

SAY WHAT? COMMENT WRITING GUIDE

Hanford 5-Year Cleanup Plan

U.S. Dept. of Energy 5 Year Plan (FY 2023-2027)

COMMENT DEADLINE: THURS, NOV 3, 2022



The U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE) is gathering your input on its cleanup plan for Fiscal Years (FY) 2023 through 2027.

BACKGROUND

The Hanford 5-Year Plan shows USDOE's projected cleanup work starting, completed or in progress during fiscal years 2023-2027. In 2022, USDOE changed the buckets from geographic designations - Tank Waste, Central Plateau, and River Corridor cleanup; to abstract categories - Critical Activities, Risk Reduction, and Mission and Site Infrastructure. You can comment on the projected cleanup projects, call out things that are missing, and raise any concerns you have.

The timing of work outlined in the 5-Year Plan is dependent on an assumption of \$2.7 billion in cleanup funding each year. This is a sharp contrast to projections in the Lifecycle Scope Schedule and Cost Report which shows a need for upwards of \$4 billion in annual funding to keep cleanup on track according to the agencies legally enforceable cleanup milestones.

USDOE has indicated that your input is sent to USDOE headquarters (USDOE HQ) with the 5-Year Plan as input on the 10 Year USDOE Strategic Vision. It is not clear how your input will be shared with USDOE HQ's strategic vision team in WA DC.

HANFORD CHALLENGE SUGGESTED COMMENTS



- <u>USE THE PLAN TO INCREASE FUNDING</u>: Use the 5-Year Plan and the EM 10 Year Vision to make the case for increased cleanup money, and show how increased cleanup budgets avoid delays and reduce risks for people, water, wildlife and natural resources. Don't make the cuts before they are made for you. Projecting flat funding in the plans only encourages the President and Congress to spend less on cleanup. Give them a reason to spend more!
- <u>INCREASE COLLABORATION</u>: Involve regulators and the public early in the development of all cleanup plans, and clearly indicate what work is at risk of delay. Ensure effective government to government negotiations with the tribal nations.
- <u>CONNECT THE PLANS</u>: Make it clear how the 5-Year Plan relates to legally enforceable cleanup milestones in the Tri-Party Agreement and Consent Order; the Lifecycle Scope, Schedule and Cost Report; the budget development process; and the Adaptive Milestone Approach. The connections between these plans and approaches are not clear to the public. Do a better job clearly communicating how they are connected and influence cost and schedule projections for Hanford cleanup.

PRIORITIZE THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES IN THE NEXT 5 YEARS:

- <u>TANK WASTE VITRIFICATION:</u> Make glass safely. Prioritize work on Direct-Feed Low-Activity Waste to immobilize tank waste in glass.
- <u>324 BUILDING CLEANUP:</u> Make sure B-cell contamination waste is characterized appropriately to keep long-lived radionuclides out of Hanford's onsite landfill, the Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility. Don't cut corners, high-level waste belongs in a deep geologic repository.
- <u>WESF CAPSULES TO DRY STORAGE ASAP</u>: Get the Waste Encapsulation Storage Facility (WESF) strontium and cesium capsules to dry storage. Analyze the degradation of concrete storage pools following removal of capsules and share this data to increase safety everywhere that concrete and radiation are interacting.
- <u>HANFORD WASTE TREATED ONSITE:</u> Treat Hanford waste onsite that is currently sent to Perma-Fix Northwest.
- <u>PRIORITIZE WORKER HEALTH AND SAFETY:</u> Ensure that workers are provided supplied air respiratory protection while working in the tank farms to protect workers from both immediate and chronic health effects and illnesses.
- <u>TANK LEAK RESPONSE PLAN</u>: Develop a comprehensive long-term plan to address Single-Shell Tank leak detection, characterization, mitigation, cleanup, and communication.
- DELAY TANK CLOSURE: Don't spend resources on closure of Hanford tank farms.

TAKE ACTION!



COMMENTS DUE: THURS. Nov 3rd, 2022

Send in comments with our One-Click Petition

TAKE ACTION! WITH	
HANFORD 5-Year Plan CHALLENGE Hanford Cleanup	
Comments Due: Thursday, Nov 3rd by MIDNIGHT	
Hanford 5-Year Plan	
Comment Today!	
Take future action with a single click. Log in or fign up for FastAction	<i>⊗fastaction</i> •
Contact Information	
First Name	Last Name
Postal Code City	StateProvince - State -
Email	

Or Email comments directly to USDOE: 5YearPlan@rl.gov

Resources:

- Hanford Advisory Board Virtual Public meeting on 5-Year Plan on October 20, 2022 (pdf presentation)
- Hanford 5-Year Plan placemat
- U.S. Dept. of Energy Webpage for this comment period
- <u>5-Year Plan Critical activities descriptions</u>
- Take Action one-click comment form.



