



Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office
P.O. Box 550
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MAR 04 2010

10-AMCP-0092

Ms. J. A. Hedges, Program Manager
Nuclear Waste Program
State of Washington
Department of Ecology
3100 Port of Benton
Richland, Washington 99354

Dear Ms. Hedges:

HANFORD FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT AND CONSENT ORDER (TRI-PARTY AGREEMENT) MILESTONE M-015-83, "SUBMIT A PROPOSED PLAN FOR 200-UW-1," DUE JUNE 30, 2010

This letter responds to the State of Washington Department of Ecology's (Ecology) letter dated February 11, 2010, expressing the concern that Tri-Party Agreement Milestone M-015-83 may be in jeopardy. The U.S. Department of Energy Richland Operations Office (RL) has been working closely with Ecology and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency over the past year to develop a series of Tri-Party Agreement milestone packages to implement a new Central Plateau cleanup completion strategy. This strategy covers the overall cleanup of the Central Plateau including waste sites, operable units, excess facilities, and groundwater remediation. The draft milestone change packages that implements the strategy replace Milestone M-015-83 with a new milestone for preparing a feasibility study and proposed plan for a group of operable units in the 200 West Area, which includes the 200-UW-1 waste sites.

The Change Form M-15-08-07, dated August 4, 2009, cited in your letter did not modify this milestone. The date agreed to in this new milestone was to prepare a new proposed plan based upon currently available data, not including the subject boreholes mentioned in Ecology's letter. Therefore, RL will be in compliance with the original scope of Interim Milestone M-015-83. Also, change Form M-15-09-06 specifically stated that this milestone was being delayed to allow further technical discussions and negotiations regarding the Central Plateau milestones and the new strategy.

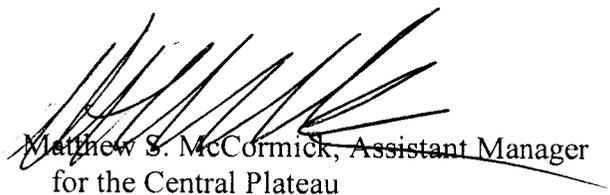
The Tri-Parties are proposing to include this operable unit into the 200 West operable unit so that additional characterization data can be considered during the preparation of the proposed 200 West plan resulting in this milestone being deleted. Pursuant to this new strategy, RL submitted the sampling and analysis plan for this work on February 16, 2010. Preparatory work for these boreholes (e.g., staking and permit approval, subsidence engineering evaluation, containment structure construction, High-Resolution Resistivity, etc.) is already underway and should be completed this fiscal year.

Ms. J. A. Hedges
10-AMCP-0092

-2-

If you have any questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact, Briant Charboneau, of my staff, on (509) 373-6137.

Sincerely,



Matthew S. McCormick, Assistant Manager
for the Central Plateau

AMCP:KDL

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