



Nuclear Waste & Power

Read. Watch. Listen.

READ

Ferguson, Robert L. and Smith, C. Mark. *Something Extraordinary: A Short History of the Manhattan Project, Hanford, and The B Reactor*. Book Publisher's Network, 2019.

A brief history of the politics and atomic research at Hanford, from the creation of the atomic bomb to the cleanup today. If you're not sure how Washington state became a repository for nuclear waste or how waste is created, this is a good place to start.

Adams, Melvin R. *Atomic Geography: A Personal History of the Hanford Nuclear Reservation*. Washington State University Press, 2016.

Adams, a Hanford engineer who spent 24 years on 586 miles of desert terrain, offers descriptions of the size and scope of the Hanford soil and solid waste cleanup. Adams and his group designed and tested a maintenance-free disposal barrier using natural materials. They expanded a network of groundwater monitoring wells to define contaminated plumes, assess treatment effectiveness, and provide relevant data to hydrologists and developed a pilot scale pump and treatment plant for use on a four-square-mile carbon tetrachloride plume. Adams shares his perspective on leaking high-level waste storage tanks, dosimeters, and Hanford's obsession with safety.

Hamilton, Tyler J. *Mad like Tesla: Underdog Inventors and the Relentless Pursuit of Clean Energy*. ECW Press, 2011.

What innovations are being made in the field of clean energy, and could they really work?

DIGITAL RESOURCES

Science in Context

Access this resource at www.sclد.org/science-in-context

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WATCH

Building Chernobyl's Megatomb. Dir. Gorst, Martin. Windfall Films Ltd, (part of the Argonon Group) for WGBH Boston produced in association with the BBC, and France Television, NHK, and N24, 26 April, 2017. Film.

In 1986 a catastrophic blast, 400 times more potent than the Hiroshima bomb, blew the lid off Chernobyl's Reactor No. Four, igniting fires that burned for days and sending a radioactive cloud across Europe. Ill-equipped workers heroically sealed the smoldering reactor in a concrete sarcophagus, but the hastily constructed shelter was only built to last 30 years. Now, 30 countries have come together to pay for a 25,000-ton steel shelter which will entomb the radiation and last for a century.

LISTEN

"88,000 tons of radioactive waste – and nowhere to put it." *Verge*, *Verge Science*, 12 August 2018. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YgVyPwhkoJs>

Verge reporters talk with experts on what ideas are being explored to house nuclear waste and how politics are affecting storage on nuclear waste.

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