Anonymous

Off-site treatment of Hanford tank waste appears to be the only option shown per Figure 1-3 and section III.10.M.3.e.111 of the proposed Hanford DW permit modification, AR-41146.

Ecology should encourage and support on-site grouting as a better alternative.

The proposal plans to move up to 1,200,000 gallons of dangerous, mixed tank waste per year to Richland, near my home. Cesium isn't the only isotope in it. The transport takes the waste about 30 times closer to the water table than it is in 200E area. A spill in Richland will much more promptly reach the water table.

Of note is a recent FOIA request to DOE Hanford, FOIA-2026-02291. FOIA-2026-02291suggests that DOE is now considering expanding the volume shipped to PFNW in Richland to 9,000,000 gallons per year, which increases the risk to neighborhoods and families.

It would help a lot for Ecology to require a spill analysis and a government contingency plan for Hanford waste spills in Richland commercial facilities. RCRA is "cradle to grave" legislation, which means DOE owns the waste forever. The rapid ability to excavate to the water table, install groundwater treatment, and supply affected residents with bottled water if needed would be helpful. Just because there's an in-town license and permit, doesn't mean it is a wise decision to use it.