**System Plan 8** and the Hanford Tank Mission

Oregon Hanford Cleanup Board

Jeff Burright March 19, 2018





# Why is this important?

"The treatment of high level waste at Hanford remains the single largest environmental cleanup initiative in the world, and any delay could jeopardize the safety of the residents of the Pacific Northwest." –U.S. Rep. Doc Hastings, 2000

- A successful tank waste treatment mission will prevent future releases to the soil and eventually the river.
- An unsuccessful tank mission would result in new releases to the environment, serious accidents, poor use of taxpayer resources, or short-sighted decisions about how to dispose of tank waste.
- We are in a race against time.





#### Hanford's Tank Waste – 54,000,000 gallons of high-level waste

- 149 "single-shell" tanks (28.5 million gallons)
  - ✓ 55,000 to 1,000,000 gallon capacity
  - 61 known or suspect
     leaking tanks one actively
     leaking to the soil
  - ✓ 17 tanks mostly emptied
- 28 "double-shell" tanks (25.5 million gallons)
  - ✓ 1,000,000 to 1,257,000 gallon capacity
  - ✓ One out of service after actively leaking into containment



#### Hanford's Single-Shell Tanks



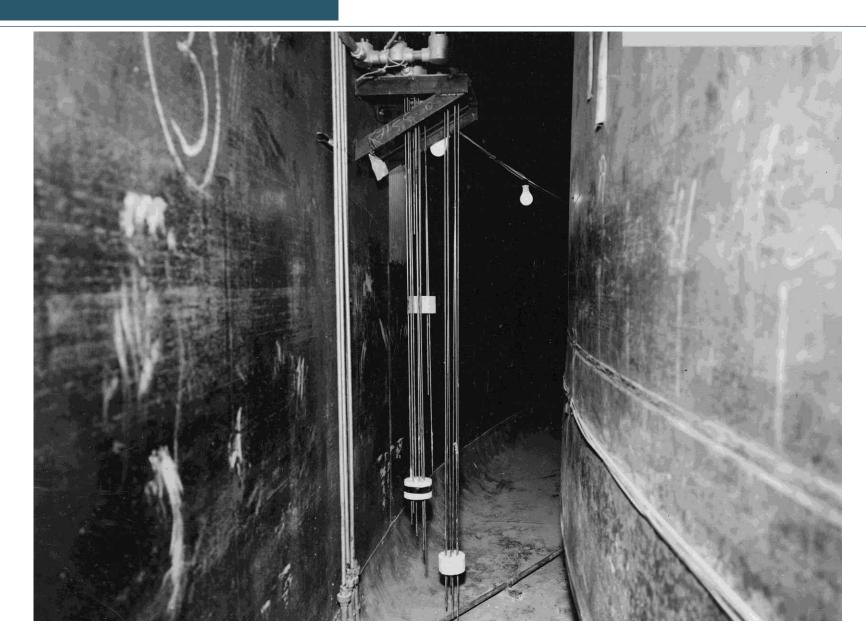


#### Double-Shell Tank Construction





#### Double-Shell Tank Construction



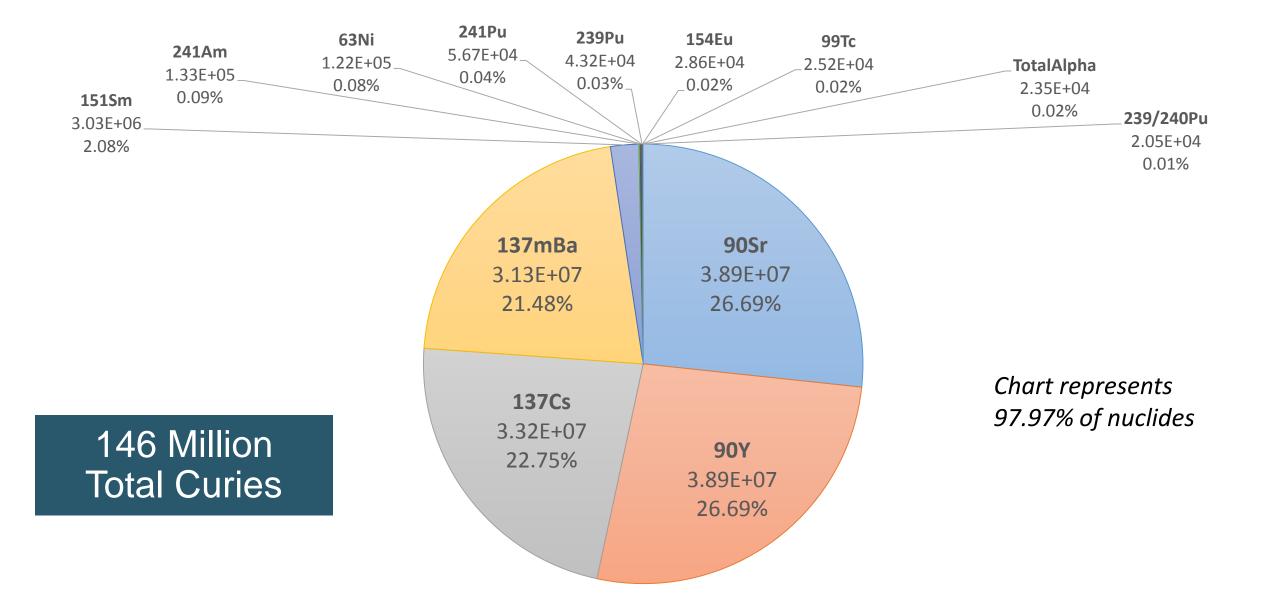
#### Hanford's Tank Waste – 54,000,000 gallons of high-level waste

- 149 "single-shell" tanks
  - ✓ Oldest tank has held waste for 73+ years – since 1944

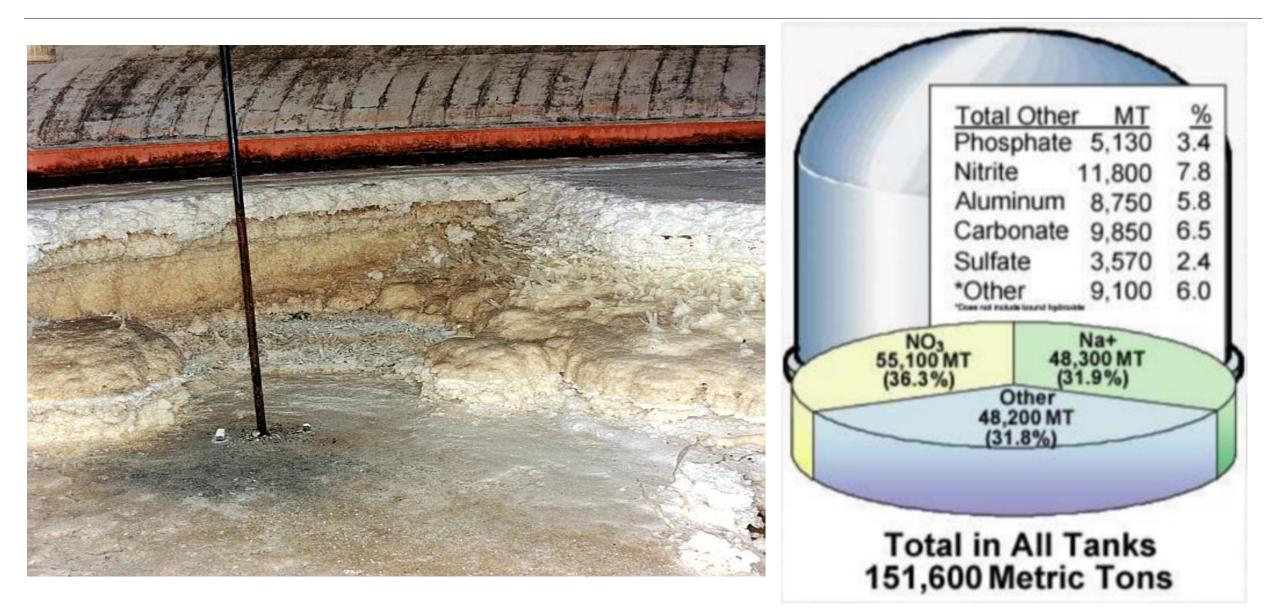
- 28 "double-shell" tanks
  - ✓ 31.5 million gallons total capacity
  - ✓ Newest tank has held waste for 30+ years − since 1986



## Tank Radionuclides (Curies)



### Tank Non-Rad Constituents





ENERGY

## The Mission "Product"

#### **High-Level Waste Canisters**

- 2' x 14.75'
- 6,600 pounds of glass each
- 600 canisters produced/year
- ~ 7,200 to 27,800 canisters
- Temporarily stored at Hanford until National Repository opened

#### Low-Activity Waste Canisters

- 4' x 7.5'
- 13,000 pounds of glass each
- 1,300 containers produced/year
- ~ 58,000 to 96,000 canisters
- Disposed on Hanford Site



# What is the System Plan?

- Purpose is to evaluate scenarios and "optimize" the system for retrieval and treatment of tank waste "as quickly as is technically feasible"
- Projects <u>where</u>, <u>how</u>, and <u>when</u> tank waste moves through retrieval & treatment
- Models:
  - Facility operations (waste retrieval/transfer/treatment)
  - Glass formulation (batch recipes)
  - Waste solubility (solid/liquid)
  - Lifecycle cost/schedule.





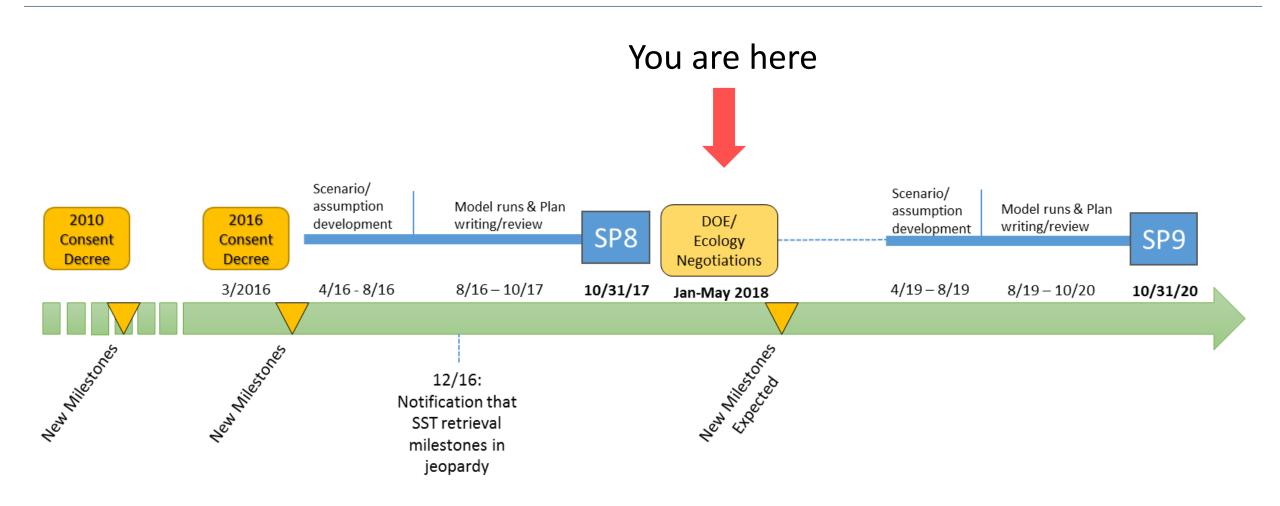
## How does the System Plan fit the bigger picture?

