

Hanford Tank Vapors

Vapors Weekly Update
April 20, 2017



From the desk of Mark Lindholm, Washington River Protection Solutions (WRPS) President:

DOE acting assistant secretary for Environmental Management tours tank farms

Sue Cange, acting EM-1, toured the AP tank farm on April 19 to view WRPS' pilot-scale testing of the Vapors Monitoring & Detection System (VMDS) and associated technologies.

ORP Manager Kevin Smith gave an overview of chemical vapors, and Rob Gregory, WRPS Chemical Protection Integration manager, followed with a briefing on the Comprehensive Vapor Action Plan. Karthik Subramanian, WRPS One System manager, led a poster session, which included discussion of:

- Tank integrity/chemistry control
- Head space ventilation
- Chemicals of Potential Concern (COPC)
- Pilot-scale testing of VMDS technologies
- The RJ Lee mobile laboratory
- PPE use
- WRPS' goal of using automation and technology to reduce worker entries into tank farms

Overall, the tour was well received by the acting assistant secretary, resulting in a free flowing discussion and sharing of information concerning WRPS' tank farm strategy.

News

Representatives from WRPS, DOE, Department of Justice, Washington State, Hanford Challenge and Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 598 are meeting in Seattle April 20 and 21 for the first round of mediation of a lawsuit filed in September 2015. Should mediation not prove successful, a trial is set for March 2018 in U.S. District Court in Richland.

Opportunities for Employee Engagement

- Town hall meetings by the U.S. Department of Labor on the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program are being held Thursday at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. at the Red Lion Hotel, 2525 N. 20th Ave., Pasco.
- We have scheduled all-employee celebration luncheons for VPP STAR recertification, completing retrieval of AY-102, reducing 2 million gallons of liquid at LERF, and several other accomplishments. All WRPS employees, staff augmentation, and subcontractors doing daily work for WRPS are invited to the 2750-E courtyard on Wednesday, April 26, or the Stevens Center lawn on Thursday, April 27. I look forward to seeing you there.

Mark