

# Eastern Washington Chapter Academy of Certified Hazardous Materials Managers Newsletter

February 2000

Issue 00-1

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*Remember to mark your calendar for  
the February general meeting once  
again to be held at  
WSU Main Auditorium!*

On Wednesday, February 23, at 6:00 p.m., Rex Jordan, Fire Marshal for the Hanford Fire Department for six years, will be the EWC-ACHMM guest speaker. Rex has served as fire marshal for the states of Washington and Nevada, and has been a staff member of the National Fire Protection Association in Boston. He served on a committee for the National Academy of Science, and the Bureau of Fire Research as a fire service representative. Rex has been a fire chief with two fire departments and worked as fire marshal for the U.S. Air Force at McChord AFB.

*He will be discussing a program referred to as the "Supplemental Environmental Project" which is in reply to a finding resulting from the chemical tank explosion of 1997, at Hanford, where it was found the emergency responders lacked ready access to hazardous materials information. The State of Washington's Department of Ecology and the DOE agreed to certain actions to correct this lack of information.*

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## Hanford's Waste Feed Delivery Program *By Kathy Tollefson*

The U. S. Department of Energy Office of River Protection (ORP) is responsible for managing all aspects of the River Protection Project (RPP). The RPP includes all activities required to safely store, retrieve, and dispose of Hanford Site tank wastes, and to close the tank farms in which the wastes are currently stored. A two-phased approach has been developed for treatment and immobilization of tank waste by private contractor. Privatization Phase 1 will assess the effectiveness of systems and technologies for treating and immobilizing an initial volume of tanks wastes and Privatization Phase 2 will involve full-scale processing of the remaining wastes. Privatization Phase 1 is expected to extend as late as calendar year 2018. The ORP's current private contractor selection is BNFL, Inc. CH2M Hill Hanford Group (CHG) is developing a waste feed delivery system that can retrieve selected tank wastes, stage the waste to meet contractually defined waste feed specifications, and deliver the wastes as feed to BNFL Inc. facilities for treatment and immobilization. Initial waste feed deliveries are expected to begin as early as calendar year 2005, pretreatment of delivered feed is expected to begin as early as calendar year

*Waste Feed Delivery – Continued*

2006, and vitrification is expected to begin as early as calendar year 2007.

The mission of the WFD system is to reliably, and for the least cost, deliver required quantities of tank waste feed to treatment and immobilization facilities on schedule, within specifications, and in conformance with all applicable regulatory, safety, and contractual requirements. Key Privatization Phase 1 objectives the WFD system must meet include:

- Establish a waste feed strategy that identifies the source tanks, timing and order of waste retrieval, and waste transfer processes for delivery of tank wastes, on time and within envelop specifications, to BNFL Inc.
- Identify, define, and specify the systems, structures, components and activities needed to implement the waste feed strategy.
- Scope, plan, fund, perform and monitor projects and activities needed to refurbish, construct, install, test, turnover, operate, and maintain the equipment and facilities supporting WFD during Privatization Phase 1.

Once vitrified, the immobilized low-activity fraction will be disposed onsite in a 200 Area disposal system (e.g., grout vaults or disposal trench). The high-level immobilized fraction will be interim stored until it can be shipped offsite for disposal. (e.g., Yucca Mountain).

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## **Regulatory Liaison Report**

**January/ February 2000**

*By Melinda Brown*

### **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

#### **Proposed Rule to Amend and Retain Mixture and Derived-From Rules**

On November 19, 1999, the US EPA published a proposed rule to amend and retain the mixture rule (64 FR 63382). The proposed rule also exempted certain wastes from the Hazardous Waste Identification Rule (HWIR) under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). In the proposed revision, the mixture and derived-from rules were retained; the scope of the mixture and derived-from rules was reduced by exempting mixtures listed

solely for ignitability/ corrosivity/reactivity that no longer exhibit that characteristic; implementation of two exemptions (for "generic" or landfill-only wastes) that satisfy certain conditions was established, and a current version of the US EPA's risk assessment was proposed. Within the rule is also a discussion of the need to revise the Land Disposal Restrictions.

#### **Proposed Rule to Amend and Retain Mixture and Derived-From Rules**

On November 19, 1999, the US EPA also published a proposed rule to conditionally exempt hazardous waste mixed with low-level wastes or Naturally Occurring and or Accelerator-produced radioactive material from RCRA storage, transportation, and disposal requirements (64 FR 63464). Comments on the proposed rule are due February 17, 2000.

### **US DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

#### **Record of Decision Issued for Hanford Comprehensive Land Use Plan**

On November 12, 1999, the USDOE published a Record of Decision on the Hanford Comprehensive Land Use Plan Environment Impact Statement. The CLUP includes a land-use map, land-use designation, land use policies, and procedures for plan implementation. Among six alternatives, the USDOE chose the Preferred Alternative, which it said balanced multiple uses of the Hanford.

<http://nepa.eh.doe.gov/eis/eis0222.html>.