- Required every 3 years under Consent Decree milestone M-062-40, effective 2010.
- Supports negotiation of enforceable milestones between DOE and Ecology.
  - Negotiation currently ongoing until April 30<sup>th\*</sup>
- Calls attention to facility needs and funding/schedule issues and opportunities





### Milestones Set the Course





## What are our objectives in Oregon?

- 1. Prevent new releases of tank contents to the environment
- 2. Retain emergency capacity to respond to additional DST failures
- 3. Meet obligations for SST waste retrieval
- 4. Complete treatment of all possible tank waste
- 5. Choose treatment and disposal pathways for generated and residual wastes that provide long-term protection of human health and the environment

The Universal Qualifier: "To the maximum extent technically and economically practicable"

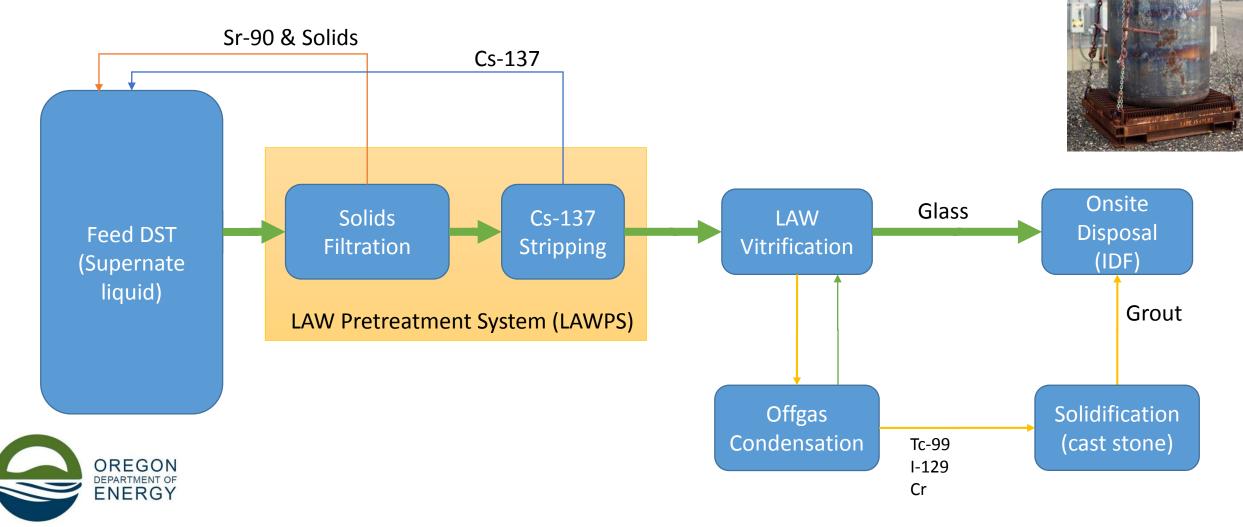


## Tank Treatment as a System

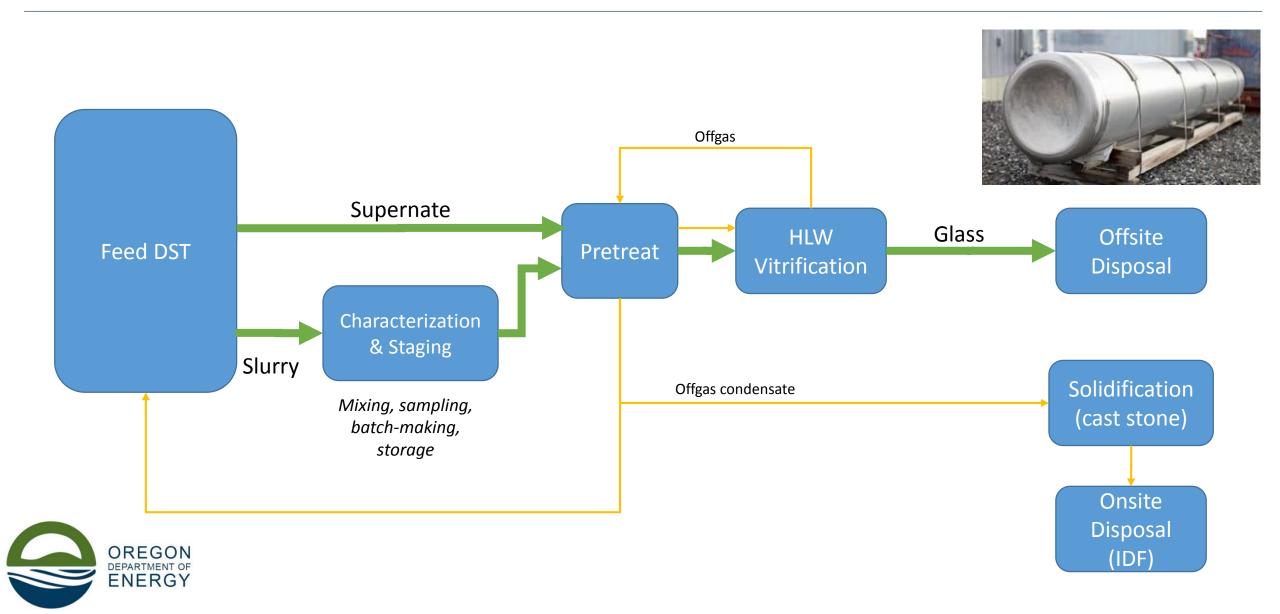


## DFLAW Treatment Path (2022-2036)

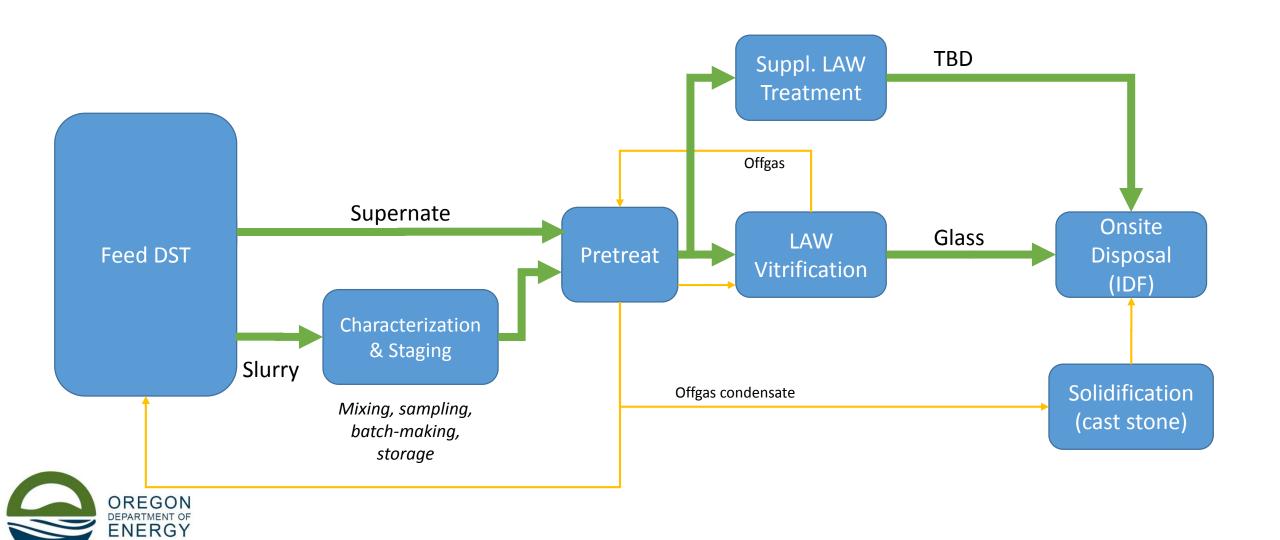
Net DST space created = ~12.7M gals 11,000 glass containers = 12% of total LAW mission



## HLW Treatment Path (2036 - 2063?)



## LAW Treatment Path (2036 - 2063?)



## Tank Treatment as a System

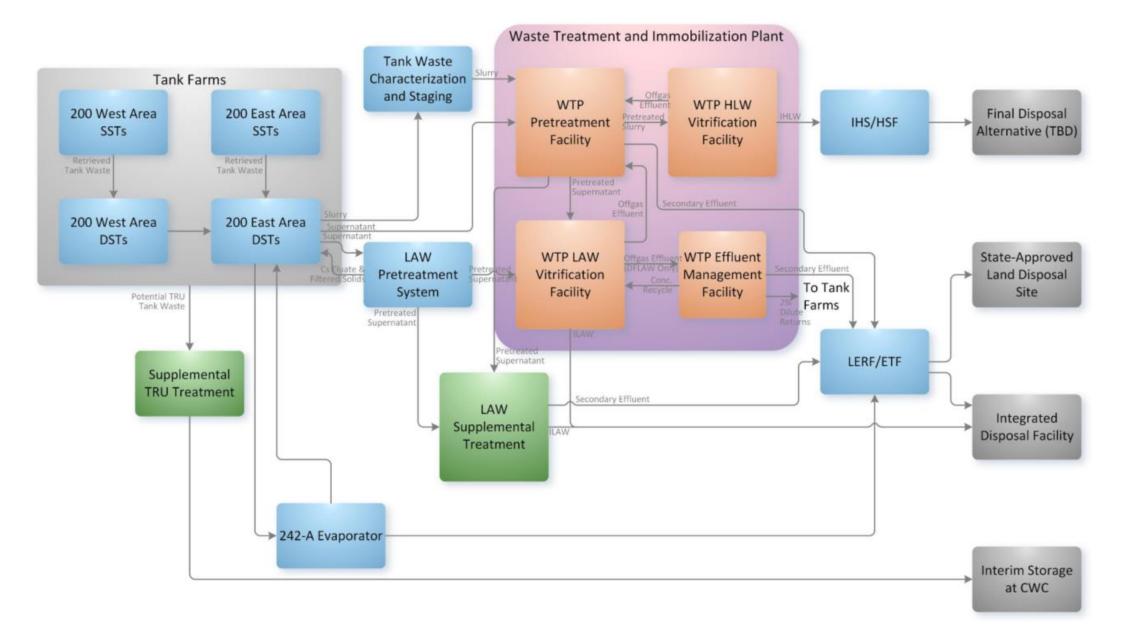
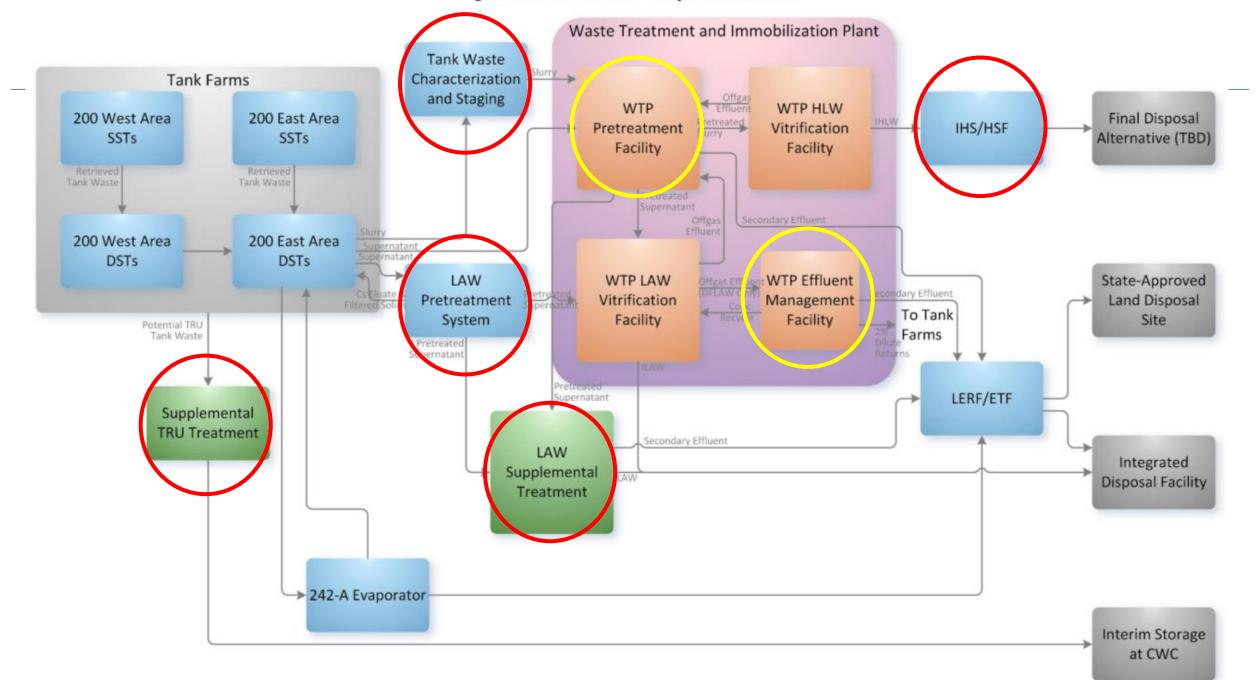
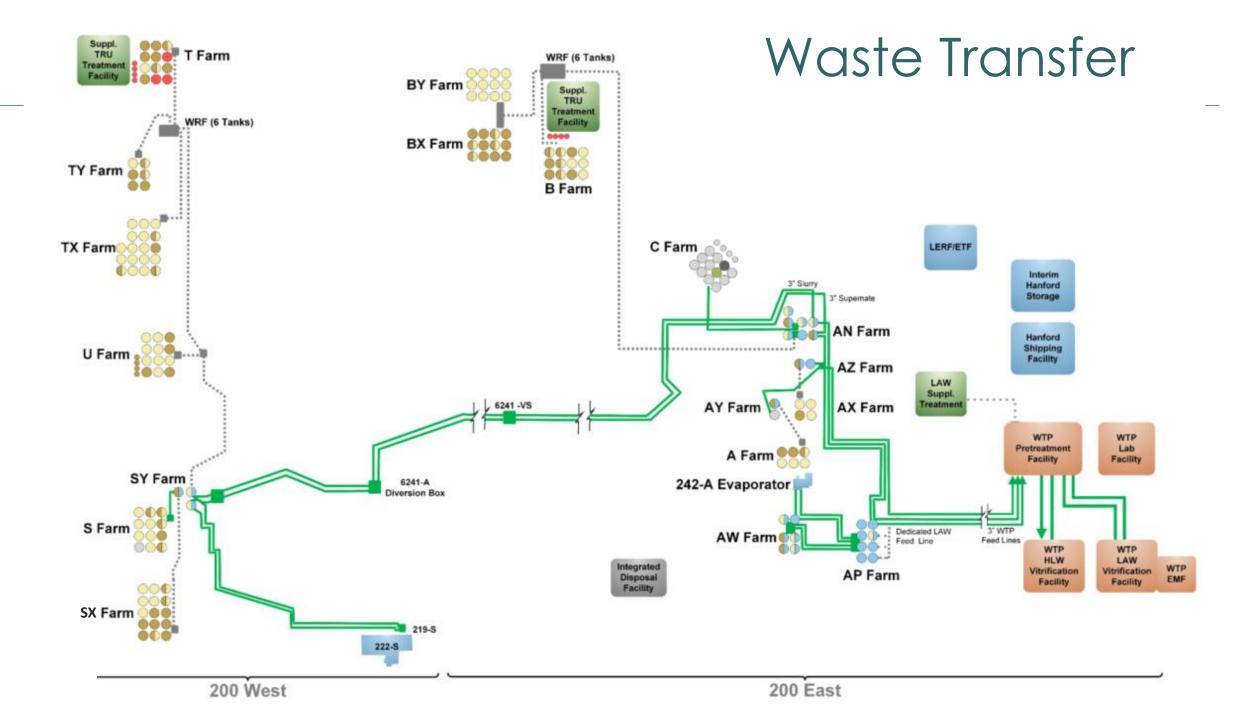
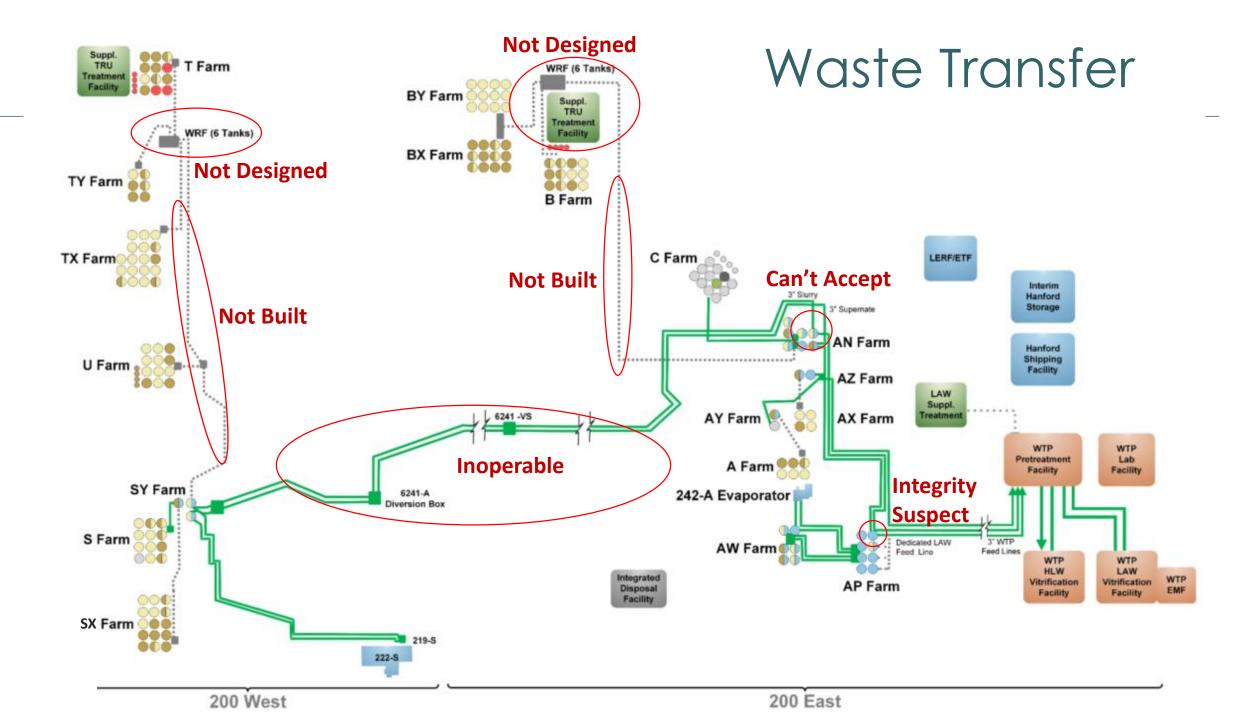


