



# Second Characterization Plan for Cleanup of 200 Area 200-CS-1 Work Plan



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

The U.S. Department of Energy, the Washington State Department of Ecology as the lead regulatory agency, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (the Tri-Parties) invite the public to comment on a work plan to assess seven waste sites located in the 200 Area of the Hanford Site. The waste sites, which are ponds, ditches, and trenches, received chemical sewer waste streams from the separation/concentration processes that were conducted on the site. To support cleanup, the Tri-Parties will need additional data about the contamination that is present at the waste sites.

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The *200-CS-1 Operable Unit Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Work Plan and RCRA TSD Unit Sampling Plan (DOE/RL-99-44)* describes how the respective waste sites, which includes *Resource, Conservation, and Recovery Act (RCRA)* treatment, disposal and/or storage (TSD) units, will be characterized to determine the nature and extent of contamination in the soils. Details are presented in the plan on how the characterization of the waste sites will be conducted. This work plan represents the Tri-Parties commitment to continuing progress on cleanup at Hanford by phasing in the characterization work for the remaining 200 Area soil waste sites, yet maintaining full attention to completing the 100 and 300 Areas cleanup effort.

## REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

**Public comments will be accepted from December 13, 1999 through January 14, 2000 on the 200-CS-1 Operable Unit RI/FS Work Plan and RCRA TSD Unit Sampling Plan.**

The work plan is available for review at the DOE Information Repositories listed below or the plan can be accessed on the Internet at [WWW.BHI-ERC.com/200Area/200Area.HTM](http://WWW.BHI-ERC.com/200Area/200Area.HTM)

The Tri-Parties concur that public opinion is especially important since this is the second work plan prepared under the *200 Area Implementation Plan (DOE/RL-98-28)* published in 1998. The implementation plan described the approach to be taken for all remaining 200 Area (non-tank farm) soil operable units.

To request copies of the document, or to submit comments, either written or electronically, please contact:

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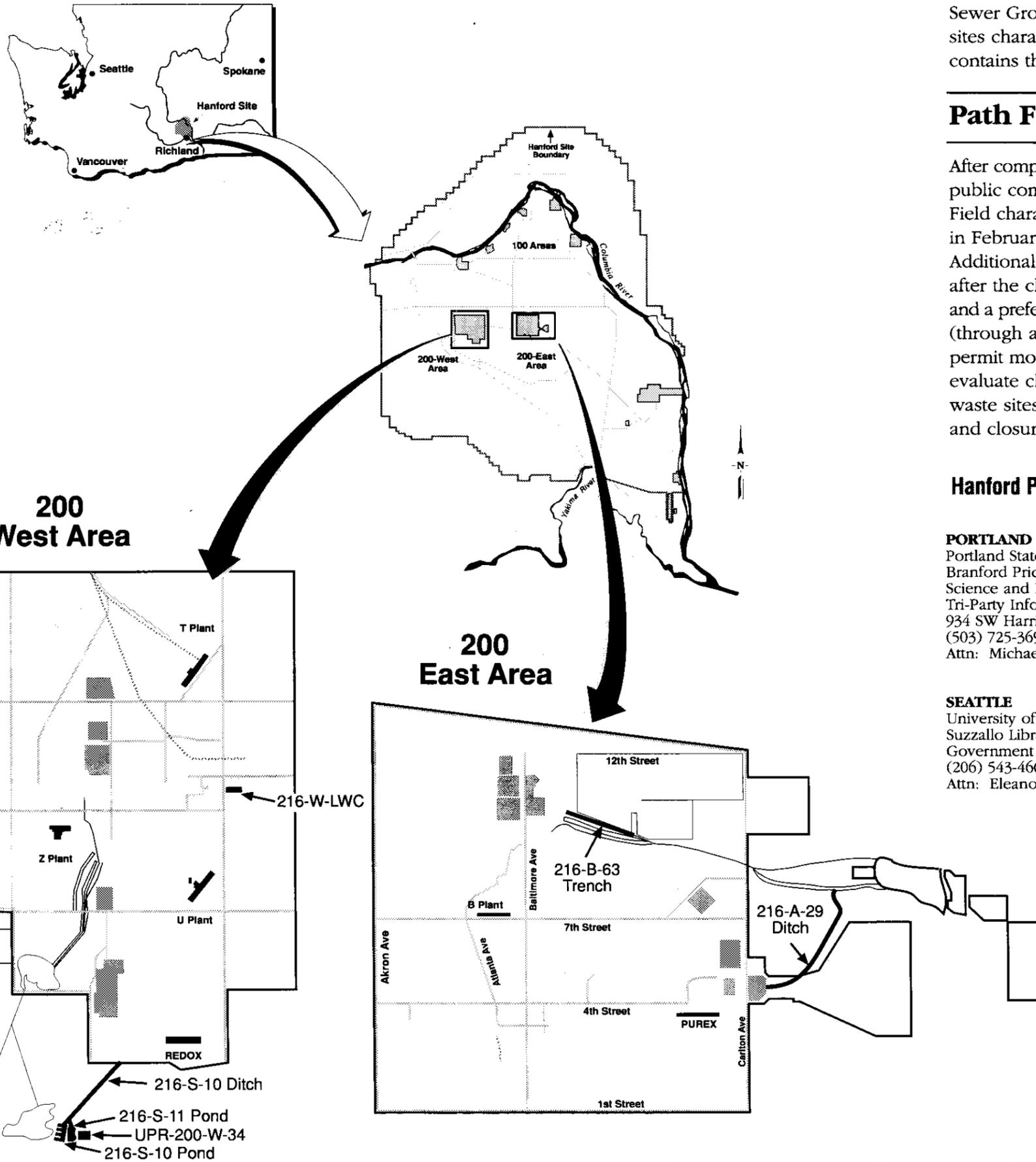
Or call Hanford Cleanup Toll-free,  
**1-800-321-2008**