### **ECOLOGY**

#### **Publication of Proposed Amendment to Model Toxics Control Act**

On November 17, 1999, Ecology published a proposed rule (WSR 99-22-077) to amend the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 173-340 [Model Toxics Act], WAD 173-321 Public Participation Grants, and WAC 173-322 Remedial Action Grants and Loans. Within the proposed amendments are the definition and framework for regulations governing ecological risk assessment; revision of the soil to ground water provisions; allowance for early public involvement and technical assistance to communities; and replacement of the interim guidance on total petroleum hydrocarbons. Comments were due to Ecology by January 17,

1999.

<http://www.wa.gov/ecology/tcp/cleanup.html>

### **Proposed Amendment of Washington Dangerous Waste Regulations**

On January 19, 2000, Ecology published proposed changes to the Dangerous Waste Regulations (WAC 173-303). The changes incorporate the most recent federal land disposal restrictions, the Military Munitions Rule, portions of the hazardous remediation waste management requirement and post-closure rule; add waste lamps (fluorescent, high-intensity discharge, and neon) as universal wastes; amend transporter requirements; add operational rules for transfer facilities; delete the exemption for steel mill flue dust used for fertilizer manufacture, and adopt subpart cc air emissions standards and the used oil rule, among others.

<http://www.wa.gov/ecology/ecyhome.html>

### **Stormwater Management Manual Comments**

Ecology released the Stormwater Management Manual in five volumes. The Manual is intended to provide guidance to assist the regulated community in managing stormwater and preventing water pollutions. The agency extended the public comment period on the Manual to February 15, 2000, as a result of comments received at workshops held to solicit public comment. Revisions to the Manual are planned to be complete by the end of June 2000.

### **WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH Proposed Revisions to the Radiation Protection Regulations**

DOH initiated review of WAC 246-247, Radiation Protection – Air Emissions, and asked interested parties to provide them comments by December 3, 1999. DOH planned the determination to revise, repeal, or leave the existing regulations in place by the first quarter of year 2000.

On November 17, 1999, the DOH published its proposed revisions to the radiation protection regulations to adopt the NRC rules recently adopted (WSR 99-22-086). Under agreement with the NRC, the radiological cleanup criteria for licensees who terminate their licenses. Licensees who are vacating their premises, terminating their licenses, or decontaminating and decommissioning their site must meet new criteria.

The new rule applies to all facilities that DOH licensed to use or store radioactive material, except for certain facilities (e.g., U.S. Ecology commercial low-level radioactive waste disposal site, Hanford).

<http://slc.leg.wa.gov/wsr/register.htm>

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## **ACADEMY BOOKSTORE**

### ***Remember Academy Members !!***

There are CHMM shirts, hats, mugs and lapel pins available from the Academy. For ordering information, call 1-800-436-0137. Also, the new CHMM Books are available from the web site at: <http://www.achmm.org>

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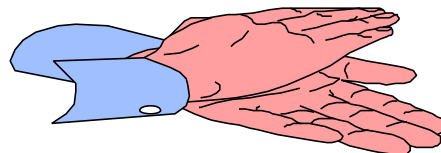
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## **Year 2000 National Convention Facing the Challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century at the Doubletree Jansen Beach Hotel Portland, Oregon August 13-16, 2000**

EWC-ACHMM has been busy working with the Portland Chapter to coordinate the ACHMM Year 2000 Conference. Our members are providing support with vendor and booth arrangements, as well as with logistics. We're still looking for volunteers. If you think you would like to help, give Chris Brevick a call for more information at 372-0833.

## **AWARDS**

Nominations for national awards are now underway. Please send any ideas for nominations (next year's) to Scot Adams at: [scadams@hotmail.com](mailto:scadams@hotmail.com) Do not miss this opportunity to provide deserved awards for contributions and achievements.



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***EWC-ACHMM Executive Committee  
Preparing a Mission Statement and  
Individual Officer/  
Chairperson's Goals***

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The Executive Committee would like to receive your comments for the development of our new chapter's mission and goals for the year. Please send your ideas to Roni Swan at e-mail: rhonda\_j\_roni\_swan@rl.gov or by phone to (509) 376-0967.

Some of the goals now being considered are:

- *Increase membership by 25%*
- *Conduct two CHMM review courses*
- *Tour two facilities*
- *Provide two scholarships*
- *Improve DOE's National Environmental Training Organization's (NETO) expansion of the CHMM Credential Program*

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**The Academy's Leadership Statements**

The Academy has developed new vision and mission statements for the core strategy. These were presented to more than 50 CHMMs attending the Academy Leadership Training seminar in Madison, Wisconsin in July.

Over an eight-month period, statements and strategy were the subject of hundreds of e-mail messages and more than two hundred person-hours of review, research, redrafting and discussion by CHMMs from at least fifteen Chapters across the country.

**Vision**

The Academy of Certified Hazardous Materials Managers envisions a world where the natural environment is unburdened by pollution, workers are exposed only to healthy and safe conditions, and hazardous materials are used and transported safely and efficiently.

**Mission**

The Academy of Certified Hazardous Materials Managers will foster the professional development of hazardous materials managers by offering opportunities for education, facilitating peer group interaction, and establishing the CHMM credential as the standard of excellence in the hazardous materials management profession.

**Strategy**

Our mission will be achieved by working with Academy Chapters, the Institute of Hazardous Materials Management, and other professional organizations to link industry, government and academia, and achieve the Academy vision for the future.

