START

Tri-Party Agreement

PROPOSED INTERIM CLEANUP OF THE 200-ZP-1 OPERABLE UNIT AT THE HANFORD SITE

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington State Department of Ecology, and the U.S. Department of Energy invite you to comment on the Interim Remedial Measures Proposed Plan for the 200-ZP-1 Operable Unit (OU) at the Hanford Site. The 200-ZP-1 OU contains groundwater contaminated with Carbon Tetrachloride, Chloroform, and Trichloroethylene (TCE). The comment period begins October 17 and ends November 30, 1994. The proposed plan outlines cleanup options and chooses a preferred alternative for the 200-ZP-1 Operable Unit. If you would like to review the 200-ZP-1 OU Proposed Plan, please visit one of the Hanford Public Information Repositories listed below or call the Hanford Cleanup toll-free hotline at 1-800-321-2008.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) have regulatory oversight for this project, with EPA being the lead agency. All comments will be considered by the regulatory agencies and a responsiveness summary issued before making a final decision on the cleanup option for this OU. Please submit written comments to:

Dennis Faulk, (509) 376-8631
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
712 Swift Blvd., Suite 5
Richland, WA 99352

BACKGROUND

The 200-ZP-1 OU is located on the central plateau area of the Hanford site. The 200-ZP-1 OU is one of two groundwater operable units located in the 200 West Area.

The objective of taking this Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) is to reduce the risks associated with the groundwater contaminated with elevated levels of Carbon Tetrachloride, Chloroform, and TCE. These contaminants resulted from historical discharges from processes at the Plutonium Finishing Plant. These three chemicals have a high potential risk because of their carcinogenic characteristics.

Approximately 600 to 1,000 metric tons of Carbon Tetrachloride was discharged to the ground between 1949 and 1973. Currently, a vapor extraction system is being operated in the 200 West Area which is removing Carbon Tetrachloride vapors from the soil. Over the past several years over 60,000 pounds of Carbon Tetrachloride have been removed from the soil. It is expected to take approximately three more years to remove the available Carbon Tetrachloride from the soil.

This groundwater clean up action will focus on removing the mass of Carbon Tetrachloride, Chloroform, and TCE from the plume. The Carbon Tetrachloride plume in the 200 West Area is approximately three square miles. This action will focus on the portion of the plume which contains Carbon Tetrachloride in concentrations greater than 1000 parts per billion. As a comparison, the drinking water standard set by EPA for Carbon Tetrachloride is five parts per billion. The action will also include investigation of the possible presence of carbon tetrachloride in the lower portion of the aquifer.

Information gathered to date regarding the groundwater in the 200 West Area is documented in the 200 West Aggregate Area Management Study Report (DOE/RL 92-16). This report is similar to a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Phase I and II report. The report contains historical sampling data, summarizes site conditions, and identifies available response options. The proposed plan was written using information from the report. Information gained during this IRM will be used to support final remedy selection for the 200-ZP-1 Operable Unit.

ALTERNATIVES EVALUATED

Two alternatives are evaluated in the proposed plan. they are:

1. No action
2. Groundwater pump and treat

PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

The preferred alternative is Ground water pump and treat. This IRM will be implemented using a phased approach. Currently, the system is undergoing a treatability test to gather information to begin scale up of the remedial action. If implemented, this alternative is expected to pump and treat approximately 150-500 gallons of water per minute. Duration of the project is estimated at five years and total cost is approximately 20 million dollars.

PUBLIC INFORMATION REPOSITORY LOCATIONS

The proposed plan and supporting documentation may be reviewed at the information repositories listed below. You may also receive a copy of the proposed plan by calling the Hanford clean up toll free number at 1-800-321-2008.

October 1994

University of Washington
Suzzallo Library
Government Publications Room
Mail Stop FM-25
Seattle, WA 98195
(206) 543-4664
ATTN: Eleanor Chase

Gonzaga University
Foley Center
E. 502 Boone
Spokane, WA 99258
(509) 328-4220 EXT 3125
ATTN: Thomas Carter

Portland State University
Branford Price Millar Library
Science and Engineering Floor
SW Harrison and Park
Portland, OR 97207
(503) 725-3690
ATTN: Michael Bowman

U.S. Department of Energy
Reading Room
Washington State University,
Tri-Cities
100 Sprout Road, Room 130 West
Richland, WA 99352
(509) 376-8583
ATTN: Terri Traub