



OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Leading Oregon to a safe, clean, and sustainable energy future.

For More Information

To learn more about Oregon's Nuclear Emergency Preparedness program, contact the Oregon Department of Energy or your local emergency management office.

Oregon Department of Energy

Salem, OR

Direct: 503-378-4040

Toll-free: 1-800-221-8035

www.oregon.gov/energy

Morrow County Emergency

Management

Heppner, OR

541-676-5161

www.morrowcountyoregon.com

Umatilla County Emergency

Management

Pendleton, OR

541-966-3700

www.co.umatilla.or.us

Radiological Emergency Preparedness in Oregon



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The Oregon Department of Energy is responsible for preparing for and responding to **radiological emergencies** that affect the state and its citizens.

The Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE) provides guidance to Oregonians in the event of a radiological emergency at the Hanford site or the Columbia Generating Station nuclear power plant outside Richland, Washington.

This information pamphlet, along with instructions from state and local officials during an emergency, will help minimize the impacts to Oregon residents, the region's natural resources, and the Northwest economy.

Hanford History

The U.S. Department of Energy's Hanford site covers 586 square miles of desert in south central Washington. The Columbia River flows through the northern and eastern sections of the site and then forms a border between Oregon and Washington. Hanford is about 35 miles north of Umatilla, Oregon.

Construction of the Hanford site broke ground in 1943, and the federal government produced plutonium for America's nuclear weapons program at Hanford for more than 40 years. The process created large amounts of

radioactive and chemically hazardous waste.

With the end of the Cold War, Hanford's mission changed from plutonium production to site cleanup. Hanford is the most contaminated site in the country, and the cleanup will take several decades to complete.



Risks at Hanford

A fire, an explosion, or other accident involving any of Hanford's underground waste storage tanks or plutonium manufacturing or storage facilities could result in the release of radioactive materials into the environment. This could endanger the public, the region's natural resources, and the Northwest economy.

The Columbia Generating Station

The Columbia Generating Station (CGS), the region's only operating commercial nuclear power plant, is also located on the Hanford site. CGS is a 1,190 megawatt boiling water reactor owned and operated by Energy Northwest. CGS produces about four percent of the Pacific Northwest's electrical power. An accident at CGS could also result in the release of radioactive materials into the environment.



Emergency Planning Zones

There are two emergency planning zones around Hanford and CGS. They include:

Plume Zone (10 miles) — In the event of a radiological emergency, the primary hazard for residents living within 10 miles of Hanford or CGS is direct exposure to radiation. Emergency plans provide steps to minimize or prevent direct exposure to radiation if radioactive materials are released to the environment. Oregon is not within the 10-mile Plume Zone.

Ingestion Zone (50 miles) — The primary concern for people living beyond 10 miles but within 50 miles of Hanford or CGS is consuming potentially contaminated agricultural products or water. This includes, but is not limited to: processed foods, fresh fruits, vegetables, milk, and open water sources. Parts of northern Oregon are within the 50-mile Ingestion Zone.

Emergency Information

In the event of a Hanford or CGS emergency, state and local emergency

response organizations will identify affected areas and recommend protective actions for people who live or work in these areas. Affected residents within 10 miles would be notified by tone alert radios, telephone notification, sirens, or Emergency Alert System messages.

Residents within 50 miles would be informed primarily by local radio and television news stations. Northeast Oregon residents can receive emergency broadcast announcements on KONA Radio, 610 AM or 105.3 FM.

Throughout an emergency, state and local officials will provide information to the news media on a regular basis. This information will contain the most current status report on the emergency, and actions people can take to protect their families and property.

ODOE will activate a call center to address Oregonians' concerns and questions. The agency will also regularly post status updates of the emergency on its website and social media platforms:

www.oregon.gov/energy
www.twitter.com/ODOEnergy
www.facebook.com/OregonDepartmentOfEnergy



Protective Actions

If radioactive contamination reaches the area where you live, do not eat or sell any fresh food products, drink milk, or drink water from open water sources until emergency officials declare it safe to do so. If time allows, the following actions could help protect your property and food supply:

Fruits and Vegetables

- Stop all harvesting of crops. Fruits or vegetables picked at the time the emergency was declared should be removed from the field and placed in an enclosed storage area.
- Do not process or distribute fruits or vegetables until the products have been confirmed free of contamination.
- Do not eat fruits or vegetables from your garden until your location has been officially declared safe.

Livestock and Pets

- As much as is practical, provide shelter for all livestock and pets.
- Cover feed and open water sources such as water troughs.
- Remove livestock from pasture, and provide feed from a protected source. This could be feed covered earlier, protected silage, or hay from inside the stack.



- Do not use fresh milk from dairy animals, eggs from poultry, or slaughter any livestock until your location has been confirmed free of contamination by state or local officials. (Milk processed before the emergency occurred is considered unaffected and can be sold.)
- Do not move or harvest beehives in the affected areas. Officials will sample and test the beehives for possible contamination.
- Do not attempt to market or transport livestock or livestock products until your location is confirmed safe and free of contamination.

Official state sampling and laboratory analysis will confirm whether or not an affected area or crop is contaminated.

Compensation

A radiological emergency may result in additional living expenses, loss of farm or business income, or physical or property damage. The federal government requires that nuclear facilities compensate the public for economic loss caused by a radiological accident.

In the event of a Hanford or CGS emergency, information would be provided to help Oregonians:

- Find available assistance programs.
- Take necessary steps to get assistance.
- Take necessary steps to file a claim for damages or loss.