Figure 5-1. Baseline Case - Simplified Flowsheet.

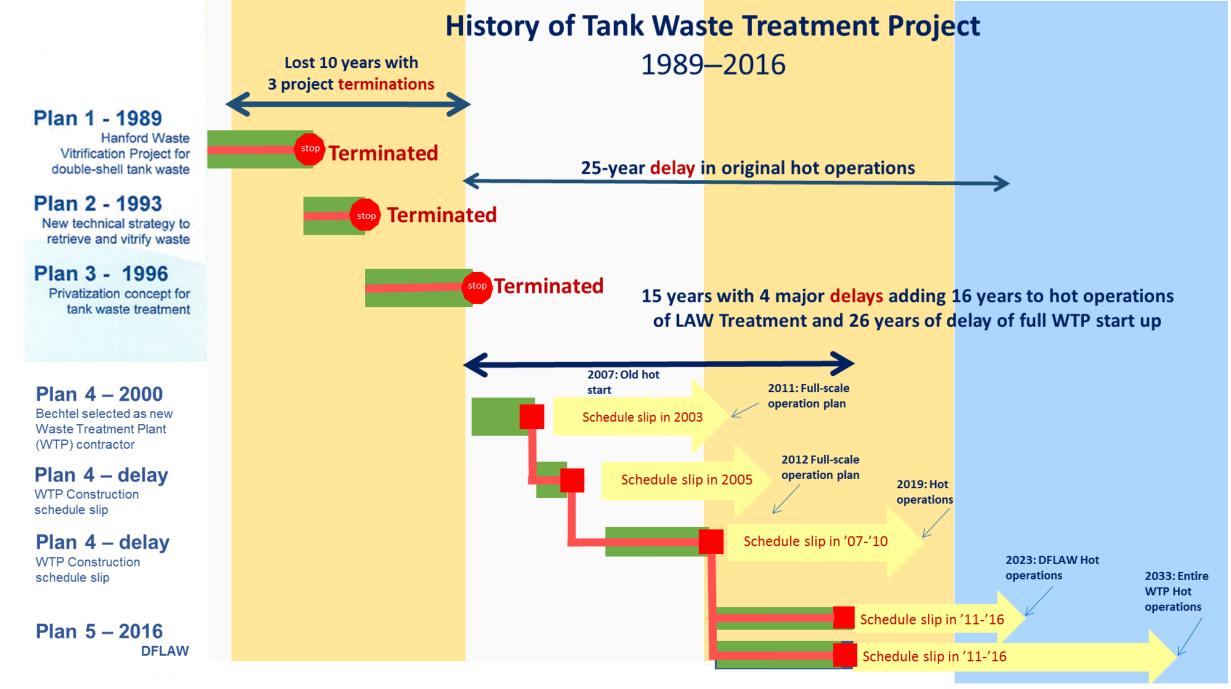






## The New Baseline

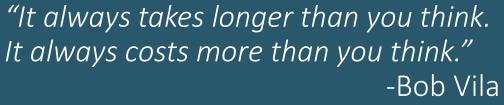




'89 '90 '91 '92 '93 '94 '95 '96 '97 '98 '99 2000 '01 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07 '08 '09 '10 '11 '12 '13 '14 '15 '16 '17 '18 '19 '20 '21 '22 '23 '24 '25 '26 '27 '28 '29 '30' 31'33

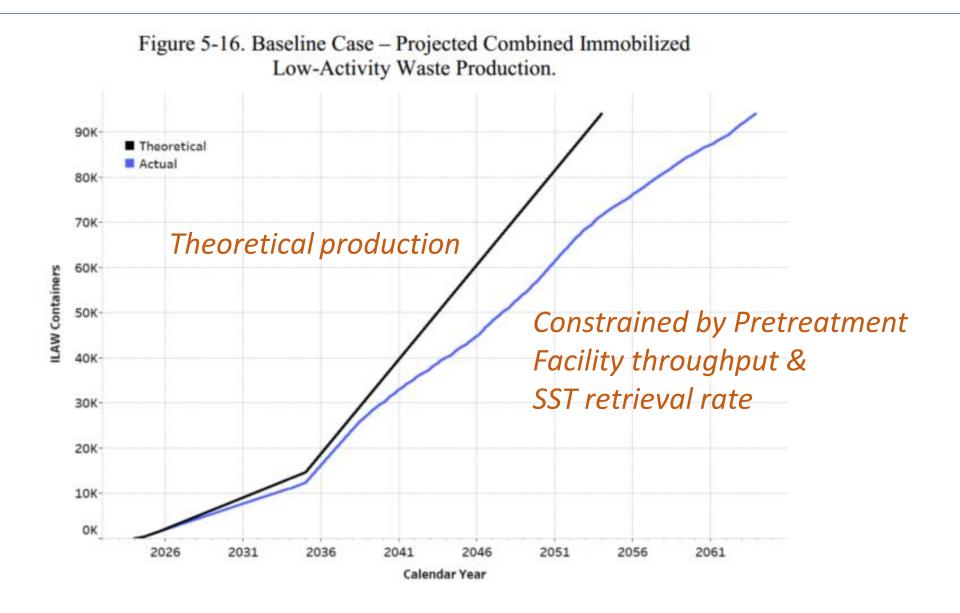
## The new baseline: a longer road ahead

- Why? WTP is delayed.
- Why? Pre-treatment is hard.
- Why do we want Pre-treatment? It saves us HLW glass volume.
- Why is that important? No HLW repository exists, and the last limit for Yucca was only 70,000 tons of heavy metal HLW
  - Baseline Scenario will make ~24,000 tons glass (unclear how much is heavy metal); all US commercial & defense HLW = 86,000 tons today).
- Why else? Pre-treatment allows separation of LAW for onsite disposal.
- What does it all mean? Increased risk of tank failure, seismic events, aging infrastructure failure.



