



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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May 9, 2016

16-NWP-078

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Re: Proposed Class 3 Permit Modification of the *Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit, Dangerous Waste Portion, Revision 8C, for the Treatment, Storage, and Disposal of Dangerous Waste* (The Permit), Part V, Closure Unit Group 5, 207-A South Retention Basin, WA7890008967

References: See page 2

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

This letter transmits the draft Permit Modification to Part V, Closure Unit Group 5, 207-A South Retention Basin (207-A SRB), of the *Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit, Dangerous Waste Portion, Rev. 8c for the Treatment, Storage and Disposal of Dangerous Waste*.

Washington Administrative Code 173-303-840(3)(d) allows at least a 45-day public comment period for the draft permit modification. The public comment period extends from May 9, 2016, through June 24, 2016. Only those portions of the permit subject to this modification are reopened. All other aspects of the existing permit remain in effect for the duration of the modification.

The intent of the Class 3 Permit Modification is to add the 207-A SRB Closure Plan to Part V of the permit, in order to close the 207-A SRB. The closure plan will be included as Chapter 4 of Closing Unit Group 5, Part V. The Department of Ecology (Ecology) performed a technical and completeness review of the permit modification application. Ecology deemed the permit modification application complete. A summary of the completeness review is provided under separate cover.



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As part of the Class 3 Permit Modification request, the Permittees (the United States Department of Energy [USDOE] as owner or operator and CH2M HILL Plateau Remediation Company [CHPRC] as co-operator) requested a Temporary Authorization (TA) to begin closure before the Class 3 Permit Modification was approved (Reference 1). Ecology approved the TA on July 24, 2015, with effective dates of July 27, 2015, through January 23, 2016.

In letter 16-NWP-015, dated January 21, 2016, Ecology granted a one-time 180-day extension of the TA to USDOE. The TA extension expires July 22, 2016. Once the TA extension expires, field closure activities are suspended until the permit modification takes effect.

The draft permit modification is on the enclosed DVD. Copies of this DVD are also available at the Hanford Public Information Repositories in Richland, Spokane and Seattle, Washington, as well as Portland, Oregon. The DVD is also available at the USDOE Administrative Record at 2440 Stevens Drive, Richland, Washington, and at the Ecology Central File located at the Nuclear Waste Program Office, 3100 Port of Benton Blvd, Richland, Washington.

The USDOE held a public comment period regarding the Class 3 Permit Modification request for the 207-A SRB from June 30, 2015, until August 28, 2015. The Permittees held a public meeting on August 5, 2015, at the Richland, Washington Public Library. Ecology received 72 public comments from USDOE's 2015 comment period and 42 public comments related to the Revision 9 permit public comment period, held in 2012. Ecology responded to the combined 114 public comments from both comment periods.

Ecology issued a Response to Comments document covering both public comments periods and it is included on the enclosed DVD and is available on the Ecology website at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/nwp/commentperiods.htm>.

A public hearing is not scheduled, but Ecology will consider holding one if there is enough interest.

If there are any questions, please contact Nina M. Menard, Environmental Restoration Project Manager, at nina.menard@ecy.wa.gov or (509) 372-7941.

Sincerely,



Suzanne Dahl
Dangerous Waste Permit Manager
Nuclear Waste Program

tm/aa
Enclosure

Reference: Letter 15-AMRP-0228, dated June 25, 2015, from S. Charboneau, USDOE-RL, to J. A. Hedges, Ecology, "Submittal of Permit Modification Request, Temporary Authorization Request, and Closure Plan for the 207-A South Retention Basin Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Unit"

cc: See page 3

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Government Publications
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USDOE Public Reading Room, CIC
USDOE-RL Correspondence Control
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USEPA Region 10 Hanford Field Office
Correspondence Control
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