

CLUI Pacific Northwest Chapter
Eastern Washington Office
P.O. Box 6381
Kennewick, WA
99336-0381

4 October 1998

CLUI PNC EWO INITIATES HANFORD SITE EXPLORATION

By the Eastern Washington Office

Over a period of two days in August 1998, eastern Washington CLUI field personnel explored land use issues on the Hanford Site. During the Manhattan Project and the Cold War the Hanford Site produced plutonium for the US atomic arsenal.

Areas examined were the 200 West and 200 East Areas, and the eastern portion of the 100-K complex.

(insert photo 1 here: "redundant steam pipe; view east towards Rattlesnake Ridge, 200 West Area")

This pipe was built during initial Hanford Site construction in 1943 to 1944. This insulated pipe provided steam redundancy in the event of failure of coal-fired heat plants. It spans four miles of steppe-shrub desert and links the mirror image 200 East and 200 West heat plants. The pipe is elevated by steel columns at various points along the single entry road. It jigs back and forth to allow limited off-road service access to authorized vehicles and the self-contained Hanford Site rail system.

(insert photo 2 here: "221-T; 'T-Plant'")

Plutonium separations canyon, 200 West Area. Constructed with eight foot thick cement walls, this rectangular structure contained batch process chemical separations equipment in which plutonium was separated from irradiated uranium fuel slugs. The chemical separations process used in 221-T was made obsolete in the early 1950s by the REDOX process. This view of T-Plant shows the rail entry bunker. Also visible is the emissions stack for separations byproducts. The gravel groundcover serves to provide a barrier to prevent wind dispersal of ground contamination.

(insert photo 3 here: "view north over K East settling ponds")

Hanford Site reactors were designed to be cooled by Columbia River water. The water from the river was pumped uphill to settling ponds. Sediment settled out of the water over time. The White Bluffs are visible in the background, across the Columbia River.

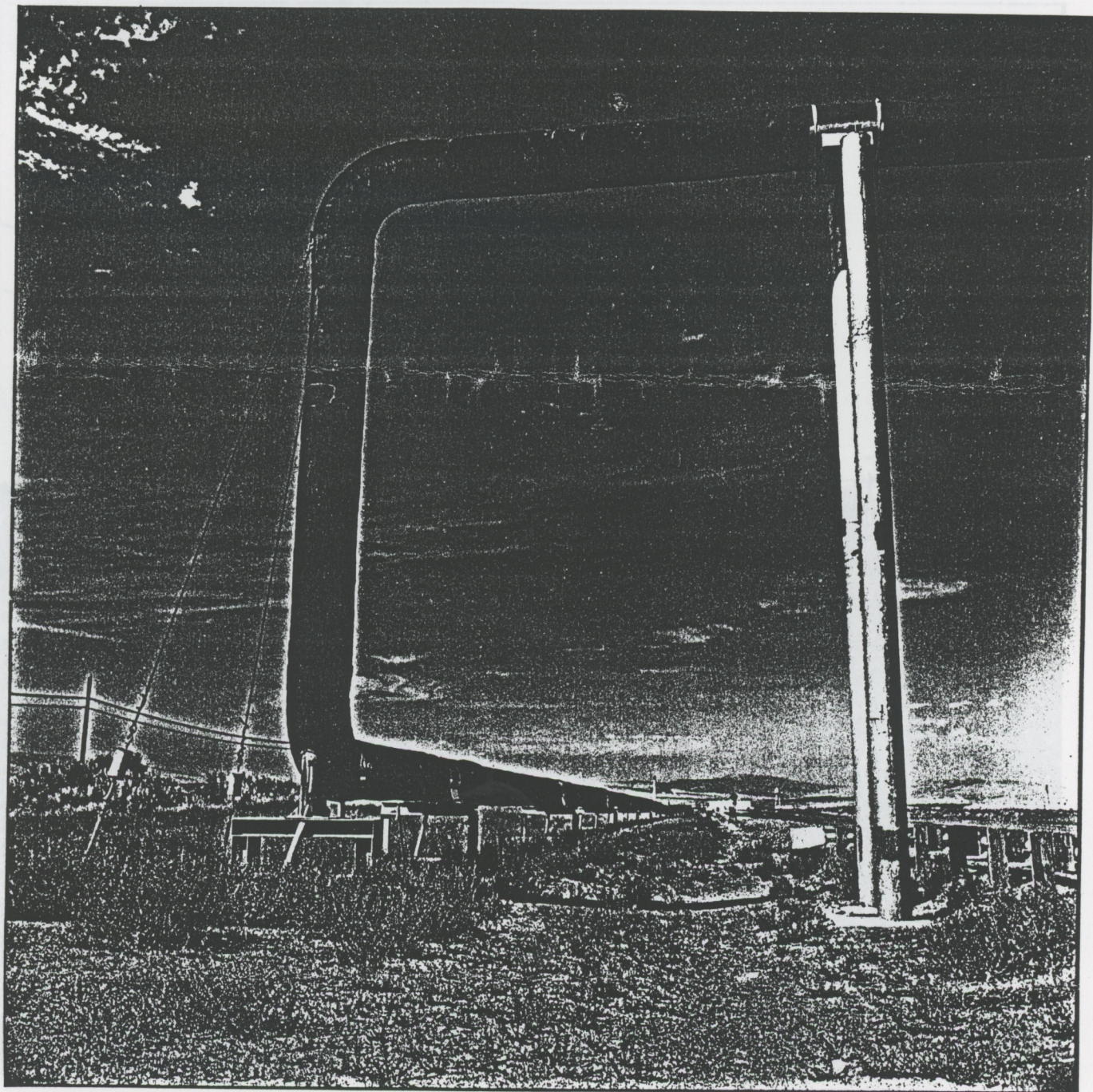
(insert photo 4 here: "view of K East reactor from the Columbia River")

