The Department of Energy (DOE) and Washington River Protection Solutions, LCC (WRPS) signed a settlement agreement regarding lawsuits brought by the State of Washington and by Hanford Challenge and Local 598 of the United Association of Plumbers and Steamfitters. Below are excerpts listed from the settlement agreement as it pertains to the posting of information on a publicly available website. A copy of the settlement agreement is available at this link.

Page 4 - WHEREAS, by February, 2018, DOE and WRPS evaluated the use of airline systems as an option for certain work in which supplied air is being used, and posted the written evaluation on a publicly available website; Link here

Page 5 - WHEREAS, in April, 2018, WRPS posted on a publicly available website the 2017 Population Health Trending Summary, Tank Farm Hazardous Waste Worker; Link here

Page 10 - 1. DOE and WRPS posted on a publicly available website a summary of the results of the initial off-site testing of a Strobic Air system by August 31, 2018. Link here

Page 15 (NUCON) – 2.c. By March 31, 2019, DOE and WRPS will post on a publicly available website the results of the Phase Two testing and will notify Plaintiffs of the posting. Link here (Rev. 1, to be available by March 31, 2019 Link Here)

Page 16 (NUCON) - iii. Within 90 days after the date provided by DOE and WRPS pursuant to subparagraph II.C.3.c.i above for completion of Phase Three testing, DOE and WRPS will post on a publicly available website the results of the Phase Three testing and will notify Plaintiffs of the posting. Link here

Page 26 – Section V “Information Sharing”

1. Within 30 days after the Effective Date of this Agreement, WRPS will post on a publicly available website the AOP-15 procedure as of December 31, 2017. Link here

2. Until this commitment is terminated on March 1, 2022 pursuant to paragraph IX.B, DOE and WRPS will post on a publicly available website all AOP-15 Event Investigation Reports (“EIRs”) completed after the Effective Date of this Agreement. Such postings will occur within two weeks after completion of the EIR. Link here

B. Procedures and Documents Effective as of December 31, 2017. Within 30 days after the Effective Date of this Agreement, WRPS will make reasonable efforts to post on a publicly available website the following documents as effective on December 31, 2017: (1) procedures for determining appropriate PPE; (2) procedures for alternative respiratory protection assessments (“ARPAs”); (3) procedures for assessing worker hazards (including vapor risks); and (4) tank vapor information sheets (“TVISs”) for the COPCs in the tank farms. Link here

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C. Completed ARPAs. Until this commitment is terminated on March 1, 2022 pursuant to paragraph IX.B, DOE and WRPS will make reasonable efforts to post on a publicly available website all tank farm-related ARPAs completed after the Effective Date of this Agreement. Such postings shall occur within 45 days after completion of the ARPA. Link here

D. Problem Evaluation Requests. Until this Agreement is terminated on March 1, 2022 pursuant to paragraph IX.B, DOE and WRPS will make reasonable efforts to post on a publicly available website a monthly list of Problem Evaluation Requests (“PERs”) regarding AOP-15 events that occur after the Effective Date of this Agreement. Link Here

E. Health Trending Summaries. Beginning with the 2018 summary, DOE and WRPS will post on a publicly available website the Health Trending Summaries for tank farm workers. The commitments in this paragraph V.E terminate on March 1, 2022 as provided in paragraph IX.B.

2018 Population Health Trending Summary, Tank Farm Hazardous Waste Worker
2019 Population Health Trending Summary, Tank Farm Hazardous Waste Worker
2020 Population Health Trending Summary, Tank Farm Hazardous Waste Worker
2021 Population Health Trending Summary, Tank Farm Hazardous Waste Worker

F. Medical Surveillance Program. Within 30 days after the Effective Date of this Agreement, DOE and WRPS will post on a publicly available website a thorough explanation of the tank farm waste worker medical surveillance program (routine occupational tests and their purpose). This information will be updated annually if there are changes to the program. The commitments in this paragraph V.F terminate on March 1, 2022 as provided in paragraph IX.B. Link here
G. Return to Work Policy. Within 30 days after the Effective Date of this Agreement, DOE and WRPS will post on a publicly available website a thorough explanation of the current policy concerning return to work following a reported exposure and before the results of all medical tests are available. The explanation will include a statement that a determination by the Hanford occupational and medical services provider that a worker may return to work is not to be construed by the worker as a medical diagnosis.  

I. Former Worker Medical Screening Program. Within 30 days after the Effective Date of this Agreement, DOE will provide Hanford workers with information on a publicly available website regarding their potential ability to participate in the DOE Former Worker Medical Screening Program. 

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J. Health Process Plan. After the plan is cleared for public release, DOE and WRPS promptly will post on a publicly available website the Health Process Plan entitled “PNNL-25791, Hanford Tank Farm Exposure and Risk Assessment Plan.”  

K. PNNL Health Study. After the study is completed and cleared for public release, DOE and WRPS promptly will post on a publicly available website the Chronic OELs with Regulatory Basis, PNNL-26777.  

End of Section V.

This concludes the excerpt(s) from the settlement agreement.