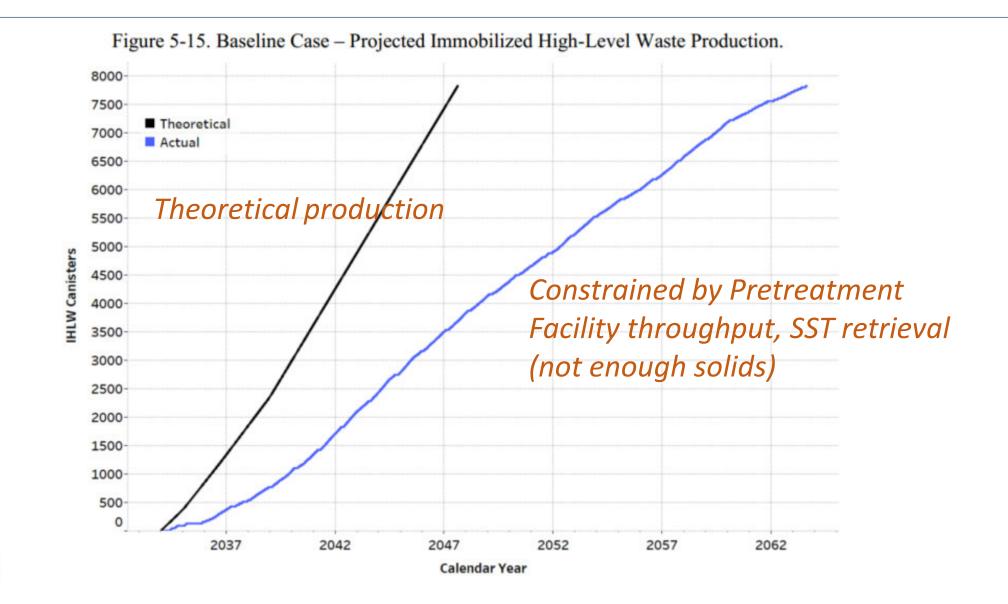


### LAW Glass Production



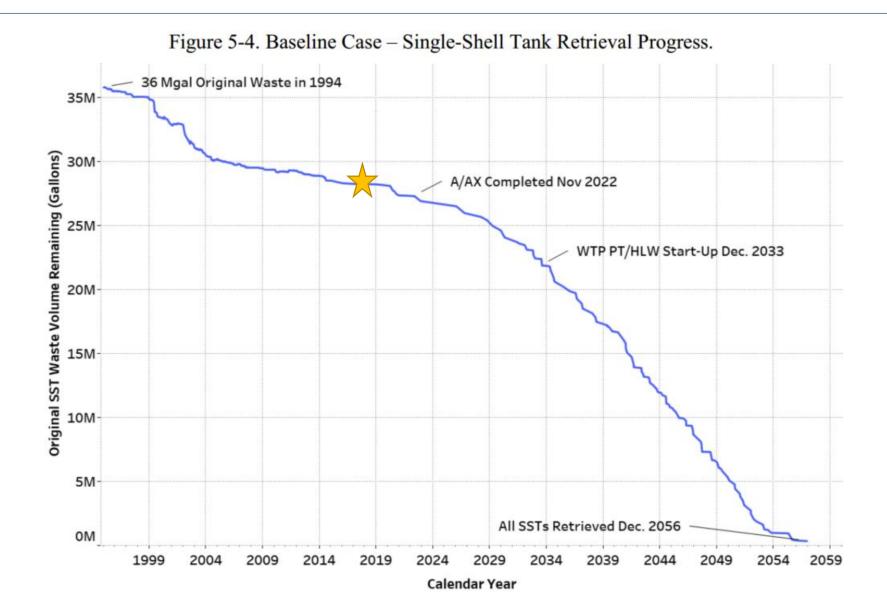


### **HLW Glass Production**



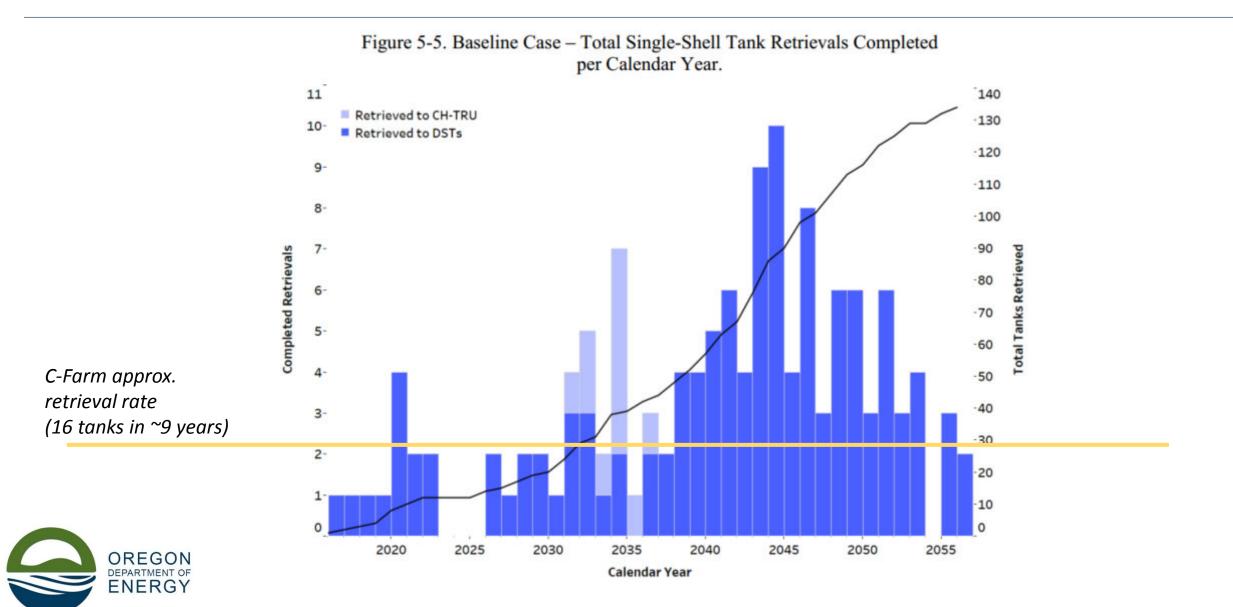


## SST Retrievals



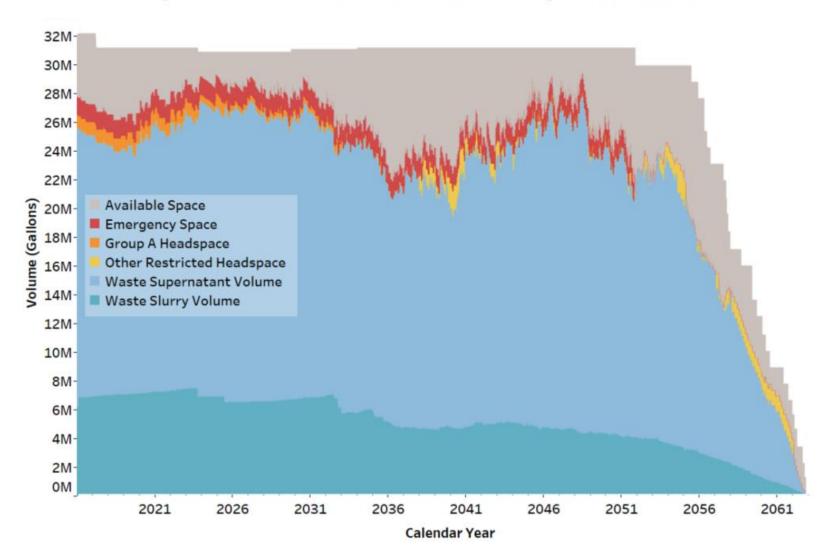


### SST Retrieval Rate



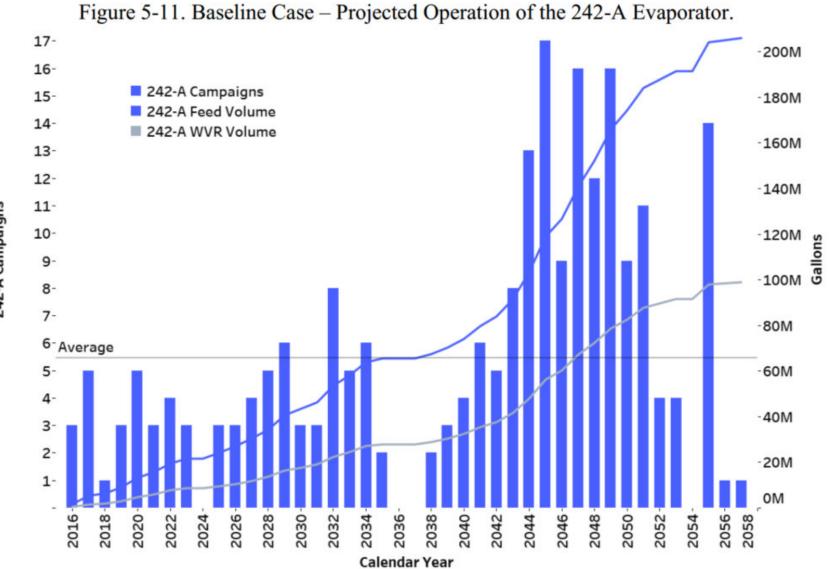
## **DST** Utilization

Figure 5-8. Baseline Case – Double-Shell Tank Space Utilization.



