

Proposed Changes to The Hanford Public Involvement Plan

Fact Sheet



2011 Hanford State of the Site Meeting, Portland, Oregon

How to Provide Comments

The 45-day public comment period on proposed changes to the Plan is **October 10 through November 28, 2011**. The TPA agencies would like your feedback on this document and will consider all comments before it is finalized.



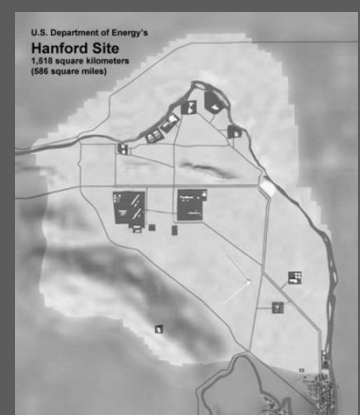
Please submit comments by November 28, 2011 to:
Paula Call
U.S. Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office
P.O. Box 550, MS: A7-75
Richland, WA 99352
Email: CRP2011@rl.gov

The U.S. Department of Energy, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Washington State Department of Ecology (the Tri-Party Agreement [TPA] agencies) are proposing revisions to the Hanford Public Involvement Plan (also known as the Hanford Site TPA Public Involvement Community Relations Plan). The Hanford Public Involvement Plan outlines ways the public can be involved in Hanford Site cleanup decision-making processes and serves as the overall guidance document for public participation and outreach activities at Hanford. The Plan is being issued for public review.

Background

People in the Pacific Northwest are concerned about what happens at Hanford. The involvement of our citizens is important to Hanford cleanup, because it helps the TPA agencies make better long-term decisions that incorporate public values. The Plan helps identify how the public can become involved in Hanford cleanup decision making. Due to changing technologies and outreach methods, the current Plan is outdated.

The Plan, first issued in 1990 and last revised in 2002, was developed as a companion document to the TPA, the legally binding agreement and completion schedule for Hanford cleanup. The proposed changes will be the fifth revision since the Hanford Public Involvement Plan was first issued.



Tri-Party Agreement
U.S. Department of Energy
Washington State Department of Ecology
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Process for Updating the Public Involvement Plan

The typical process for updating the Hanford Public Involvement Plan follows these steps. First, the TPA agencies identify a need to update or revise the document. Second, the TPA agencies work collaboratively to revise the document. If significant changes are proposed, the Hanford Public Involvement Plan will go out for public comment. During this time, the agencies may hold public meetings if there is a high level of public interest. After the public comment period closes, all comments received are considered before finalizing the Hanford Public Involvement Plan. A Comment and Response Document is also prepared.

What is the Tri-Party Agreement

The TPA provides the legal framework for Hanford Site cleanup and schedules for bringing Hanford into compliance with today's environmental laws.

The TPA consists of two main documents:

1. The **Legal Agreement** describes the roles, responsibilities, and authority of the TPA agencies in the cleanup, compliance, and permitting processes. It also sets up dispute resolution processes and describes the TPA's enforcement.
2. The **Action Plan** describes the cleanup and permitting efforts. It includes milestones (schedules) for completing work. This is Appendix D of the TPA, also known as the work schedule. The *Action Plan* also provides an overview of public involvement activities, and references a community relations plan that must be developed under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 that describes how the public will be informed and involved through the cleanup process.

Key Changes

The proposed revisions to the Public Involvement Plan include:

- Changing the title from the *Hanford Site Tri-Party Agreement Public Involvement Community Relations Plan* to "Hanford Public Involvement Plan"
- Enhancing public involvement goals and updating the public involvement evaluation process, such as
 - ✓ Engage the public by providing timely, accurate and understandable information that is easily accessible
 - ✓ Ensure open and transparent decision-making
 - ✓ Incorporate public values in the decision-making process
 - ✓ Prepare future generations for informed engagement and participation
- Streamlining the document by removing some information that is electronically available
- Rearranging the order and flow of information in order to provide additional clarity
- Updating Hanford Site information and cleanup activities
- Adding online resources and photos

Hanford Advisory Board

The Hanford Advisory Board (HAB) has been a strong and consistent advocate of citizen participation and involvement in Hanford cleanup and has provided the TPA agencies several letters of advice concerning public involvement and openness. For this revision, the HAB advised the TPA agencies to strengthen the document's overall organization, readability, and usefulness, and to affirm the commitment of the TPA agencies to actively inform and engage the public.

To see the HAB's advice and the TPA agencies' responses, visit: www.hanford.gov/?page=453.

This document is also available for review at the Public Information Repositories listed below.

HANFORD PUBLIC INFORMATION REPOSITORIES	
<p><u>Portland</u> Portland State University Branford Price Millar Library 1875 SW Park Avenue Attn: Liz Paulus (503) 725-4542 Website: http://library.pdx.edu/</p>	<p><u>Seattle</u> University of Washington Suzallo Library Government Publications Division Attn: David Maack (206) 543-4664 Website: www.lib.washington.edu/govpubs</p>
<p><u>Richland</u> U.S. Department of Energy Public Reading Room Washington State University, Tri-Cities Consolidated Information Center, Room 101-L 2770 University Drive Attn: Janice Parthree (509) 372-7443 Website: http://reading-room.pnnl.gov/</p>	<p><u>Spokane</u> Gonzaga University Foley Center 502 E. Boone Ave. Attn: John Spencer (509) 313-6110 Website: www.gonzaga.edu/Academics/Libraries/Foley-Library</p>
<p>Administrative Record and Public Information Repository: Address: 2440 Stevens Center Place, Room 1101, Richland, WA Phone: 509-376-2530 Web site address: www2.hanford.gov/arpir/</p>	



Proposed Changes to the Hanford Public Involvement Plan can be viewed online at www.hanford.gov/ under Hanford Events Calendar.

To access the document, click on More Event Calendar and select any date between October 10 and November 28, 2011.

Click on: Public Comment Period for Proposed Changes to the Hanford Public Involvement Plan.

For additional information or a copy of the Plan, call the Hanford Cleanup Line at 1-800-321-2008 or email CRP2011@rl.gov.

You are invited to attend a public meeting and/or webinar to discuss the proposed changes to the Hanford Public Involvement Plan. Meetings are scheduled for:

November 9, 2011
 Webinar Meeting*
 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

**E-mail us at CRP2011@rl.gov to participate in webinar*

November 15, 2011
 Seattle Center, Northwest Building
 Olympic Room
 305 Harrison Street
 Seattle, Washington
 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

November 16, 2011
 Red Lion Hotel at the Park
 Riverfront Ballroom
 303 West North River Drive
 Spokane, Washington
 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Please e-mail us at CRP2011@rl.gov if you require special accommodations to participate in the meetings.



TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!

Public Comment Period : October 10 - November 28, 2011



On the Hanford Public Involvement Plan

Why Should You Care About Changes to the Hanford Public Involvement Plan?

- **The Plan identifies ways the public can participate in Hanford cleanup decisions.**
- **The Plan describes how the TPA agencies consider public input when determining when/where public meetings will be held.**
- **This is your opportunity to provide comments on the proposed changes to the Plan that will be considered before it is finalized.**

U.S. Department of Energy
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