

Oregon Department of Energy

Oregon appreciates the opportunity to provide comment on this permit. To begin with, we do not have a position for or against Perma-fix, and have full faith in the WA department of Ecology to regulate the safe operation of the facility through this permit. However, given the important role that Perma-fix provides to cleanup progress at the Hanford site, we support the timely renewal of this permit. Oregon understands that most material from Perma-fix reportedly returns to the Hanford site: whether for disposal in a licensed landfill or staging in preparation for off-site disposal. We are also confident that waste classified as transuranic and mixed transuranic waste shipments destined for the WIPP facility in New Mexico will be managed by the DOE Carlsbad field office, which has a well-established program to coordinate safe transportation with states along the routes from Hanford to WIPP.

Our request pertains to waste materials other than those returning to Hanford – If low activity waste or mixed low activity waste is destined to leave Perma-Fix and travel south through Oregon, we would like a courtesy notification to ODOE. This coordination allows us to provide accurate information to first responders and the public should incidents or inquiries arise.

If you have any questions regarding this comment, please contact me at tom.sicilia@energy.oregon.gov.

Thank you,
Tom Sicilia
Hanford Hydrogeologist
Oregon Department of Energy