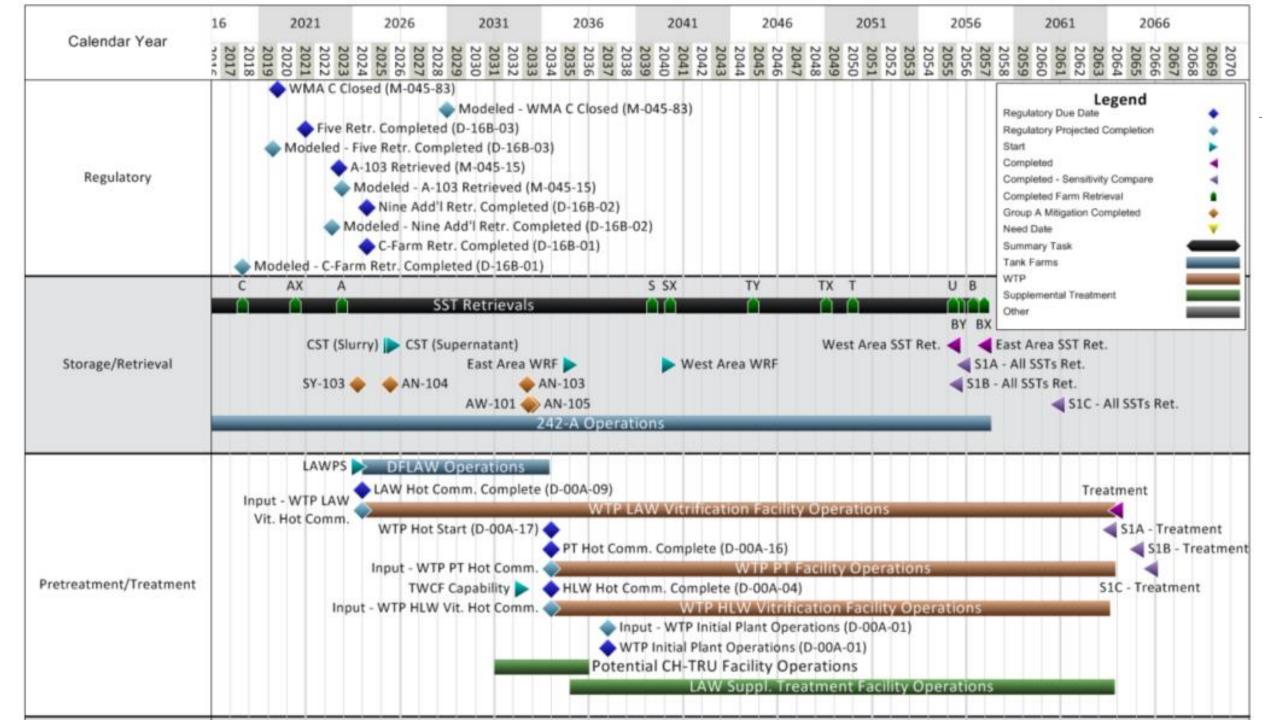


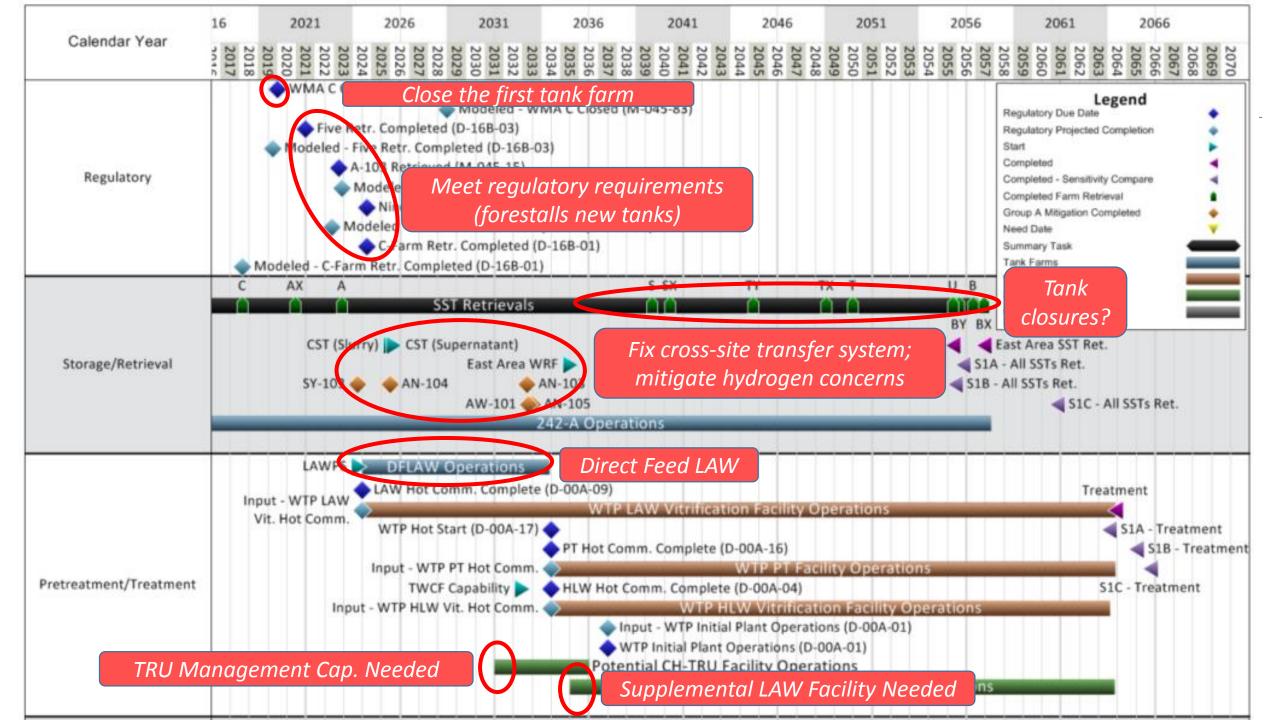
## Evaporation



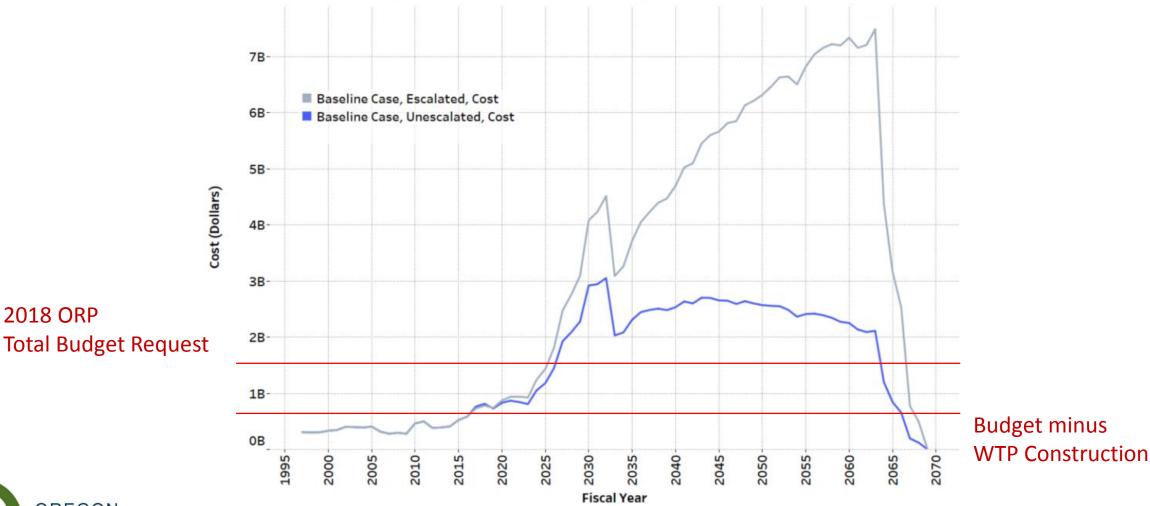
242-A Campaigns







## The Funding "Bow Wave"



OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

#### "What If" Scenarios



# "What ifs" in System Plan 8

- What if we start vitrifying HLW early without pre-treatment?
- What if we never finish the WTP Pretreatment Facility?
- What if retrieval and/or treatment go slower than we expect?
- What if we don't retrieve waste in some tanks?
- What if we build some new double-shell tanks?
- What if we change the order of SST retrieval?
- What if the WTP facility is 5 years late?
- What if we grout the condensed steam offsite?



#### Scenario 2: Early Direct Feed HLW

Start treating HLW in 2024 via direct feed to melters from TWCS facility (before PT facility finished)

Complete SST Retrieval	Complete Treatment	Cost	# Glass Canisters	Extras	Risks
3 years	5 years	<b>\$7 Bil.</b> (\$35B escal.)	3,600 HLW 1,400 LAW	<ul> <li>"Hybrid Mode" (PT Facility + TWCS) could save 14 years on HLW portion of mission.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Extra \$4.7B needed now thru 2033</li> <li>242-A Evaporator in higher demand</li> <li>TWCS needed in 6 years</li> <li>More melters fail</li> <li>More HLW storage</li> <li>No WAC for DFHLW glass</li> </ul>

# Scenario 3: Early DFHLW + no PT Facility

Pretreatment facility never finished; HLW vitrification fed directly from TWCS; LAW vitrification fed directly from LAWPS; No Supplemental LAW facility.



Complete SST Retrieval	Complete Treatment	Cost	# Glass Canisters	Extras	Risks
8 years	63 years	<b>\$40 Bil.</b> (\$537 B escal.)	56,000 HLW (190K tons) 34,000 LAW		<ul> <li>TWCS needed in 6 years</li> <li>More HLW onsite storage</li> <li>No WAC for DFHLW glass</li> <li>More melters fail</li> </ul>

#### Scenario 4: "Risk-Informed" Retrieval

49 SSTs would be closed without retrieval (2% of total Curie inventory); Based on C-106 precedent; TRU tanks not retrieved

Complete SST Retrieval	Complete Treatment	Cost	# Glass Canisters	Extras	Risks
6 years	2 years	<b>\$8 Bil.</b> (\$26 B escal.)	600 HLW 600 LAW	<ul> <li>4.9 million gals more waste remain vs. baseline (300K)</li> <li>1.48M Ci left in tanks</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>49 selected tanks not vetted for dose/hazard risks in System Plan</li> <li>Unassessed risk of regulatory costs, lawsuits, etc. for tank closure</li> </ul>

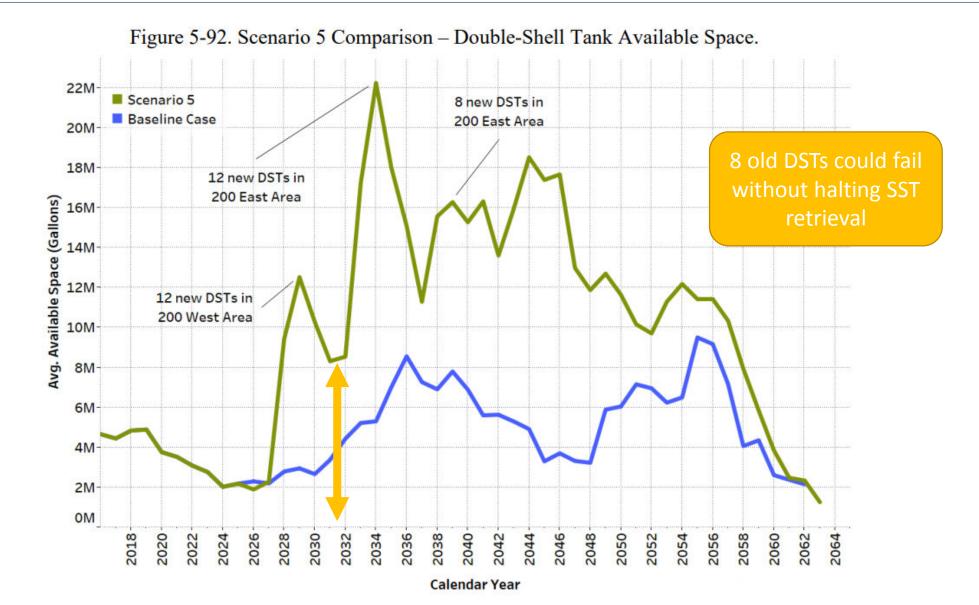
#### Scenario 5: Accelerated Retrieval Completion

Total of 32 additional DSTs built in 2028 (12), 2033 (12), and 2038 (8) for purposes of SST retrieval space. Assumes 8 years to build tanks.



Complete SST Retrieval	Complete Treatment	Cost	# Glass Canisters	Extras	Risks
10 years	1 year	\$6 Bil. (\$8 B escal.)		<ul> <li>SST retrieval rate same as baseline, but DST capacity reduces delay by 62%</li> <li>242-A Evaporator shut down 8 years earlier, run lighter</li> </ul>	• Extra \$4B needed from 2020-2035 may delay WTP completion

#### What does 32 new DSTs buy us?





# Scenario 6: TPA Compliant

• Calculates required capacities needed to meet TPA milestones for SST retrieval (2040) and all tank waste treatment (2047)



- Requires **58** new DSTs plus **2.5x** use of 242-A evaporator
- Requires **2x** Pretreatment Facility treatment rate
- LAW Supplemental facility would need 7 vit melters (Baseline = 4)
- Requires almost 10x ramp-up of SST retrieval after 2028 (108 tanks in 13 years)
- Purpose of including this was to show how infeasible it is.



# Scenario 7: Reduced Throughput

Retrieval and treatment rates lower than expected. 7A\*: Reduced retrieval rate only (2.5 times slower) 7B: Reduced treatment rate only (50% instead of 70% facility availability)



Complete SST Retrieval	Complete Treatment	Cost	# Glass Canisters	Extras	Risks
18 years	17 years	<b>\$37 Bil.</b> (\$186 B escal.)	HLW 1,400 LAW	<ul> <li>Assumes no new DSTs</li> <li>Slower SST retrieval based on actual C-Farm experience.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Assumes no DST failure</li> <li>Increases aging infrastructure failure risks</li> </ul>

#### Scenario 8: Early U Tank Farm Retrieval

Retrieve U Farm after A/AX farm (instead of S farm).



Complete SST Retrieval	Complete Treatment	Cost	# Glass Canisters	Extras	Risks
1 year	1 year	\$1 Bil. (\$2 B escal.)	HLW MILW 800 LAW	<ul> <li>16 tank retrievals instead of 8 in same time span</li> <li>4 leakers vs. 1</li> <li>U farm closed 8 years earlier than next farm after A/AX</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Higher sludge levels in U-farm may risk taking up DST capacity</li> </ul>

# Scenario 9: Offsite Effluent Treatment

Assumes total 7 Mil gals of condensate effluent treated offsite and disposed offsite or at IDF.



Complete SST Retrieval	Complete Treatment	Cost	# Glass Canisters	Extras	Risks
1 year	6 mos.	\$1 Bil. (\$4 B escal.)	HLW ••• 8,300 LAW	<ul> <li>DOE sent 3 gals treated supernate to Texas in 2017</li> <li>Retrieves 4 more SSTs during DFLAW</li> <li>Glass melters last longer</li> <li>Group A tanks remed. 7 yrs early</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>60% of Tc-99 grouted "offsite" instead of in immobilized LAW.</li> <li>Uncertain regulatory, transportation, environmental risks.</li> </ul>

# Scenario 10: Retrieval Contingency

Assumes Waste Treatment Plant and Direct-Feed LAW start 5 years behind schedule. 12 new DSTs built by 2033 to meet Baseline SST retrieval targets.



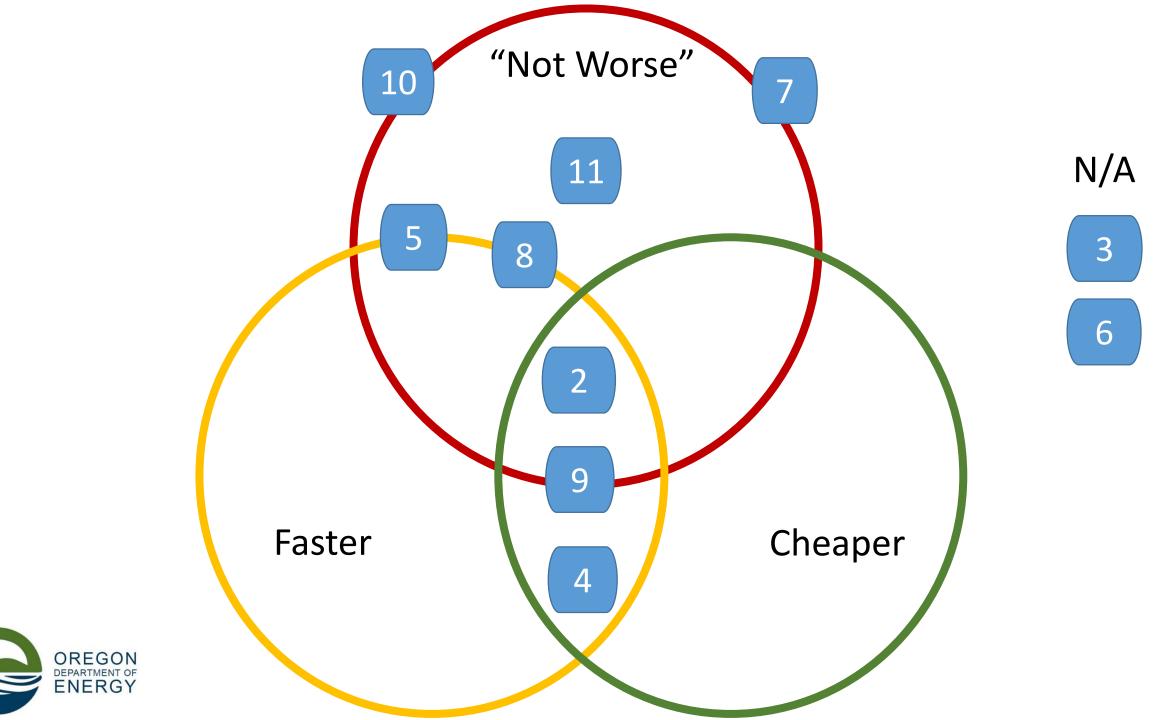
Complete SST Retrieval	Complete Treatment	Cost	# Glass Canisters	Extras	Risks
1 year	5 years	<b>\$5 Bil.</b> (\$35 B escal.)	HLW 1,800 LAW	<ul> <li>Extra DST space delays Group A tank mitigation by only 2 years</li> <li>Reduced load on 242-A Evaporator</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Extra \$4-5B needed from 2020-2033 may delay WTP completion</li> <li>Mission delay increases aging infrastructure risk</li> </ul>

