



# Hanford Tank Vapors

Vapors Weekly Update  
Sept. 21, 2017

***From the desk of Mark Lindholm, WRPS President and Project Manager:***

## **Evaporator campaign completed, creating a total of 525,000 gallons of double-shell tank space**

WRPS has successfully completed its second 242-A Evaporator campaign of the year, freeing a total of approximately 525,000 gallons of valuable double-shell tank storage space. That is equivalent to half the capacity of a double-shell tank.

The most recent campaign removed approximately 315,000 gallons of excess liquid tank waste, while the July campaign freed up 210,000 gallons of space. During evaporator campaigns, liquid tank waste is heated under vacuum pressure so it will boil at a temperature of about 125 degrees F. The liquid vapor from the boiling waste is captured, condensed, filtered, and sent to the Effluent Treatment Facility for treatment and disposal. The remaining concentrated waste is returned to a double-shell tank.

Evaporator campaigns are a critical part of the Hanford tank waste cleanup mission. By reducing the volume of waste stored in double-shell tanks, additional space becomes available for continuing waste retrieval from single-shell tanks.

The work was coordinated with the Chemical Vapor Solutions Team and HAMTC leadership to develop a comprehensive industrial hygiene control strategy for the campaigns to protect tank farm workers from potential exposure to chemical vapors. Area direct-reading instrumentation readings in the general work areas during the campaign were well below action and occupational exposure limits.

A new exhaust stack was installed prior to the evaporator campaigns, raising the evaporator exhaust discharge point by 48 feet, to a height of 111 feet.

## **Opportunities for Employee Engagement**

- The next CVST Communications Sub-Team meeting is Monday, Sept. 25, from 3 to 4:30 p.m. at 2425 Stevens, Room 110.
- The next full CVST meeting is Wednesday, Sept. 27, from 2 to 4 p.m. at 2704-HV, Room G-206.

**Mark**