



DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington

Department of Ecology

October 2024 - Agency Update

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Outline

- General updates
- Hanford Site funding
- Hanford Sitewide Permit update
- Tank T-101 status update
- Environmental testing for low-activity waste
- Tri-Party Agreement negotiations

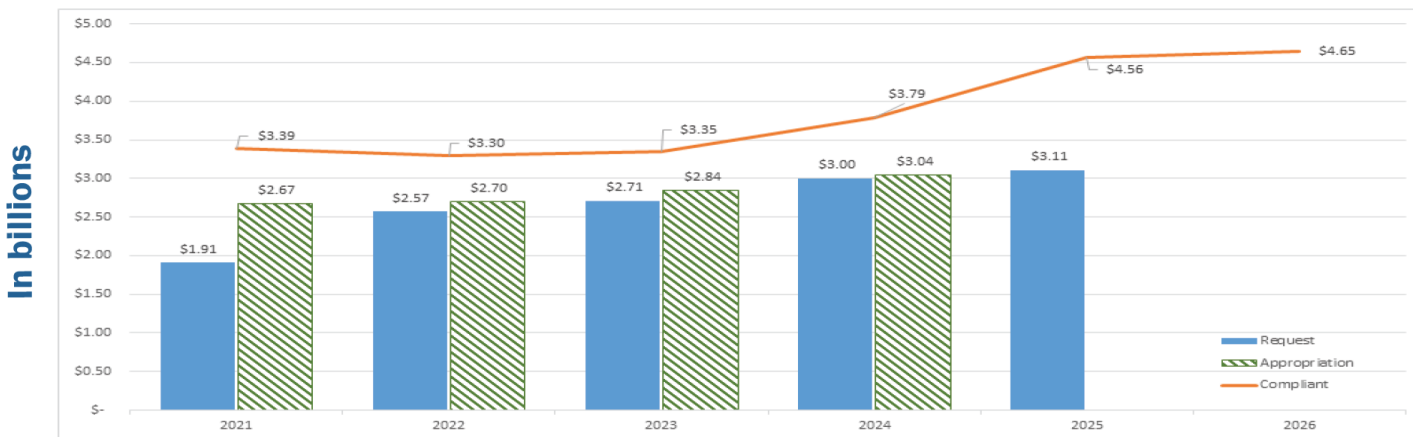
General updates

- Responding to Test Bed Initiative/Holistic Agreement communications
- Staffing update
- Completed NUCON research, development, demonstration permit public comment period
- Completed Integrated Disposal Facility permitting
- Upcoming public involvement:
 - 2024 TPA Public Involvement Survey (January 2025)
 - Perma-Fix Permit renewal (early 2025)
 - Air Operating Permit (TBD)
 - Hanford Sitewide Permit (More below)

Hanford Site Fiscal Year 2024-25 funding

- The FY24 budget for the Hanford Site was a record \$3.04B (\$3.79B compliant). This was an increase from \$2.84B in FY23 and \$2.7B in FY22.
- This was the result of many voices united calling for adequate funding.
- We are advocating for FY25's budget. The President's requested budget and House budget are \$3.11B, Senate is \$3.35B (\$4.56B compliant).
- Congress passed a continuing resolution through December

Hanford's budget at a glance



*Compliant budget refers to amount needed to meet Tri-Party Agreement cleanup milestones



High-level waste facility in 2019. Following increased funding design and construction has recently resumed.

Hanford Sitewide Permit renewal status

- The 120-day public comment period is scheduled for early 2025. When we get closer to finalizing all the unit groups, we will provide early notification of the tentative public comment period dates.
 - (Note under WAC 173-303-840(3)(d), a renewal public comment period is 45-days, however, we have scheduled additional days to provide the public enough time to review the draft renewal.)
- The Hanford Sitewide Permit, Rev. 9A Renewal will include:
 - 53 Operating, Closure, and Post-Closure unit groups
 - Two Corrective Action unit groups
 - Standard conditions, attachments, and supporting documents
- It will be about 20,000 pages. We are complete with 30 Unit Groups.
- Staff from both Ecology and the permittees are working very hard and are making progress on completing the remaining portions of the draft renewal. We're also completing responses to public, Tribal Nation and permittee comments.

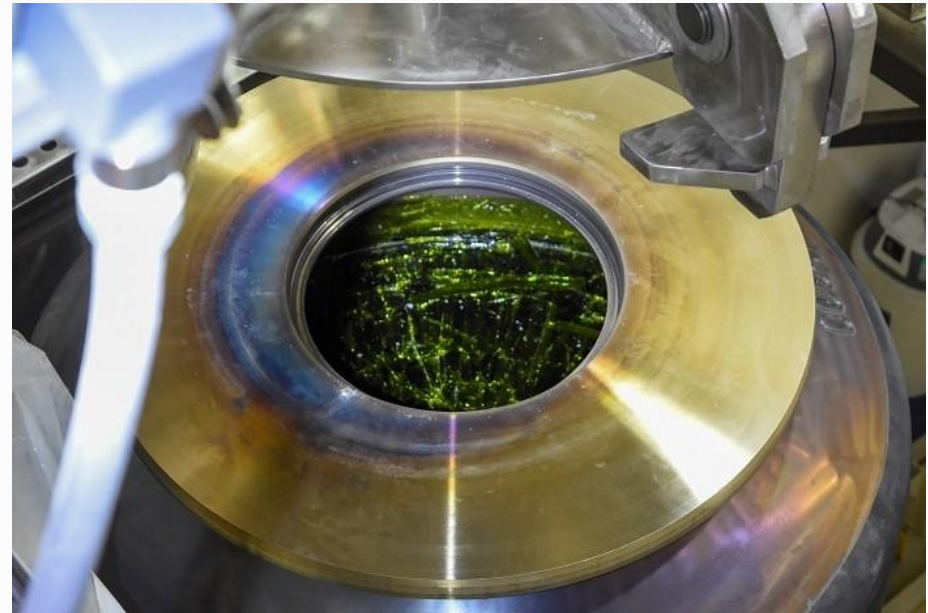
Tank T-101 Update

- Energy formally notified Ecology on Aug. 15 that single-shell Tank T-101 has been declared an “assumed leaker” and is likely actively leaking.
- Ecology is working with Energy to determine appropriate actions.
- Based on current information, Ecology does not believe this tank poses immediate risk to workers or the public.

