

Department of Ecology

November 2025 - Agency Update

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Outline



Outreach and Education



Tri-Party Negotiations



Low-Activity Waste Commissioning



Public Involvement Activities



Hanford Sitewide Permit Update

Outreach & Education

- 16 recent events included over 1,500 visitors:
 - Fiery Foods Festival
 - Homeschool Night @ REACH
 - Fiesta de Salud! Health and Resource Fair (Othello & Royal City)
 - Wenatchee River Salmon Festival
 - RiverFest '25
 - STEM Like Me!
 - Trick-or-Treating @ Keewaydin Museum
 - Multiple presentations (K-12 & Higher Education)
- Upcoming events
 - Nov. 15 – Presentation at library in Dayton, WA
 - Nov. 19 – Presentation at Omak High School, Omak, WA
 - Nov. 21 – Annual Native American Heritage Month and STEM Symposium, Toppenish, WA



Ecology staff participated in several events around central Washington including the Wenatchee River Salmon Festival (left) and the RiverFest '25 (right).

Contact

Hanford@ecy.wa.gov

if you'd like us to come
talk to your organization

M-15, M-16, M-85 milestone negotiations

Ecology, EPA, and Energy continue to soon begin public comment on:

- M-15 covers the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study investigation process for all non-tank farm, non-canyon operating units. (Due 2026)
- M-16 covers the remedial actions for non-tank farm, non-canyon operating units. This includes both soil and groundwater. (Due 2042)
- M-85 covers all response actions for the canyon facilities and associated operating units, except for U Plant and T Plant. (Due date TBD)
- The Tri-Parties signed an Agreement in Principle in December to negotiate these milestones. Under the AIP the parties will continue to work together to update soil, groundwater, and facility milestones which are currently held in abeyance. The Tri-Parties signed a Tentative Agreement for revisions to the M-15, M-16, and M-85 milestones on 10/24/2025.
- The Tentative Agreement with draft milestone changes is anticipated to be out for public comment beginning in December.
- Tribal consultation will also be offered.

Update on low-activity waste commissioning (LAW)

- Hot commissioning complete on the LAW Facility on Oct. 15, 2025.
- Energy completed testing of Melter 2 and Ecology approved the operational permit.
- Melter 1 continues to produce glass out of tank waste with over 25,000 gallons of tank waste treated and transformed into safe and stable glass for disposal.



Update on West Area Risk Management (WARM)

- Energy has a Dec. 31, 2025 milestone for alternative treatment location decision.
- Ecology and Energy have discussed permitting needs, AMPS layout.
 - First permitting information expected early 2026.
- Waiting on Waste Incidental to Reprocessing evaluation.



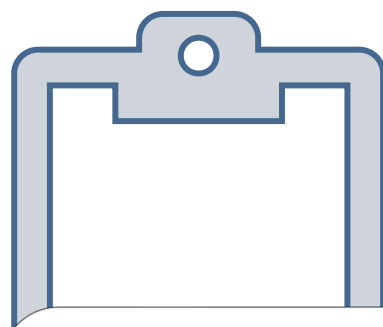
Solidified grout sample. Photo courtesy, Energy

Public Involvement Opportunities



12/10 - 2/8/26
(tentative)
Proposed new TPA
milestones

- Public meeting
1/13/26 (tentative)



1/12 - 2/26/26
(tentative) TPA
Public Involvement
Survey



1/12 - 2/13/26
(tentative)
Energy's 5-year
plan

- Public meeting Jan. 14
(tentative)

Hanford Sitewide Permit renewal status

- Staff from both Ecology and the permittees are finalizing the last addenda in support of the draft renewal and 39 of the 52-unit groups are complete.
- A 120-day public comment period will be held, and we are close to finalizing and sharing dates soon.
- The Hanford Sitewide Permit, Rev. 9A Renewal will include:
 - 52 Operating, Closure, Post-Closure, and Corrective Action unit groups.
 - Standard conditions, attachments and supporting documents.



Questions?

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