# Scenario 11: DFHLW with liquids-only PT-Fac.

Direct-Feed HLW for entire mission; no solids treatment from Pretreatment Facility (batch directly from TWCS). \*DOE "Grand Challenge" alternative\*



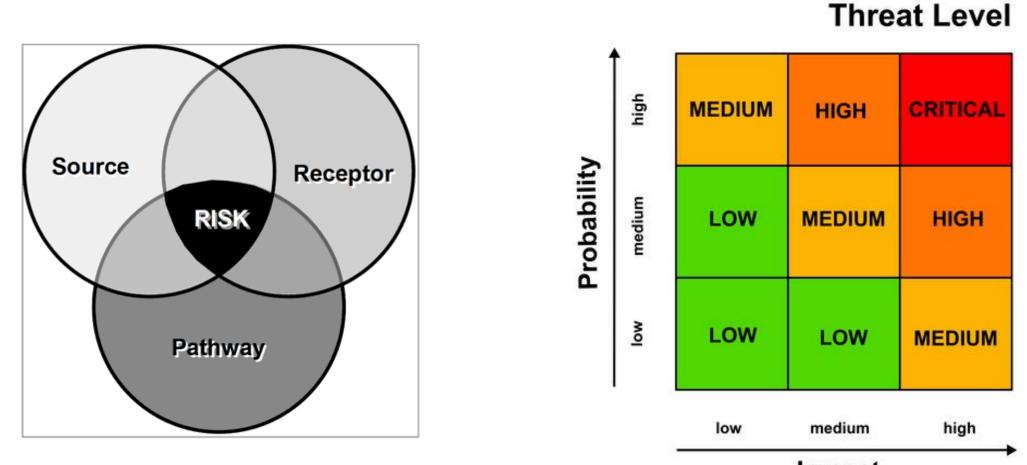
Complete SST Retrieval	Complete Treatment	Cost	# Glass Canisters	Extras	Risks
6 years	16 years	<b>\$25 Bil.</b> (\$138 B escal.)	20,000 HLW 20,800 LAW	• Model could be further optimized	<ul> <li>Melters fail more often</li> <li>More IHLW storage</li> <li>Aging infrastructure</li> <li>TWCS facility design more complicated</li> </ul>



#### Risks and Vulnerabilities



#### What do we mean by risk?



Impact



# System Plan 8 Risks & Vulnerabilities

- Unexpected infrastructure failures not modeled
  - Assumes all DSTs survive the longer mission
  - 242-A Evaporator is a single-point failure risk
  - Some SSTs may be too corroded for liquid-based retrieval
- Costs not included in the analysis
  - Disposal of LAW vs. HLW
  - Potential expansion of onsite disposal facility (IDF)
  - Infrastructure failure response (AY-102 cost \$100M)
  - Environmental releases (potential costs of failure)





# Other Mission-Influencing Risks

- Unrealistic funding profile (WTP costs and the "bow wave")
- Combination Scenarios could change results
- "Risk-informed" retrieval (Scenario 4) increases regulatory & health risks and closure costs
- Tank vapor issues could slow retrievals by 50%
- Recent changes to Direct-Feed LAW could change how the system operates



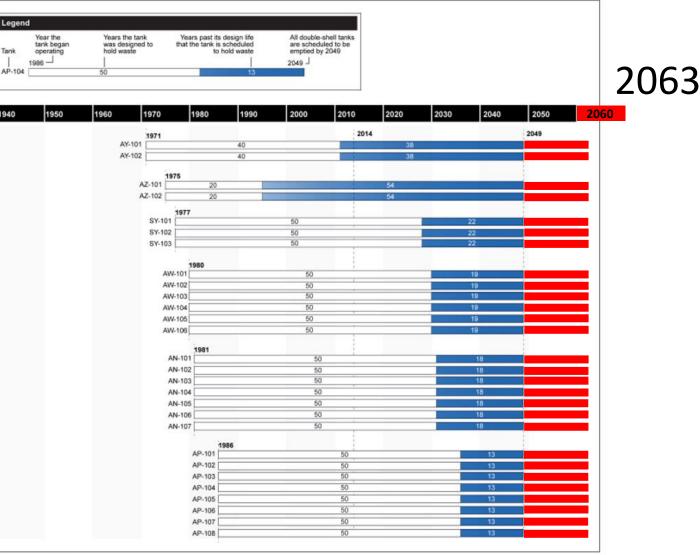


# A Longer DST Mission

Figure 7: Timeline of Hanford Double-shell Tanks

Tank

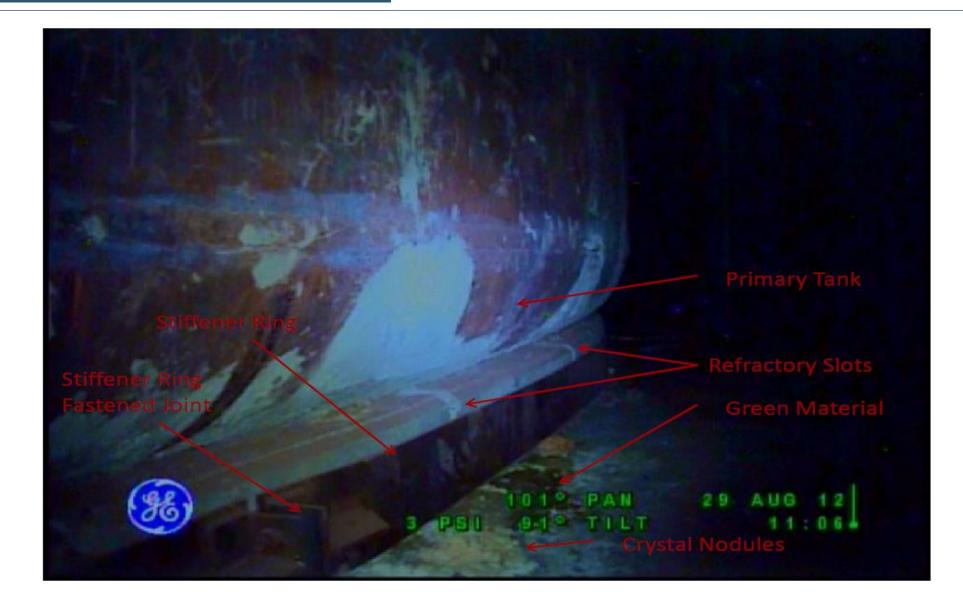
- Baseline Scenario extends DST mission 14 years
- Reduced WTP efficiency (50% instead of 70%) would extend the mission 32 years





Source: GAO analysis of DOE data. | GAO-15-40

#### Double-Shell Tank Leak – AY-102

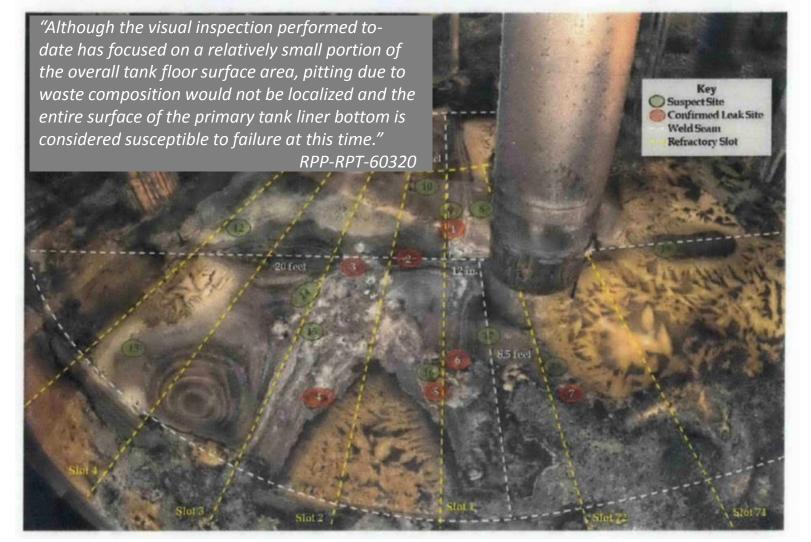


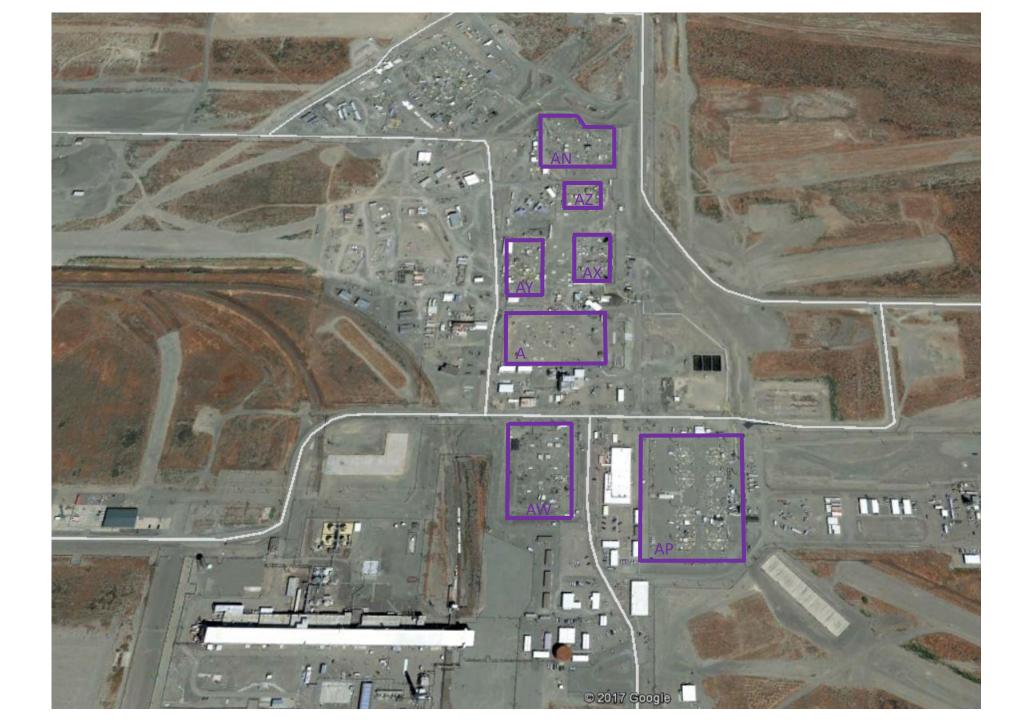
# Temperature, Chemistry, and Time

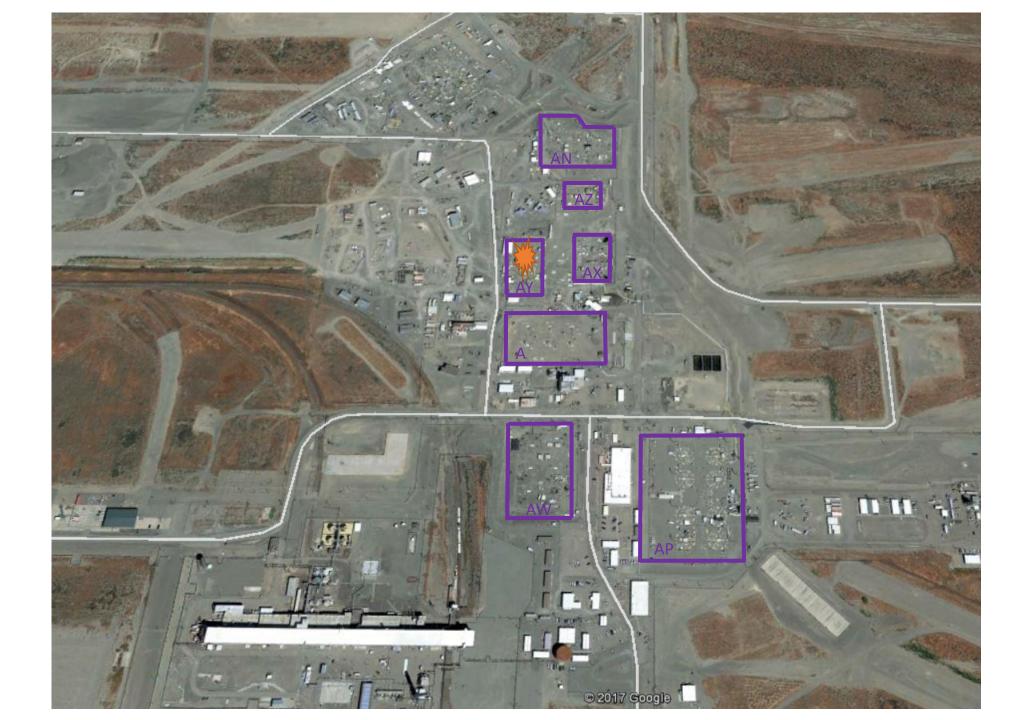
- AY-102 Leak Assessment Report found multiple leaks on seams and center-plate.
- Failure cause identified as "service-induced pitting corrosion due to historic waste composition and operating conditions"
  - Dilute waste water with relatively low pH remained in contact with the liner for first seven years
  - High heat (100-150°F) waste from C-106 added in 1990s
  - Tank was 41 years into its 40-year design life.