## Background

Starting in 1954 and continuing for almost 40 years, radiological separation/concentration facilities in the 200 Areas discharged chemical sewer waste to various ponds, ditches, and trenches. Planned nonradioactive liquid discharges of dilute quantities of organic and/or inorganic chemicals were released. However, due to system leaks and unplanned releases, they became contaminated with low-levels of radionuclides. Disposal of the contaminated water to ditches, ponds, and trenches has resulted in soil contamination.

The work plan is the first step in the characterization process and summarizes existing waste site data, identifies contaminants of concern, and develops physical models for expected subsurface contamination conditions. This background information is used to define a proposed method for collecting additional characterization data on the chemical, radiological, and physical conditions in soil at selected waste sites. New characterization data will be combined with existing data to support selection of cleanup alternatives for the operable unit. Additionally, the work plan outlines other characterization tasks that will be completed that lead up to remedy selection, which will be documented in a Record of Decision.

The 200-CS-1 Work Plan is an example of how a general characterization approach, described in the *200 Area Implementation Plan*, is implemented at the operable unit level. The Tri-Parties plan to use existing data to identify sites that are representative of other waste sites in the operable unit. The Tri-Parties plan to use the characterization data from representative sites to base their cleanup evaluations for the rest of the waste sites in the operable unit. All seven waste sites have been grouped into a single operable unit, referred to as the 200-CS-1 Chemical



Sewer Group Operable Unit. Besides the four TSD sites characterized, the 200-CS-1 Operable Unit also contains three RCRA past practice sites.

## Path Forward

After completing the public review and incorporating public comments, the work plan will be finalized. Field characterization will be conducted beginning in February 2001 and continue through July 2001. Additional opportunities for public input will occur after the characterization data have been evaluated and a preferred remedy or closure strategy is proposed (through a proposed plan and a proposed RCRA permit modification). Data collected will be used to evaluate cleanup at representative and remaining waste sites, as well as supporting remedial design and closure strategies.

### Hanford Public Information Repository Locations:

**PORTLAND**  
 Portland State University  
 Branford Price Millar Library  
 Science and Engineering Floor  
 Tri-Party Information Repository  
 934 SW Harrison  
 (503) 725-3690  
 Attn: Michael Bowman

**RICHLAND**  
 U.S. Department of Energy  
 Public Reading Room  
 Washington State University,  
 Tri-Cities  
 Consolidated Information  
 Center, Room 101L  
 2770 University Drive  
 (509) 372-7443  
 Attn: Terri Traub

**SEATTLE**  
 University of Washington  
 Suzzallo Library  
 Government Publications  
 (206) 543-4664  
 Attn: Eleanor Chase

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 Gonzaga University  
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