216-B-63 Trench

Closing Unit #21

- Open, unlined trench.
- About 1400 feet long, 4 feet wide, about 10 feet deep on the average.
- Near B Plant in Hanford’s 200 East Area.

Where did the waste come from?
The trench received emergency cooling water and chemical sewer waste from B Plant and the Waste Encapsulation and Storage Facility (WESF).

What will happen to the site?
The trench is now covered with clean soil and marked with concrete posts. The waste source has been blocked by filling the weir box at the head end with concrete and cutting off the valve stems.

Tri-Party Agreement milestone M-037-02 requires a closure plan for the trench by 2014. Milestone M-037-10 requires the trench’s closure by 2020. The cleanup will meet CERCLA and RCRA Corrective Action requirements.

What’s the risk?
The main contaminants from this site are from tritium, nitrate, calcium, and sulfate. Groundwater monitoring shows that dangerous waste from this trench has not entered groundwater.