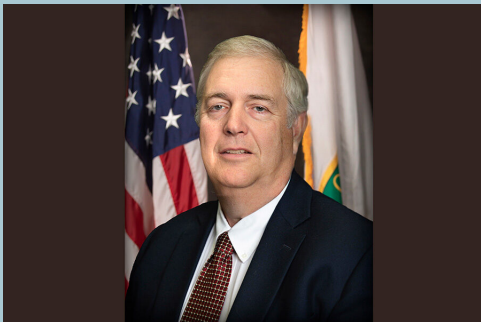


HANFORD COMMUNITIES

May 29, 2025
Hanford News
& Updates

Hanford Has a New Acting Manager

By Ty Beaver | TCJOB | May 19, 2025



Brian Harkins has been named Acting Manager of the U.S. Department of Energy's Hanford Field Office, bringing over 30 years of DOE experience and two decades at Hanford to the role.

He now leads the \$3 billion annual cleanup effort and its 13,000+ workforce as the site advances toward stabilizing tank waste in glass later this year.

[Read More](#)

WSU Students to Train on Newest Tech, Thanks to Hanford Contractor Big Donation

By Tri-City Herald Staff | May 20, 2025

Bechtel has donated \$60,000 to Washington State University Tri-Cities to fund a new materials testing machine, giving engineering students hands-on experience with cutting-edge technology used in 3D printing.

The upgrade will better prepare students for careers in modern manufacturing and engineering—skills critical to industries like Hanford cleanup.

[Read More](#)

Hanford Cleanup Highlighted in Congressional Budget Hearing

The Hanford cleanup mission received strong support during a May 7 hearing of the House Energy & Water Appropriations Subcommittee. U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Chris Wright made it clear that Hanford remains a top priority in the Department's 2025 budget request.

In two rounds of questions from Congressman Dan Newhouse (R-WA), Secretary Wright reiterated that the proposed budget protects Hanford funding. He also confirmed that the Direct-Feed Low-Activity Waste (DFLAW) facility is still on track to begin operations this year—an important milestone for the cleanup effort. Wright introduced his Environmental Management (EM-1) nominee, Tim Walsh, as someone with a reputation for getting things done, signaling that the Department is focused on keeping Hanford cleanup moving forward.

Congressman Newhouse, a long-time advocate for Hanford and the Tri-Cities, invited Secretary Wright to visit the site in person—a request the Secretary accepted. Newhouse later shared that he was “exceedingly impressed” with Wright's understanding of the complex challenges at Hanford and his commitment to the work ahead.

While the overall budget climate in D.C. remains tight, Secretary Wright made it clear that cleanup progress can't stall. Delays would not only increase long-term costs but also add risk to aging waste infrastructure. His testimony reflected an encouraging alignment between DOE leadership and community priorities.

You can watch Rep. Newhouse's exchanges with Secretary Wright here:

First round - 1:17:20 mark

Second round - 2:03:45 mark

[Watch Here](#)

Lets Talk About Hanford: Waste Treatment Plant



In this month's installment of the Department of Ecology's ongoing series Let's Talk About Hanford, Tank Waste Treatment Section Manager Suzanne Dahl joined the conversation to discuss the Hanford Site's Waste Treatment Plant.

Open Comment Periods

2025 Hanford Lifecycle Report

The Department of Energy has released the 2025 Hanford Lifecycle Scope, Schedule, and Cost Report, which outlines the planned cleanup work at Hanford under the Tri-Party Agreement. Though not a decision document, the report supports ongoing discussions with the EPA and State of Washington.

Public comment is open through June 16, 2025.

Submit feedback in writing to:

 Dana Gribble, HMIS,
U.S. DOE, P.O. Box 450, H5-20, Richland, WA 99354

Questions? Contact Dana Gribble at dana_c_gribble@rl.gov.

Provide a Public Comment

Events from our Partners



June 9 | 7:00 PM
Richland Public Library

Join the [B Reactor Museum Association \(BRMA\)](#) to discover how the U.S. and Soviet Union approached the complex, costly, and waste-heavy process of separating and converting plutonium during the early days of atomic weapons development. While espionage led the USSR to replicate U.S. reactor and weapon designs, their chemical processes diverged significantly.

This talk, based on decades of international collaboration, explores the scientific, historical, and geopolitical factors that shaped each nation's approach.

See Event



Hanford Communities | 7130 W. Grandridge Blvd., Ste. A | Kennewick, WA 99336 US

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