



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
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**Richland Operations
Office**

DOE News Release

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Seventh Chapter of Hanford Story Released to Public

Chapter Covers Cleanup along Columbia River

RICHLAND, Wash. – The Department of Energy is releasing the seventh chapter of The Hanford Story video series to the public today. “River Corridor” provides viewers with a look at the cleanup of hundreds of contaminated buildings and more than one thousand areas where soil was contaminated along the 50-mile stretch of the Columbia River that flows through the Hanford Site in southeast Washington State.

In the 220-square-mile area known as the River Corridor, nine massive nuclear reactors once produced nearly two-thirds of the nation’s supply of plutonium from the 1940s to the 1980s, and fabrication facilities produced more than 20 million slugs of uranium rods to fuel the reactors.

More than half of the cleanup in the River Corridor has been completed to date, and more than 13 million tons of soil and debris has been moved away from the river. As cleanup is completed, large areas of land are made safe for potential future uses, such as conservation, preservation, and in a limited area near Richland, Wash., industry. However, significant cleanup challenges remain.

The Department has added the River Corridor video to a [page](#) on its [website](#) dedicated to the Hanford Story as well as its YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/hanfordsite.

The Hanford Story is a multimedia presentation that provides an overview of the Hanford Site—its history, today’s cleanup activities, and a glimpse into the possibilities of future uses of the 586-square-mile government site. The Department of Energy is delivering The Hanford Story in a series of video-based chapters dedicated to telling the multi-faceted story of the site, including:

- The history of producing plutonium
- Impacts to the environment resulting from producing plutonium
- Progress being made in cleanup of the site
- Innovative technologies and solutions being used in cleanup activities
- Future uses of the Hanford Site

The first chapter of The Hanford Story, Hanford Overview, received an Emmy for best Historical/Cultural Program/Special from the Northwest Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences in 2011. Representatives of the Department of Energy and its contractors are available to show the Hanford Story videos to groups and answer questions. To request a speaker or kiosk visit to your location, contact our Hanford Site Speakers Bureau on the Hanford [website](#), by email at HSB@rl.gov, or by calling (509) 376-3419.

For your information, the Department of Energy, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and State of Washington are holding a public workshop in Richland, Wash., on June 26 to discuss cleanup of Hanford's River Corridor. Information on the workshop is available at <http://www.hanford.gov/page.cfm/HanfordRiverCorridorCleanupWorkshops>

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