural resource investigation has been performed for the proposed site and no places or objects have been listed, or are proposed to be listed for national, state, or local preservation registers.

- b. **Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.**

Not applicable

- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:**

Not applicable

14. Transportation

- a. **Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.**

Not applicable

- b. **Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?**

The Hanford Site is a closed federal reservation and is not served by a public transit. The nearest public transit is located in Richland, Washington, approximately 35 miles away.

- c. **How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?**

The ample existing parking spaces would be utilized; no parking spaces would be eliminated.

- d. **Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).**

No

- e. **Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.**

No

- f. **How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.**

None

- g. **Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:**

None

15. Public Services

- a. **Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.**

No

- b. **Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any:**

Not applicable

16. Utilities

- a. **List utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other:**

Electricity, water, telephone, and sanitary sewer are utilities available in the nearby building.

- b. **Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.**

It is proposed to use the existing electrical source.

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

EVALUATION FOR
AGENCY USE ONLY

SIGNATURES

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

J. E. Rasmussen, Director
Environmental Assurance, Permits, and
Policy Division
U.S. Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office

Date