

# Air Permit Changes Needed to Start Waste Retrieval from Hanford Tank AY-102

The Washington State Department of Ecology invites you to comment on a modification to an air emission permit for the AY/AZ Tank Farm ventilation unit.

The formal name for this change is the “Approval Order for Notice of Construction.” It will revise the already issued Approval Order DE11NWP-001, Rev. 1.

## Waste Retrieval from Tank AY-102

The waste in Hanford’s double-shell tank AY-102 must be removed because the tank is leaking. Under [an order from Ecology](#), the waste retrieval must start by March 4, 2016.

In support of retrieving waste from tank AY-102, the U.S. Department of Energy Office of River Protection (the permittee) wants to remove a broken piece of equipment that is restricting air flow in the tank’s ventilation system.

The permittee also wants to add an exhauster to the space between the inner and outer tank (annulus space). This exhauster will cool the inner tank’s outer surface and send any airborne particulates in the annulus space through high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters.

## Decision Process

When the comment period closes, Ecology will consider the comments received and revise the permit as needed. Then we will issue the Approval Order and Response to Comments. The approval order will become part of the permit during a future update.

Information about the public comment period is on the right.

## Permittee/Site Owner

U.S. Department of Energy  
Office of River Protection  
P.O. Box 450  
Richland, WA 99352

### WHY IT MATTERS

The Hanford Air Operating Permit ensures that Hanford’s air emissions stay within safe limits that protect people and the environment.

### Public Comment Period

May 31 – July 3, 2015

### Submit Comments

Send comments or questions by email (preferred), U.S. mail, or hand deliver them to:

Philip Gent  
Department of Ecology  
3100 Port of Benton Blvd.  
Richland, WA 99354  
[HanfordAir@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:HanfordAir@ecy.wa.gov)

### Public Hearing

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

To request a hearing or for more information, contact:

Dieter Bohrmann  
Department of Ecology  
800-321-2008  
[HanfordAir@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:HanfordAir@ecy.wa.gov)

### Special Accommodations

To request ADA accommodation, including materials in a format for the visually impaired, call Ecology at 509-372-7950.

Persons with impaired hearing may call Washington Relay Service at 711.

Persons with speech disability may call TTY at 877-833-6341.

**Information Repositories and other document review locations**

**Online**

[www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/nwp/PI/pages/info-repositories.htm](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/nwp/PI/pages/info-repositories.htm)

**Richland**

Ecology’s Nuclear Waste Program  
Resource Center  
3100 Port of Benton Blvd.  
Richland, WA 99354  
Contact: Valarie Peery  
509-372-7950  
[Valarie.Peery@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Valarie.Peery@ecy.wa.gov)

Dept. of Energy Administrative Record  
2440 Stevens Drive, Room 1101  
Richland, WA 99354  
Contact: Heather Childers  
509-376-2530  
[Heather M Childers@rl.gov](mailto:Heather_M_Childers@rl.gov)

Department of Energy Reading Room  
2770 Crimson Way, Room 101L  
Richland, WA 99354  
Contact: Janice Scarano  
509-372-7443  
[DOE.reading.room@pnnl.gov](mailto:DOE.reading.room@pnnl.gov)

**Portland**

Portland State University  
Branford Price Millar Library  
1875 SW Park Avenue  
Portland, OR 97207  
Contact: Claudia Weston  
503-725-4542  
[Westonc@pdx.edu](mailto:Westonc@pdx.edu)

**Seattle**

University of WA Suzzallo Library  
P.O. Box 352900  
Seattle, WA 98195  
Contact: Cass Hartnett  
206-685-3130  
[Cass@uw.edu](mailto:Cass@uw.edu)

**Spokane**

Gonzaga University Foley Center  
502 E Boone Avenue  
Spokane, WA 99258  
Contact: John S. Spencer  
509-313-6110

**Information for Public Review**

Ecology invites you to review and comment on the documents for our decision to change the permit.

- The application letter
- The draft approval order, conditions, and restrictions
- State Environmental Policy Act documentation

These documents are at the locations listed on the left.

**Air Pollution Regulations**

Ecology is following [Washington Administrative Code 173-400](#), General Regulations for Air Pollution Sources, to process the U.S. Department of Energy’s request to change the permit.

[Washington Administrative Code Section 173-400-171](#) covers how we conduct this public comment period. It outlines when, where, and how we notify the public and provide the proposal for review.



*Waste leaked from inner liner to annulus space of tank AY-102.*