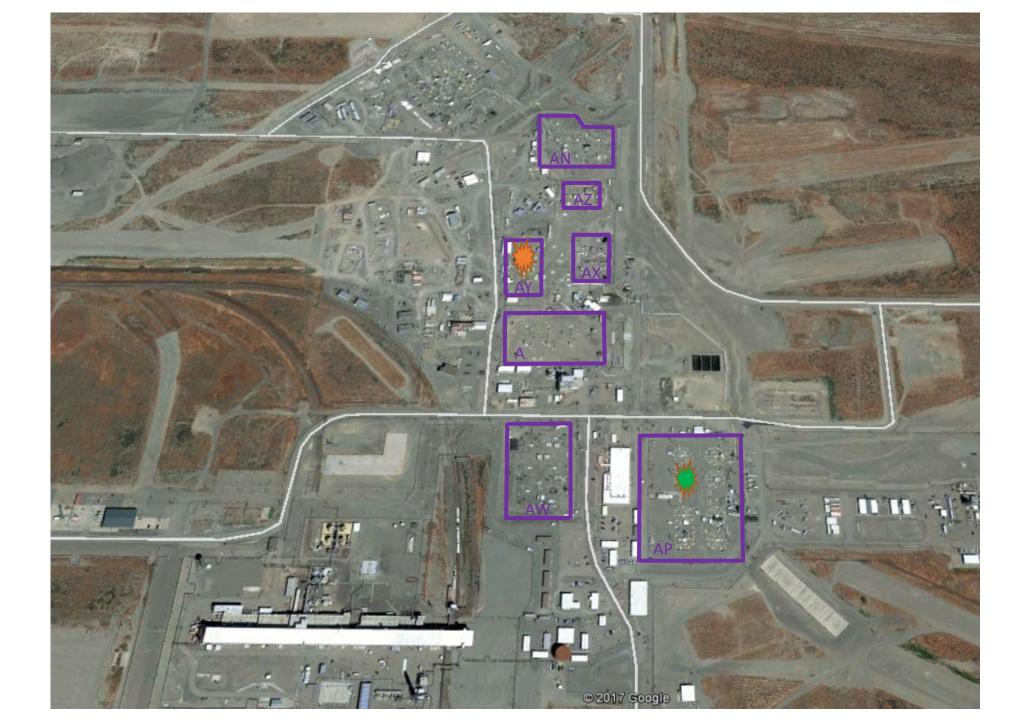
OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

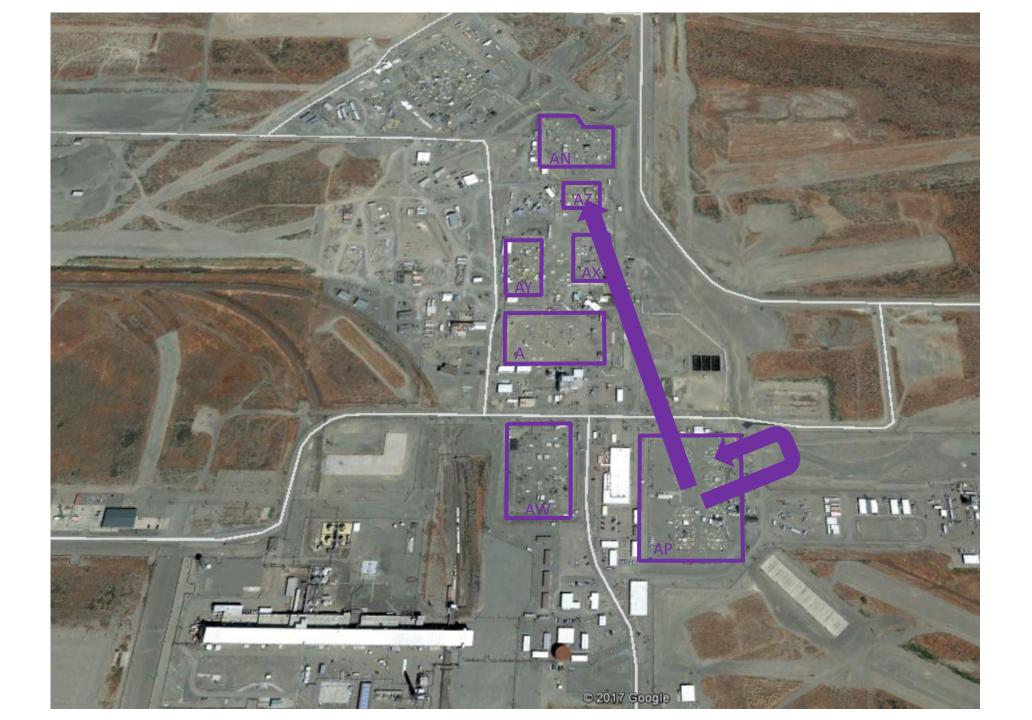
#### Figure 3-21. High-Definition Video from Riser 54 in September 2017 (Leak Sites)

