



**Department of Energy**  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550  
Richland, Washington 99352

16-ESQ-0072

**MAY 12 2016**

Ms. Alexandra K. Smith  
Program Manager  
Nuclear Waste Program  
Washington State Department of Ecology  
3100 Port of Benton Boulevard  
Richland, Washington 99354

Dear Ms. Smith:

**REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY AUTHORIZATION (TA) TO IMPLEMENT CLASS 3  
MODIFICATIONS FOR CLOSURE OF WASTE ENCAPSULATION STORAGE FACILITY  
(WESF) HOT CELLS A THROUGH F**

- References:
- (1) Ecology ltr. to S. Charboneau, RL, from S. Dahl, "Request for Temporary Authorization to Implement a Class 3 Modification for Closure of Waste Encapsulation and Storage Facility (WESF) Hot Cells A through F," 16-NWP-056, dtd. March 21, 2016.
  - (2) RL ltr. to J. A. Hedges, Ecology, from S. Charboneau, "Revised Part A Form and Closure Plan for Waste Encapsulation Storage Facility (WESF) Closing Dangerous Waste Management Unit (DWMU) and Temporary Authorization to Implement Previously Requested Class 3 Modifications," 16-ESQ-0026, dtd. January 14, 2016.

The U.S. Department of Energy Richland Operations Office (RL) received the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) approval for the TA for ongoing waste management activities at WESF. RL understands that the TA is for the activities described below for the full term of 180 days, effective March 31, 2016, through September 27, 2016.

- Site Preparation as detailed in Section H-A5.3 of the WESF Hot Cell A through F closure plan.
- Unit Modification and evaluation prior to stabilization as detailed in Section H-A5.4 of the closure plan.

RL provided comments to the WESF Class 3 Draft Permit modification second public comment period that closed on April 27, 2016, via Letter 16-ESQ-0068.

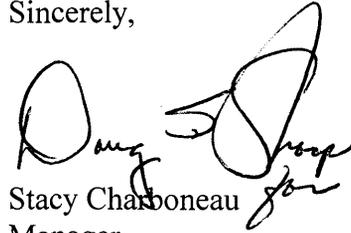
Ms. Alexandra K. Smith  
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If you have any questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact Jeffrey A. Frey, Assistant Manager for Safety and Environment, on (509) 376-7727.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stacy Charboneau". The signature is stylized and cursive, with a large initial "S" and "C".

Stacy Charboneau  
Manager

ESQ:ACM

cc: Debra J. Alexander, Ecology  
John A. Ciucci, CHPRC  
Suzanne L. Dahl-Crumpler, Ecology  
Laura J. Cusack, CHPRC  
Richard H. Engelmann, CHPRC  
Sarah R. Horn, CHPRC  
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Joel F. Williams Jr, CHPRC  
Administrative Record  
Ecology NWP Library  
Ecology Environmental Portal Hanford  
HF Operating Record (J. K. Perry, MSA A3-01)