

# Non-Radioactive Dangerous Waste Landfill\* & Solid Waste Landfill \*\*

## Closing Unit #20

NRDWL and SWL are next to each other on the edge of the central plateau, a few miles south of the main plutonium processing and waste storage areas, known as the 200 Area.

In 1973, one large landfill started receiving dangerous waste. In 1975, the landfill was separated into a solid waste and a non-radioactive dangerous waste landfill. They stopped using NRDWL in 1988, and SWL in 1996.

Though they hold different types of waste, we'll close them as one unit using the stricter Dangerous Waste regulations because:

- They adjoin each other.
- Both landfills have released similar contaminants to the ground and groundwater.

### What's the risk?

USDOE recently re-released a draft Environmental Assessment to answer this question! They believe through natural processes, the cover will prevent 98 percent of the average precipitation from percolating to the waste in the ground. Permit requires groundwater monitoring and prompt action if monitoring shows contamination.

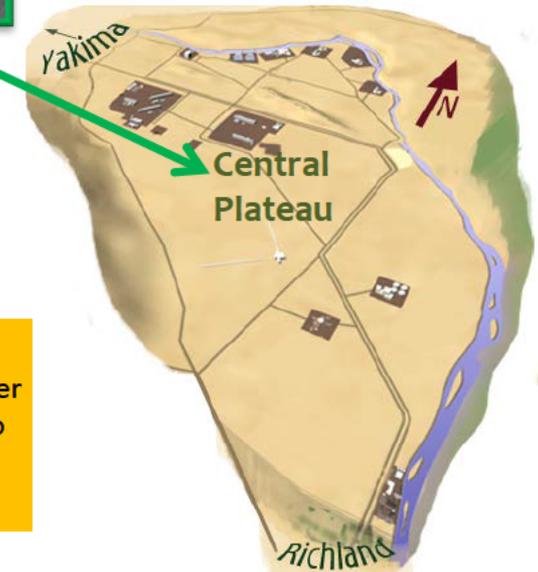
#### \*NRDWL

- 19 unlined trenches, 400 feet long, 16 feet wide, 15 feet deep, covering 10 acres total.
- Wastes came from processing, labs, maintenance, and transportation across Hanford.
- Received liquid wastes, asbestos, and solvents.
- Use ended in 1988.



#### \*\*SWL

- Many trenches, 530 – 620 feet long each, covering 66 acres total.
- Not subject to dangerous waste rules.
- Subject to solid-waste handling regulations.
- Use ended in 1996.



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