

STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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December 14, 2017

17-NWP-181

Mr. Doug S. Shoop, Manager Richland Operations Office United States Department of Energy PO Box 550, H5-20 Richland, Washington 99352 Mr. Brian T. Vance, Manager Office of River Protection United States Department of Energy PO Box 450, MSIN: H6-60 Richland, Washington 99352

Re: Start of Public Comment Period for the Draft Hanford Site Air Operating Permit (AOP) Renewal 3

Dear Mr. Shoop and Mr. Vance:

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) is starting the public involvement process for Renewal 3 of the Hanford Site AOP in compliance with Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 173-401-800. Draft Renewal 3 of the Hanford AOP will be available for public comment from December 17, 2017, through February 16, 2018. Currently no public hearing has been scheduled. A separate notification will be issued if a public hearing is scheduled.

A DVD of the entire AOP for public comment is enclosed. The DVD contains a user interface to select and open files. The files and supporting documents for the public comment period can also be accessed on the Ecology Nuclear Waste Program website at: <u>http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/nwp/commentperiods.htm</u>.

A new public comment period webpage may come online sometime during the public comment period and the files and supporting documents will also be available there. The new public comment webpage can be accessed at: <u>http://www.ecology.wa.gov/Waste-Toxics/Nuclear-waste/Public-comment-periods</u>.

Comments can now be drafted and submitted electronically through Ecology's new eComments webpage. The eComments webpage will not be open until the start of the public comment period and can be accessed at: http://wt.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=Urk6K.

Ecology will consider comments received during this public comment period and will issue a responsiveness summary to all comments received. After receiving and responding to comments, Ecology will submit the proposed AOP Renewal 3 to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for a 45-day review. Following EPA review, Ecology will issue the final action on the permit.

During the public comment period and until Ecology issues a revised permit, the current Hanford Site AOP, Number 00-05-006, Renewal 2, Revision B, will remain in effect. In accordance with WAC 173-401-710 (3), the United States Department of Energy submitted a timely and complete renewal application. Therefore, all terms and conditions of the current AOP shall remain in effect after the permit itself expires.

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If you have any questions regarding the public comment period, please contact Daina McFadden at <u>daina.mcfadden@ecy.wa.gov</u> or (509) 372-7939 or Philip Gent at <u>philip.gent@ecy.wa.gov</u> or (509) 372-7983 or email questions to Hanford@ecy.wa.gov.

Sincerely. Philip M. Gent, PE

Waste Management Section, Lead Air Engineer Nuclear Waste Program

cc electronic w/enc:

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cc w/o enc:

Matt Johnson, CTUIR Jack Bell, NPT Alyssa Buck, Wanapum Rose Longoria, YN Susan Leckband, HAB

cc w/enc: (DVD)

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