

Hanford Tank Vapors

Vapors Weekly Update
September 27, 2016



A recap of events during the past week regarding Hanford's tank vapors

From the desk of Mark Lindholm, WRPS President:

This week marks the end of a very busy and challenging fiscal year at Hanford's tank farms. I am extremely proud of the work our team accomplished this year, specifically in addressing the risks associated with Hanford vapors and chemicals, and the overall progress of the tank farm project. Here is a [link to an ad](#) that ran Sunday in the Tri-City Herald, recognizing some of our workers accomplishments.

Specific to chemical vapors, we are making significant progress testing new instruments and gathering data during [Phase 1 of the TVAT Implementation Plan](#). The first phase ends in October 2016, and this information will determine what additional actions WRPS will take to seek advancing worker safety during Phase 2. With the data and experience realized during Phase 1, WRPS will make further improvements in fiscal 2017 and 2018 with vapor detection and monitoring; engineered vapor controls and technologies; research and development; and industrial hygiene program standards and requirements.

In all, the tank farms team made excellent progress through collaboration during this past fiscal year, and we are poised to continue our important mission of protecting our workers, the environment, and the public from Hanford's tank waste in the years ahead.

New Information

Two articles related to Hanford tank waste cleanup were published last week.

- The first describes the [removal of material from another Hanford underground tank](#) that contained highly contaminated radioactive and chemical waste.
- The second article covers information on [potential impacts on tank waste retrieval schedules and funding](#) issues.

Seeking timely updates?

Subscribe at the Hanford Vapors website for notifications as updates occur.

www.hanfordvapors.com

Have questions or concerns?

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Operating Status

- This week, the cartridge testing team will complete sampling at the last double-shell tank farm to verify the protection capabilities of the air-purifying cartridges by testing them inside the tanks or at the stack exhaust, where the chemical sources are highest in concentration. Completion of this project could be a significant achievement for Hanford tank waste operations. The testing will be validated by a third party appointed by the union on a tank farm-by-tank farm basis.
- This week, testing is underway on a tank-farm-specific notification system. This public address system is being tested at the AP tank farm and will be expanded to other tank farm locations in fiscal year 2017.

Opportunities for Employee Engagement

- Employees are encouraged to participate in the next Chemical Vapors Solutions Team meeting scheduled for Sept. 28, 2 p.m. at the 2704 building.

Stay safe and have a great week.

Mark