This picture shows environmental restoration of an effluent treatment area. This area, once covered by a large structure, has had a gravel surface-wind barrier installed. Note small capped-off effluent pipes emerging from the berm to the right of reactor.

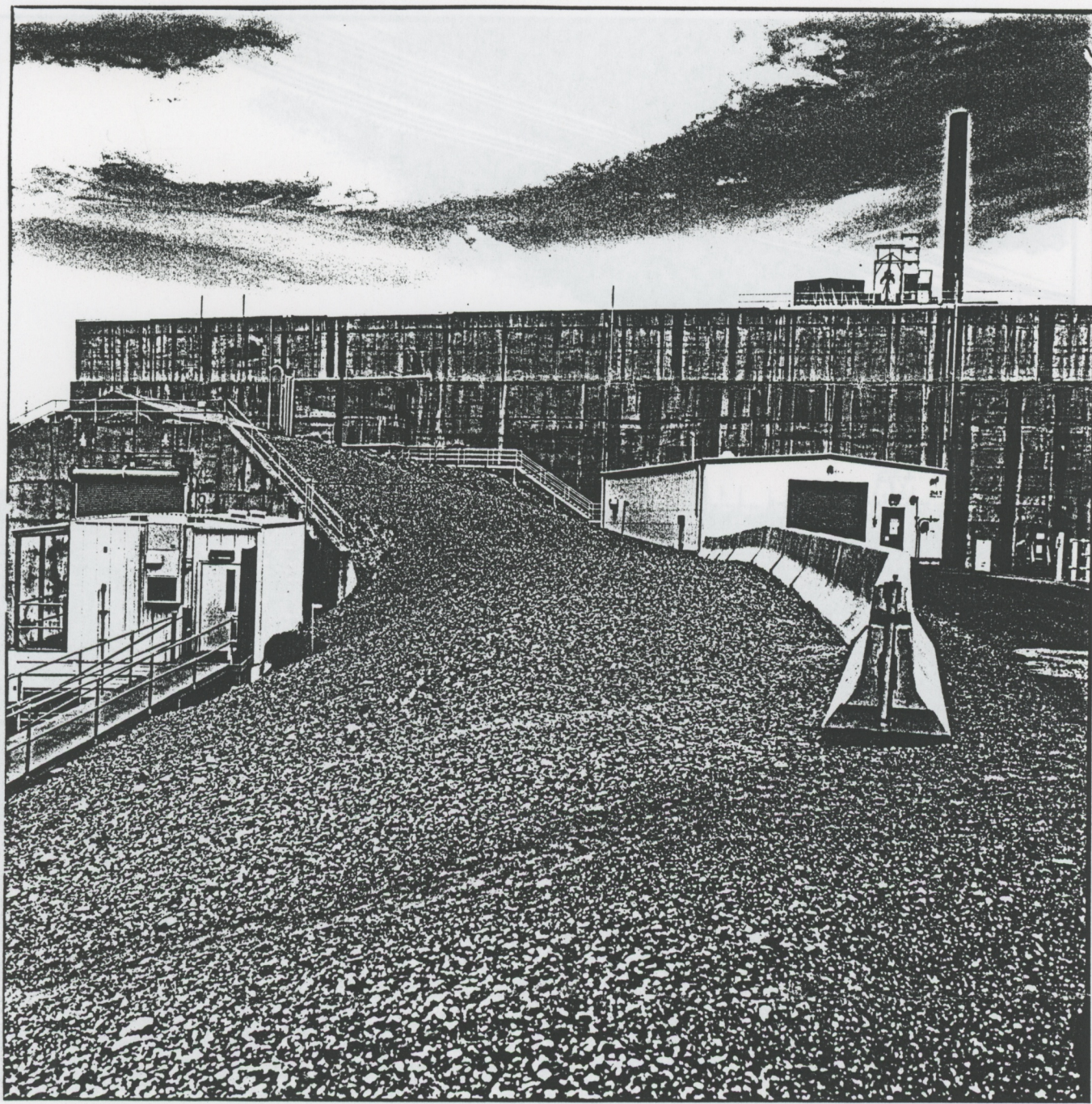
(insert photo 5 here: "electrical substation, K East complex")

