

FROM: St JWA  
CHRISTINE O. GREGOIRE

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Director



K. McConnell

STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

Mail Stop PV-11 • Olympia, Washington 98504-8711 • (206) 459-6000

For Immediate Release  
June 7, 1988

Contact: Jerry Gilliland  
(206) 459-6674

NOTICE TO NEWS MEDIA

A joint State Nuclear Waste Board and Nuclear Waste Advisory Council informational meeting on Hanford defense waste cleanup will be held at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, June 16, in the EFSEC Hearings Room, 4224 Sixth Avenue S.E., Lacey, Washington.

U.S. Department of Energy representatives and Hanford contractors will describe recent Richland Operations Office organizational changes which are designed to improve waste management and environmental activities.

USDOE also will present its plans for implementing the Hanford Defense Waste Environmental Impact Statement Record of Decision and will describe current waste management and environmental restoration activities.

USDOE will also give an overview and status report on recently reported leakage in five single-shell tanks used to store radioactive and chemical wastes. The report will include description of surveillance methods and current schedules for removing remaining pumpable liquids.

The Advisory Council will hold a separate meeting at 9:30 a.m. Friday, June 17, in the EFSEC Hearing Room and the Nuclear Waste Board will meet again at 1:30 p.m. Friday, June 17, in the EFSEC Hearing Room.

The Friday agendas include reports on the status of Congressional funding efforts for the Hanford defense waste cleanup, a report on the state-federal negotiations regarding hazardous waste cleanup at Hanford, a report on the Northwest Citizens Forum on Defense Waste's final recommendations, and discussion of the next year's plans for Board and Council activities.

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