Environmental Performance Demonstration Test

Low-Activity Waste Facility

- EPDT overview
 - [Aug. 6 HAB committee joint USD OE-ECY presentation recording](#)
 - [Copy of slideshow](#)
- Test objectives
- Ecology's role
- Timeframe



Holistic Negotiations update

- On April 29, 2024, the Tri-Parties and the U.S. Department of Justice announced the Holistic Agreement. The public comment period for changes to the Tri-Party Agreement and the Consent Decree was held May 30 through Sept. 1, 2024.
 - Public meetings were held in Richland, Olympia, and Hood River, OR.
 - The agencies are now considering and drafting responses to the comments received.
 - Consultation was held with Yakama Nation Sept. 4, 2024.
 - Consultation was held with Nez Perce Tribe Oct. 8, 2024.

M-15, M-16, M-85 milestone negotiations update

- M-15 covers the RI/FS investigation process for all non-tank farm, non-canyon operating units. (Due 2026)
- M-16 covers the remedial actions for non-tank farm, non-canyon operating units. This includes both soil and groundwater. (Due 2042)
- M-85 covers all response actions for the canyon facilities and associated operating units, except for U Plant and T Plant. (Due date TBD)
- The Tri-Parties have been working together since the start of 2024 to update soil, groundwater, and facility milestones which are currently held in Abeyance.

How is the Tri-Party Agreement laid out?

Legal Agreement

- Part One Introduction – Describes the purpose of the agreement
- Part Two Permitting/Closure of TSD Units/Groups
- Part Three Remedial and Corrective Actions
- Part Four Integration of EPA and Ecology Responsibilities – Explains the Parties' jurisdictions, agency roles & responsibilities
- Part Five Common Provisions – Outlines dispute resolution processes

Attachment 1, Letter from the U.S. Department of Justice

Attachment 2, Action Plan

- Contains 14 chapters and 10 appendices
- Is an integral and enforceable part of the agreement
- Contains plans, procedures, and implementing schedules (milestones)
- Prescribes TPA change control processes

How is the TPA Action Plan laid out?

1. Introduction
2. Milestones
3. Unit Identification, Classification, and Prioritization
4. Agreement Management
5. Interface of Regulatory Authorities
6. Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Units
7. Past Practices Processes
8. Facility Disposition Process
9. Documentation and Records
10. Community Relations/Public Involvement
11. Work Schedule, Work Plans, and Associated Reports
12. Changes to the Agreement
13. Liquid Effluent Treatment and Disposal
14. Signature

How are the TPA Appendices laid out?

- A. Definition of Terms and Acronyms
- B. Listing of Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Groups/Units
- C. Prioritized Listing of Operable Units
- D. Work Schedule Milestones and Target Dates Including Designation of Lead Regulatory Agency
- E. Key Individuals
- F. Supporting Technical Plans and Procedures
- G. Data Management Initiatives
- H. Single-Shell Tank Waste Retrieval Criteria Procedure
- I. SST System Waste Retrieval and Closure Process
- J. Central Plateau Facilities

TPA Milestones – Appendix D

- A **major milestone** is an enforceable milestone that represents a long-term (generally > 5 years) major scope of work that, when completed, demonstrates progress towards full compliance
 - **Major milestones** usually form the basis for a series of interim milestones and/or target dates, and most end with “00” (e.g., M-016-00)
- An **interim milestone** is an enforceable milestone that represents an intermediate term (< 5 years) significant scope of work that, when completed, supports the ultimate completion of a major milestone (e.g., M-016-85)
- A **target date** is not enforceable and represents a shorter, near-term (6-18 months) scope of work or work with a high degree of uncertainty in support of interim and major milestones (e.g., M-016-119-T01)
 - **Target dates** are generally used to track progress toward the completion of interim and major milestones, and include a “T” designator in the milestone number

Remaining Major Milestones

- **Richland Operations Office**

- **M-015-00:** Complete RI/FS (or RFI/CMS) for all non-tank farm operable units
- **M-016-00:** Complete remedial actions for all non-tank farm and non-canyon OUs
- **M-024-000:** Complete installation of RCRA and CERCLA groundwater monitoring wells
- **M-035-00:** Complete data management enhancements
- **M-085-00:** Complete response actions for canyon facilities/associated past practice waste sites
- **M-089-00:** Complete closure of 324 bldg non-permitted mixed waste units
- **M-091-00:** Complete treatment to LDR standards for all RCRA MLLW and RCRA TRUM waste
- **M-092-00:** Complete TSD facilities for cesium, strontium, and bulk sodium
- **M-093-00:** Complete final disposition of all 100 Area surplus reactor buildings

- **Office of River Protection**

- **M-042-00:** Complete closure of all Double Shell Tank Farms
- **M-045-00:** Complete closure of all Single Shell Tank Farms
- **M-047-00:** Complete work to provide facilities for management of WTP secondary waste
- **M-062-00:** Complete pretreatment processing and vitrification of HLW and LAW Tank Wastes
- **M-090-00:** Complete storage facilities for first two years of IHLW from WTP

Questions?

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