This area has been extensively covered by a gravel surface-wind barrier.

CLUI Field Operatives plan on-going research into land use issues on the Hanford Site.









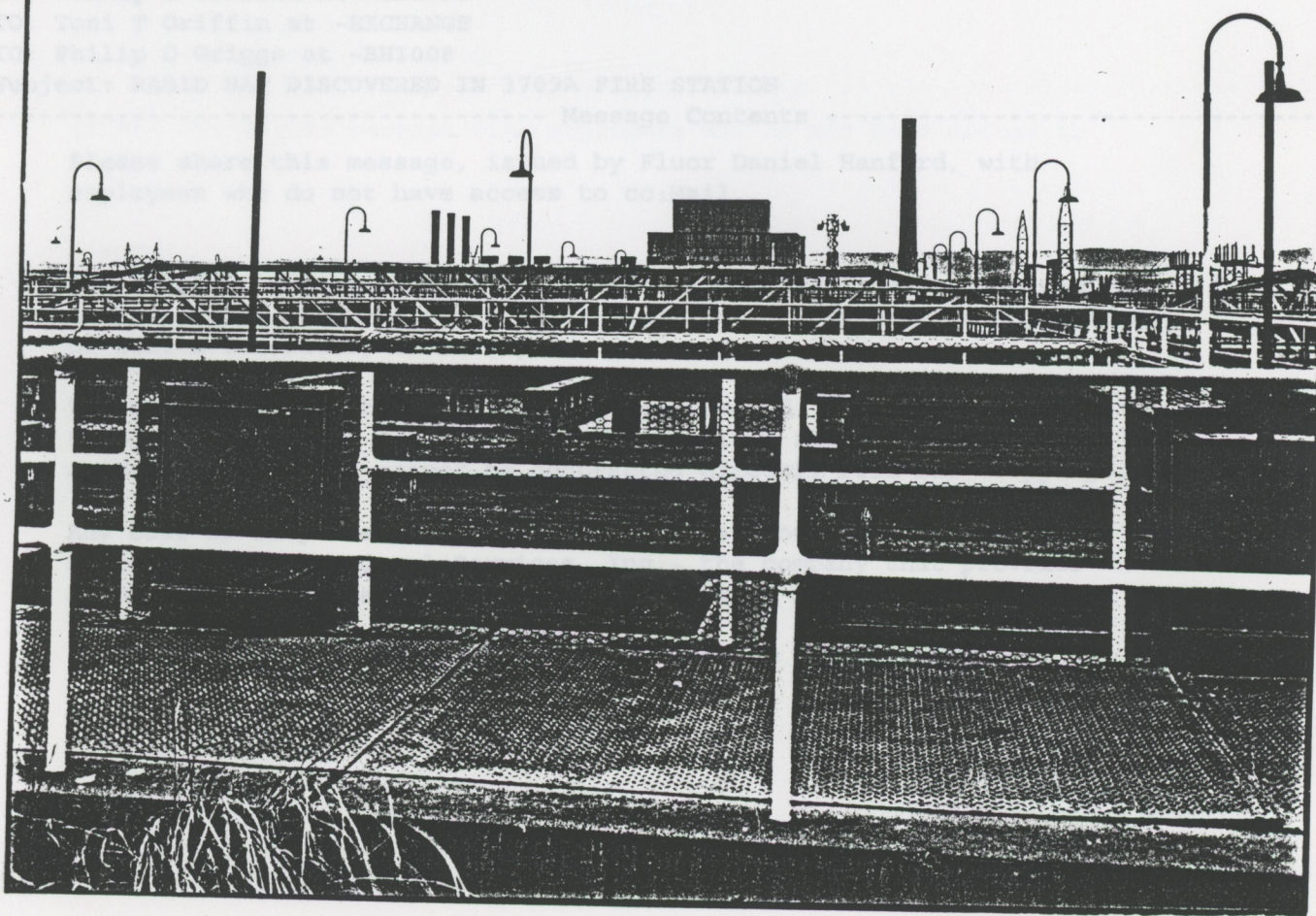
Thomas J Gibson at -BH1015
TO: Brian F Gifford at -BH1008
TO: C L (Candy) Gifford at -BH1017
TO: Jeffery J Gilley at -BH1006
TO: Mark D Glendon at -BH1011

