

Amended Record of Decision

Tank Closure and Waste Management Environmental Impact Statement for the Hanford Site, Richland, Washington

Department of Energy
Office of Environmental Management

PUBLIC AVAILABILITY AND CONTACT INFORMATION:

This Amended Record of Decision (AROD) and the associated Supplement Analysis (SA) are available at: www.energy.gov/nepa and <https://www.hanford.gov/index.cfm?page=1117&>

For further information on this project, the AROD, or SA, please contact:

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The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announces its decision to amend the DOE 2013

Record of Decision (ROD) for the *Final Tank Closure and Waste Management*

Environmental Impact Statement for the Hanford Site, Richland, Washington (DOE/EIS-

0391, December 2012) (TC&WM EIS).

DOE has decided to implement the proposal, described in the *Supplement Analysis of the Final Tank Closure and Waste Management Environmental Impact Statement for the Hanford Site, Richland, Washington, Direct-Feed High-Level Waste (DFHLW)* (DOE/EIS-0391-SA-04, 2025) to operate the DOE Hanford Site 200 East Area Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant (WTP) High-Level Waste (HLW) Vitrification Facility in a direct-feed high-level waste (DFHLW) approach and configuration, as part of the DOE Hanford Site tank waste treatment mission. Connected actions associated with implementation of DFHLW include operation of a HLW effluent management system, interim storage of immobilized HLW, and construction of 1 million gallons of additional tank waste storage capacity (waste treatment vault [WTV]) in the 200 West Area. Specific details about the facilities and operations necessary to implement this action are presented in Chapter 2 of the Supplement Analysis.

In the TC&WM EIS, DOE analyzed 11 alternatives for the retrieval, treatment, storage, and disposal of tank wastes, followed by the closure of the single-shell waste storage tanks (SSTs) at the Hanford Site and three alternatives for waste management.¹ In the 2013 TC&WM EIS ROD, DOE selected Tank Closure Alternative 2B, which would, among other things: (1) retrieve 99 percent of the waste from the SSTs; (2) treat tank waste, including pretreatment of tank waste with separation into low-activity waste (LAW) and high-level radioactive waste (HLW); and (3) dispose of the vitrified LAW

¹ The three other alternatives analyzed in the TC&WM EIS concerned Fast Flux Test Facility decommissioning, which is not the subject of this ROD.

and secondary waste and construct immobilized HLW (IHLW) interim storage modules to store the IHLW prior to disposal.²

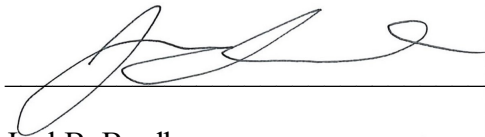
In accordance with National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (Pub. L. 91-190, 42 United States Code [U.S.C.] 4321 *et seq.*) (NEPA) and the DOE NEPA Implementing Procedures, DOE prepared a Supplement Analysis, which evaluated DOE's proposal to construct and operate the DOE Hanford Site 200 East Area WTP HLW Vitrification Facility in a DFHLW approach and configuration and connected actions.

All disturbances would be expected to be within the Industrial-Exclusive Zone in the DOE Hanford Site 200 West and East Areas, and all functions would be consistent with those facilities analyzed in the TC&WM EIS. The key difference from the TC & WM EIS Alternative 2B would be the inclusion of the WTV between the double-shell tank waste storage tanks (DSTs) and the HLW Vitrification Facility to provide a staging function. This would have been a function of the WTP Pretreatment Facility as analyzed in the TC&WM EIS.

In the Supplement Analysis, DOE concluded that the changes to the proposed action are not a substantial change relevant to environmental concerns, nor are there substantial new circumstances or information about the significance of the adverse effects that bear on the proposed action or its impacts. DOE also determined that, consistent with DOE's NEPA

² For the complete list of activities covered in the ROD, see 78 FR 75918.

implementing procedures, Section 3.9, these changes do not require a new or supplemental EIS. No further NEPA documentation is required.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joel B. Bradburne', is written over a horizontal line.

10/7/25

Joel B. Bradburne
Acting Assistant Secretary
for Environmental Management