

Class 2 Permit Modification for LERF ETF

*Take Action!
Track Tank Waste Start to Finish.*

COMMENT DEADLINE: SAT FEB 13, 2021



The U.S. Department of Energy is holding a public comment period on a proposed Class 2 permit modification to the Hanford Dangerous Waste Permit. The permit modification involves the Liquid Effluent Retention Facility (LERF) and the 200 Area Effluent Treatment Facility (ETF) at the Hanford Site.

This proposed modification would allow DOE to change some buildings that aren't big enough for the trucks that will be transporting liquids as part of the work to treat Hanford's tank waste, and remove two unused tanks.

These buildings are part of the last stop for a waste stream that is generated by treating Hanford's tank waste, more or less the filtered steam that escapes when the waste is being treated.

continued....



TAKE ACTION!

We're encouraging you to send in a comment asking Ecology to make sure the U.S. Department of Energy meets its commitment on a milestone involving something called mass balance. Basically, once the waste goes into a treatment process, we want to know what contaminants end up where, as the waste is filtered, heated, evaporated, separated etc.

Some of the least contaminated liquid that comes out of the tank waste treatment process will end up in the Liquid Effluent Retention Basins (LERF), basically covered pools of contaminated liquid. That liquid gets treated at the Effluent Treatment Facility (ETF) where contaminants are removed, and the decontaminated liquids are reinjected into the ground.

Hanford Challenge is urging you to Take Action! because we want to make sure we know what is in these "least contaminated liquids." The concentrations of contamination may be lower, but the liquids could contain toxins like technetium-99 and ammonia. We won't know the concentrations or types of contaminants DOE and its contractors are predicting will be in these liquids, without seeing the mass balance report and the assumptions they used to produce that document.

The buildings that will be expanded as part of this comment period are where the tanker trucks, which contain contaminated liquids from the tank waste treatment process, add their contents to LERF/ETF.

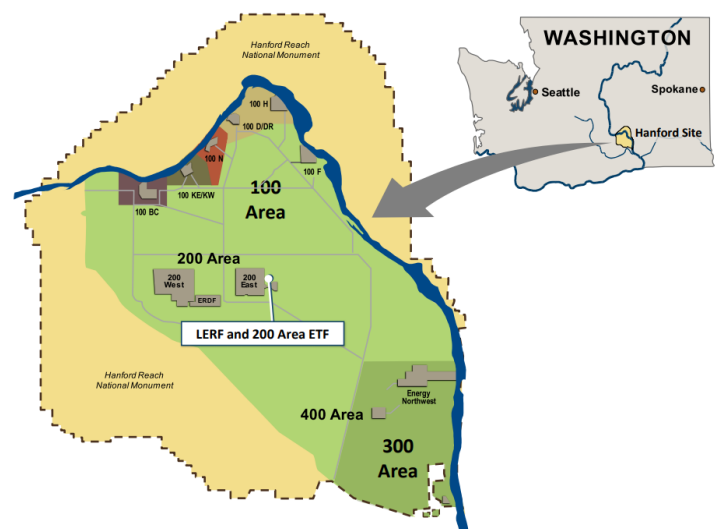
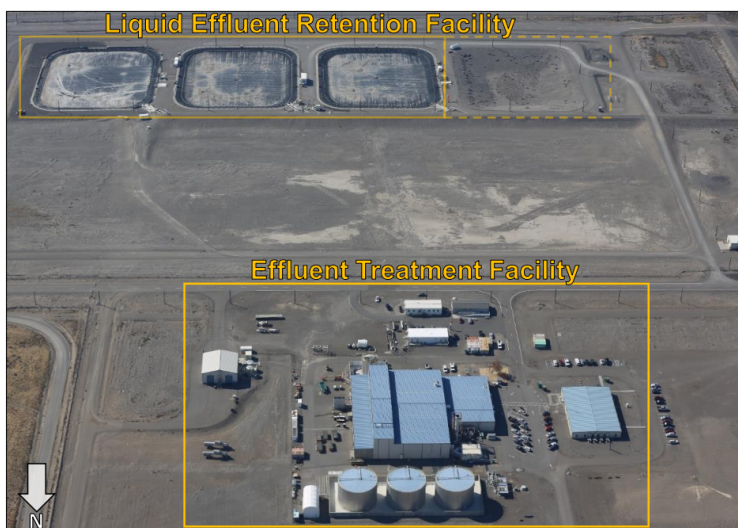
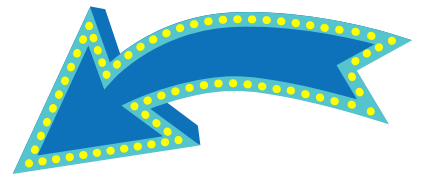


Image courtesy: [DOE presentation](#)

HANFORD CHALLENGE SUGGESTED COMMENTS



Please Take Action! by copying the following comment and [clicking this link](#) to submit your comment to Ecology today:

Dear Department of Ecology,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Class 2 Permit Modification for LERF/ETF ending February 13th.

Please ensure that the U.S. Department of Energy meets its requirement to submit a Mass Balance Flow as a single secondary document, as part of the milestone M-62-46, that states: "Submit to Ecology as a secondary document a Mass Balance Flow from Tank Farms to Low Activity Waste Pretreatment Capability to Low Activity Waste to Effluent Management Facility to Recycle to Tank Farms and to ETF/LERF." (Note that this milestone number was changed to M-62-50).

I care about how Hanford's tank waste is treated and I want a transparent process that clearly documents in one place what happens to the tank waste once it starts treatment, where contaminants end up and in what quantity. It is important to me that there are no "orphaned waste streams" – waste that has no pathway for further treatment or disposal.

*Thank you so much for considering my comments,
[YOUR NAME]*

Resources

- Dept. of Energy [Fact Sheet](#)
- [LERF/ETF Permit Application](#)
- [Presentation](#) from Dept. of Energy Public Meeting on Jan 21, 2021
- [Hanford Challenge comments](#).
- Submit comments electronically [here](#)

SUBMIT COMMENTS

electronically by midnight on **Saturday Feb 13th**