TO: Alvina P Gifford at -BH1012
TO: Owen F Gifford at -BH1013
TO: Jimmie L Gore at -BH1009
TO: Elissa M Gore at -BH1014
TO: M L (Lynn) Goulet at -BH1009
TO: Michael J Graham at -BH1008
TO: Joan L Graves at -BH1014
TO: Cathy A Gray at -BH1005
TO: Everett M Jr Gray at -BH1013
TO: Andrew A Greif at -BH1016
TO: Paul J Greif at -BH1016
TO: [REDACTED] at -BH1018
TO: [REDACTED] at -BH1011
TO: Paul J Griffin at -BH1011
TO: Philip D Griggs at -BH1008

TO: [REDACTED] DISCOVERED IN 1709A FIRE STATION

Message Contents

TO: [REDACTED] this message, [REDACTED] by Fluor Daniel Harf d, with
[REDACTED] do not have access to [REDACTED]



TO: Thomas J Gibson at ~BHI015
TO: Brian K Gifford at ~BHI008
TO: C L (Candy) Gifford at ~BHI017
TO: Jeffery J Gilley at ~BHI006
TO: Mark D Glaman at -ERCLink
TO: Sheila R Godfrey at ~BHI014
TO: Alvina P Goforth at ~BHI012
TO: Owen T Goodman at ~BHI013
TO: Jimmie L Gore at ~BHI009
TO: Elissa M Gorena at ~BHI014
TO: M L (Lynn) Goulet at ~BHI009
TO: Michael J Graham at ~BHI008
TO: Joan L Graves at ~BHI014
TO: Cathy A Gray at ~BHI005
TO: Everett W Jr Gray at ~BHI013
TO: Andrew A Greif at ~BHI016
TO: Lisa L Greif at ~BHI016
TO: Paul W Griffin at ~BHI018
TO: Rodney H Griffin at ~BHI021
TO: Toni T Griffin at ~EXCHANGE
TO: Philip D Griggs at ~BHI008

Subject: RABID BAT DISCOVERED IN 3709A FIRE STATION

----- Message Contents -----

Please share this message, issued by Fluor Daniel Hanford, with employees who do not have access to cc:Mail.

A bat captured on September 24 in Hanford's 3709A Fire Station was discovered to have rabies after examination by a Washington Department of Health laboratory on Friday.

The rabies virus, which is fatal if not treated, is transmitted through the saliva, blood, and cerebral-spinal fluid of infected animals. The virus cannot be contracted directly from bat droppings.