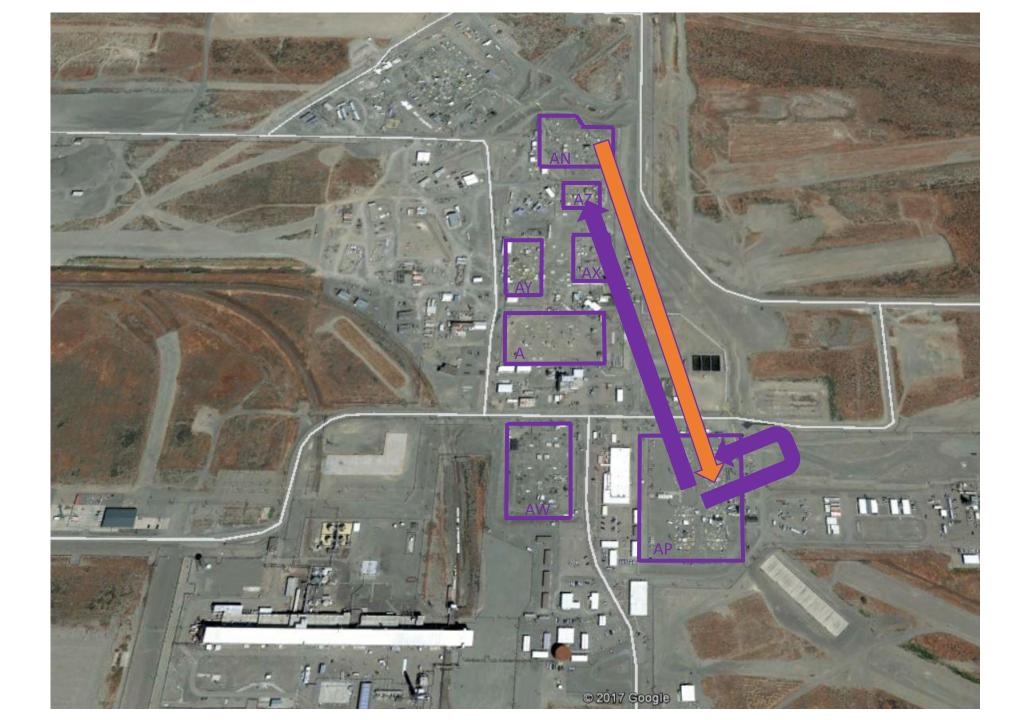


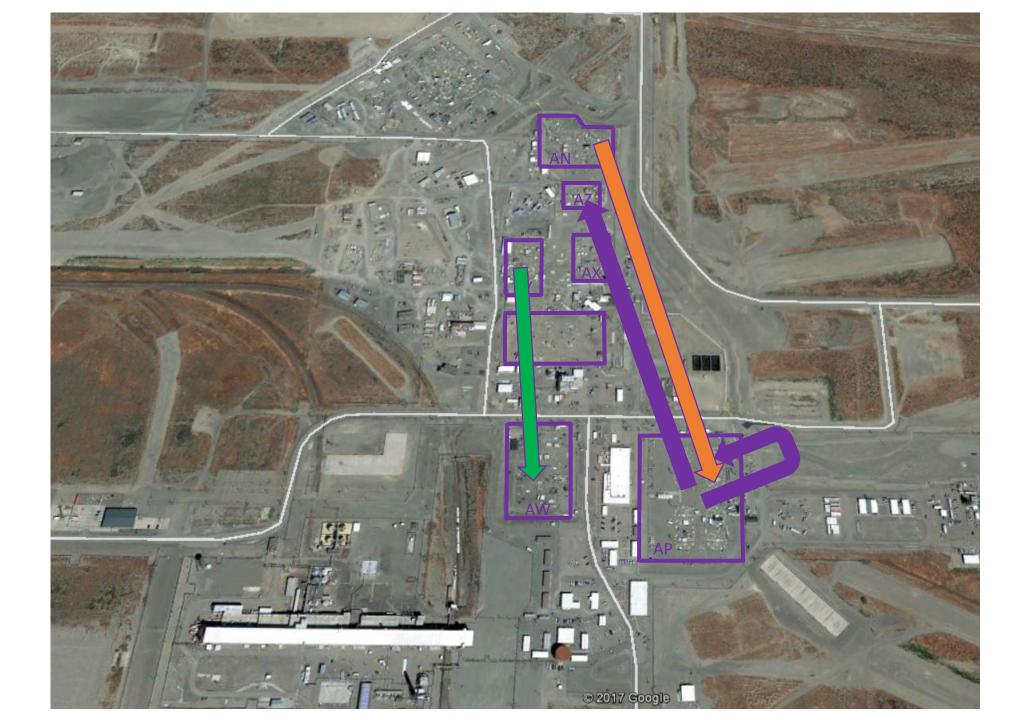


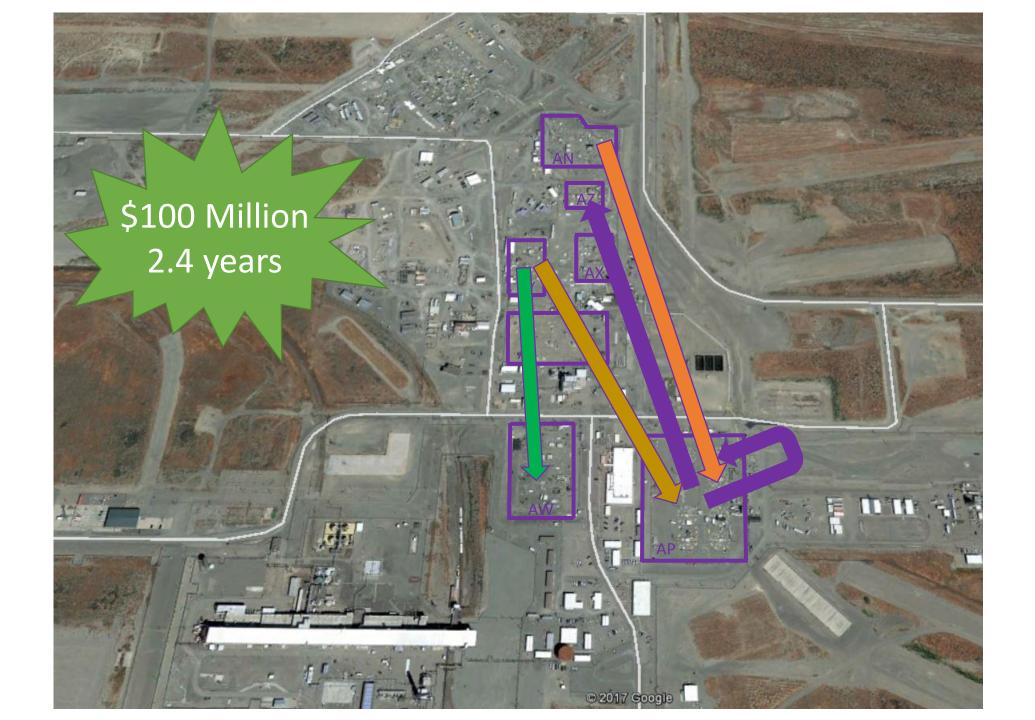








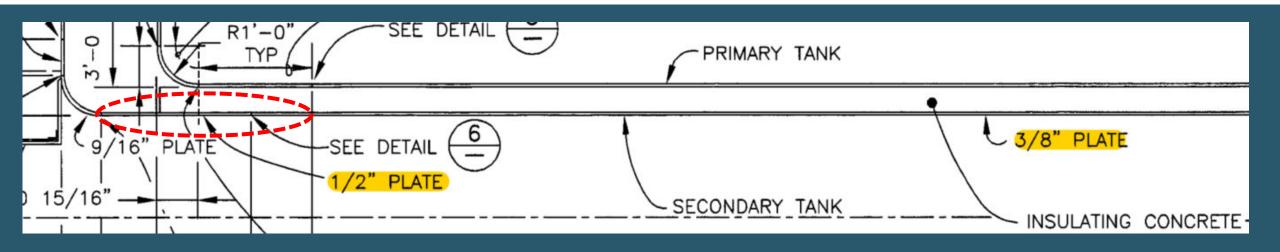




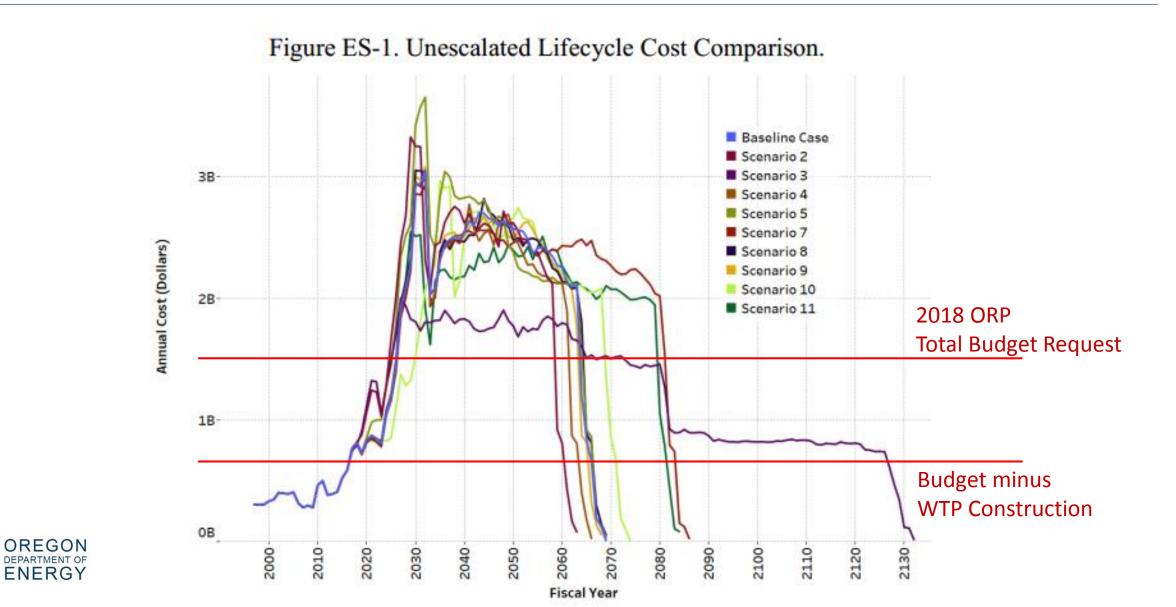
### Tank AP-102 Outer Shell Suspect

- Letter from WA Ecology 8/14/17: Concern that secondary tank bottom for AP-102 has likely failed.
- Ultrasonic testing of the annulus found an area where > 70% thinning has occurred (3/8" of a 1/2" plate)
- Majority of the secondary bottom is 3/8" and can't be directly inspected.

- Likely cause is corrosion from excessive liquids in the leak detection pit and groundwater infiltration beneath the tank.
- Ecology requires a plan for inspecting integrity of AP-102 by March 31, 2018.
   Final integrity assessment report due by September 30, 2018.



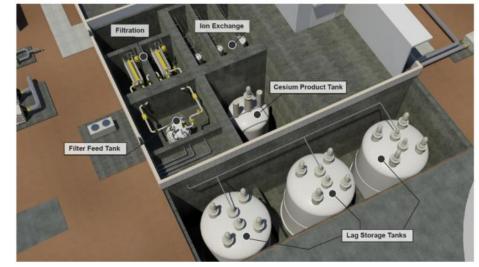
#### What Alternatives Can We Afford?



#### Complications Ensue: LAWPS Redesign and TSCR

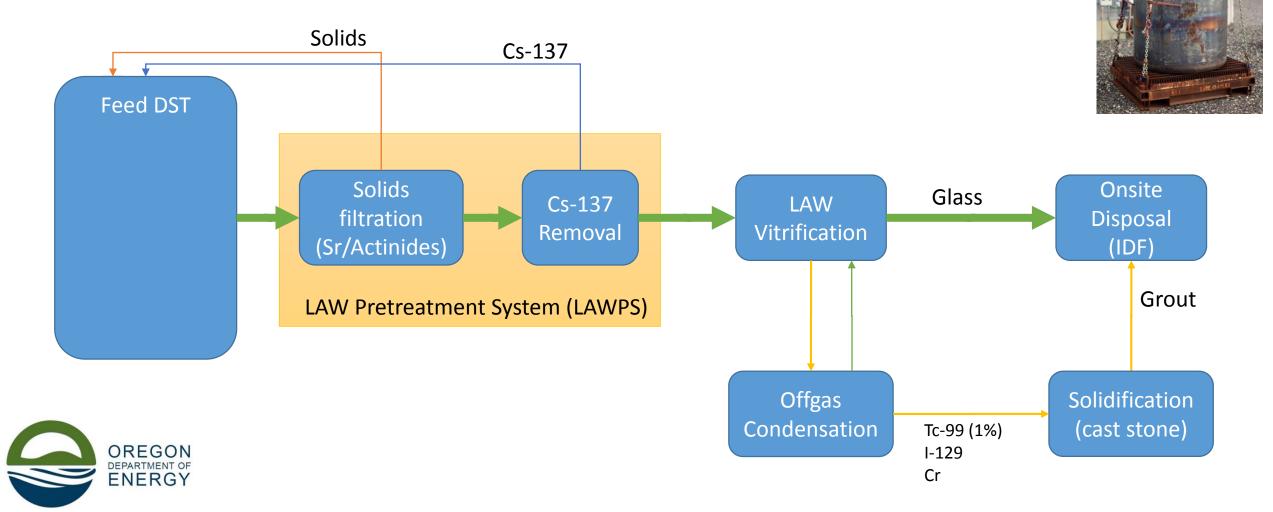
- In December 2017, DOE withdrew its permit application for LAWPS
- Concerns from DOE HQ Independent Review Team that LAWPS is over-designed, won't be ready in time/on budget
- Proposal to break LAWPS functions into smaller chunks
  - <u>Tank-Side Cesium Removal</u>: non-reusable resin
  - <u>Tank-side filtration</u>: 100x change in filter size (0.1 to 10 micron)
  - Repurpose 2 DSTs for feed and return
- "Optimized" LAWPS design may return

Figure 3-14. Low Activity Waste Pretreatment System Cut Away View.

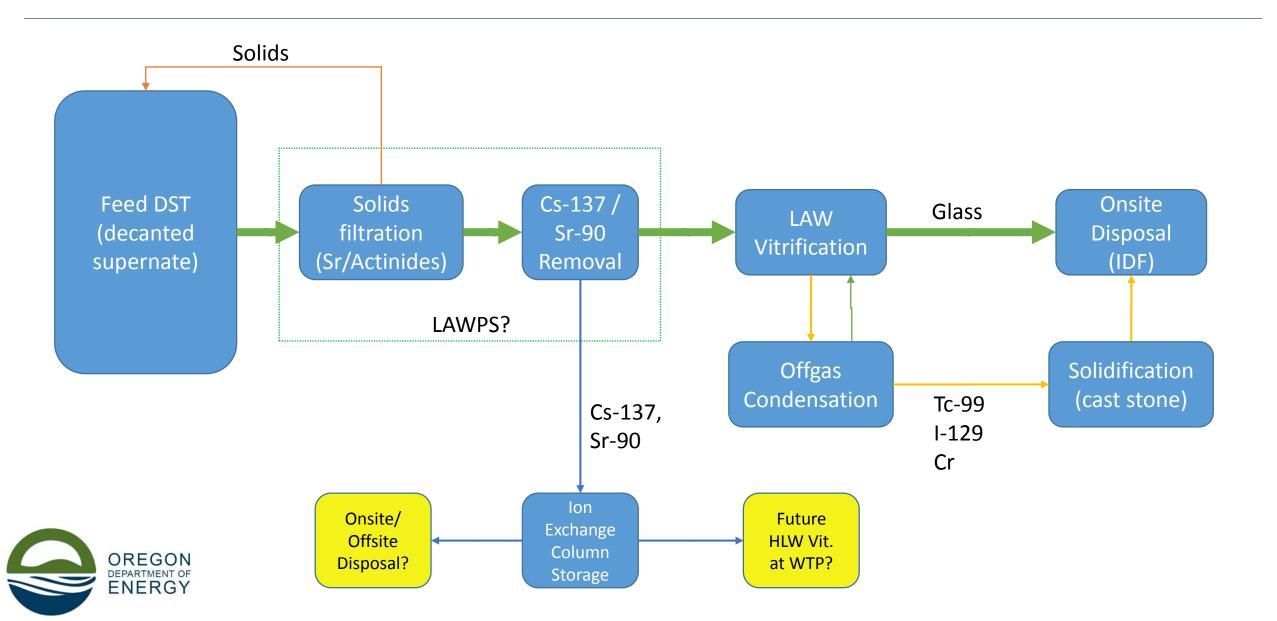


#### "Old" DFLAW Treatment Path

Net DST space created = ~12.7M gals 11,000 glass containers = 12% of total LAW mission



#### New DFLAW Treatment Path?







# Mobile Cs/Sr removal in Japan



# NAS Supplemental LAW Analysis

- National Defense Authorization Act 2017 tasked National Academies of Science to evaluate alternatives for Supplemental LAW (~50% of LAW inventory)
- Federal group looking at assumptions in past analyses of LAW waste forms, including grout & steam reforming.
- NAS visited Hanford February 2018
- Report to Congress expected in 2019



**Cast Stone** 





#### Summary and Next Steps



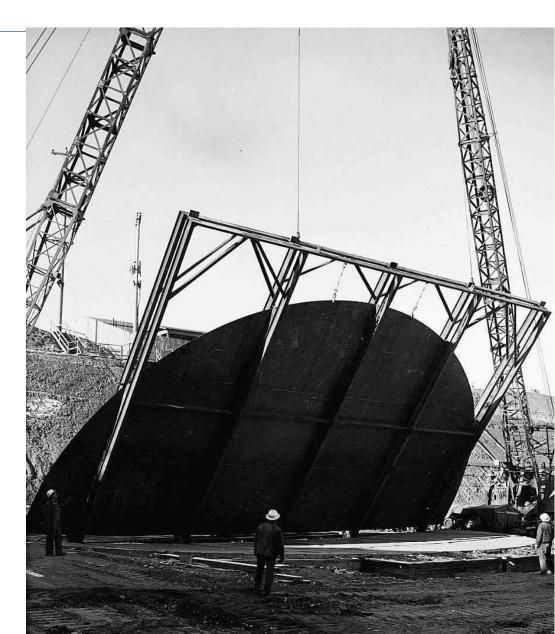
# Summary

- It's a longer road no matter what we do. This affects risk.
- We are managing a failing system as much as we are producing glass.
- A good decision should account for all system costs and risks.
  - "Stress test" for risk resilience
- Some options to reduce time/cost/risk, but <u>no budget</u>
  - to pursue



# Summary

- DFLAW plan is changing (fastest way to buy DST space). This may affect future waste treatment/storage/disposal.
- 8 years to build new tanks when is the right time to start?
- Offsite effluent treatment may make sense.
- Leaving waste in some SSTs may look like it buys time/money, but legal/ health costs & risks are not accounted.





### What's Next?

- Tank mission milestone negotiations ongoing now.
  - ODOE & HAB letters requesting consultation before final decisions are made
- NAS analysis of Supplemental LAW ongoing now.
- Tank Side Cesium Removal and new solids filtration under development (spring/summer 2018)
- WTP and PT Facility may go into "preservation mode" to facilitate DFLAW (i.e., divert funds)
- LAWPS future path to be determined . . .