Any bats or suspected bat droppings on Site should be reported to Waste Management Federal Services, Inc., the company that provides animal, pest, and weed control for the Hanford Site, at 376-PEST.

TO: Thomas J Gibson at ~BHI015
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TO: Lisa L Greif at ~BHI016
TO: Paul W Griffin at ~BHI018
TO: Rodney H Griffin at ~BHI021
TO: Toni T Griffin at ~EXCHANGE
TO: Philip D Griggs at ~BHI008
Subject: REPORTING BAT SIGHTINGS

----- Message Contents -----

Please share this message with employees who do not have access to
cc:Mail.

UPDATE:

Bats or suspected bat droppings should be reported to
ERC Pest Control, Brett Klinetobe, at 373-2386 or 531-0719.

Do not contact Waste Management Federal Services, Inc.

Sorry for the inconvenience.

Ken had some interesting statistics on rabid bats that help put the threat
of contracting rabies into perspective. From 1960 to 1997 the Center for
Disease Control reported 19 cases nation-wide where bats had been confirmed
with being rabid. Of those 19, 13 were silver haired. In Washington State,
the Dept. of Health examined 4,061 bats from 1960 to 1997 and found that 24
were rabid. Keep in mind that the bats that Dept of Health examines are
only cases where there has been some kind of human contact or suspicion of
rabies. The organization "Bat Conservation International" reports that
less than 0.05% of the general population of bats has rabies. They also
report that rabid bats rarely become aggressive, quickly die from the
disease, and that outbreaks in their colonies are extremely rare. Also,
over the last 50 years, less than 10 people in the country have contracted
rabies from North American bats that commonly live in houses.

The bottom line I get from all this is that yes, it is possible to get
rabies from bats, but it's extremely rare. The other message that should be
obvious is not to handle them or play with them. Contact Brett Klinetobe
for ERC bat issues and bats that need to be relocated.

I hope this helps to put the threat into perspective a little bit.

Ken Gano

Author: Stephen G Weiss at ~BHI006
Date: 9/30/98 7:10 AM
Priority: Normal
TO: William C Borden at ~BHI007
TO: Roger W Ovink at ~BHI001
TO: Jim J Sharpe
TO: Brian J Freer at ~BHI003
Subject: Regarding Rabid Bat

----- Message Contents -----

Ken Gano pulled this together after the "rabid bat" reports yesterday. It helps put things in perspective.

Steve

----- Forward Header -----

Subject: Regarding Rabid Bat
Author: Kenneth A (Ken) Gano at ~BHI001
Date: 9/29/98 2:32 PM

You've probably seen the message put out by Flour Daniel about the rabid bat they found in the 300 Area Fire Station last Friday. I decided to look into the "rest of the story" to get some perspective on the occurrence in relation to our work in the 100 Areas. I called Ray Giddings (of the PHMC pest control group) who was the one that collected the bat. He said the bat was an individual silver haired bat that had been sitting on a ceiling beam for a few days and not associated with an aggregation of bats. The silver haired bat is not one that we've seen a lot of in the Reactor Areas. It does occur here, and a few have been seen, but it is not one that forms large colonies. They prefer trees, foliage, cliffs, and occasionally buildings and caves.

Ray had some interesting statistics on rabid bats that help put the threat of contracting rabies into perspective. From 1980 to 1997 the Center for Disease Control reported 19 cases nation-wide where bats had been confirmed with being rabid. Of those 19, 13 were silver haired. In Washington State, the Dept. of Health examined 4,061 bats from 1960 to 1997 and found that 9% were rabid. Keep in mind that the bats that Dept of Health examines are only cases where there has been some kind of human contact or suspicion of rabies. The organization "Bat Conservation International" reports that less than 0.05% of the general population of bats has rabies. They also report that rabid bats rarely become aggressive, quickly die from the disease, and that outbreaks in their colonies are extremely rare. Also, over the last 50 years, less than 10 people in the country have contracted rabies from North American bats that commonly live in houses.

The bottom line I get from all this is that yes, it is possible to get rabies from bats, but it's extremely rare. The other message that should be obvious is not to handle them or play with them. Contact Brett Klinetobe for ERC bat issues and bats that need to be relocated.

I hope this helps to put the threat into perspective a little bit.

Ken Gano