



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

13-AMRP-0007

OCT 29 2012

Mr. Russell Jim, Manager
Environmental Restoration/
Waste Management Program
Confederated Tribes and Bands
of the Yakama Nation
2808 Main Street
Union Gap, Washington 98903

Dear Mr. Jim:

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY RICHLAND OPERATIONS OFFICE (RL)
PREPARATION OF REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION/FEASIBILITY STUDIES (RI/FS) AND
PROPOSED PLANS FOR THE RIVER CORRIDOR AND OPERABLE UNITS FOR THE
CENTRAL PLATEAU

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of some corrections that RL will be making to the calculations for the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation (Yakama Nation) exposure scenario in all six River Corridor RI/FS documents. Two of the six draft River Corridor documents (K Area and 300 Area RI/FS) have already gone out for review by the regulators, and were also sent to the Tribes, so it is important that you are informed.

RL has been calculating risks using Tribal scenarios provided by the Yakama Nation and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR). The first Hanford risk assessment to include both Tribal scenarios was the Draft A Feasibility Studies for the 200-ZP-1 and 200-PW-1, 200-PW-3, and 200-PW-6 Operable Units. At that time, implementation of the Yakama Nation's scenario was modified from what was submitted by adjusting the time in a sweat lodge from seven hours to two hours per day, adjusting the years exposed in a sweat lodge from 70 to 68 years, and adjusting the days per year from 365 days to 260 days. This change was explained in that Feasibility Study. This modified Yakama Nation scenario was also used for the 200-UP-1 RI/FS and Proposed Plan.

RL has had several discussions with your staff about the calculation of risk from the Yakama Nation's scenario since 2007. RL had agreed to run the scenario with parameters as provided by the Yakama Nation. The correction to the Yakama Nation Scenario for the River Corridor RI/FS documents is to run the scenario with parameters as provided by the Yakama Nation without any adjustments. Several parameters required to calculate risk were not supplied by the Yakama Nation, so we had agreed with your staff to supplement any necessary parameters not supplied by the Yakama Nation with parameters defined by the CTUIR scenario.

One outstanding issue relates to volatilization of chemicals in the sweat lodge. The CTUIR scenario specifies that volatile and nonvolatile chemicals will effectively volatilize in a sweat

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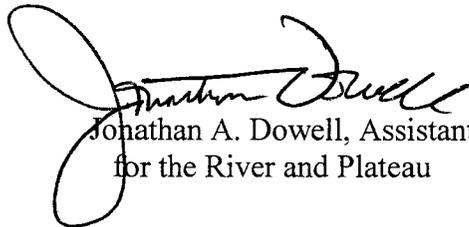
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lodge. We believe we had verbal direction from the Yakama Nation to only evaluate volatile chemicals in a sweat lodge, but we have no clear written documentation of that agreement. Therefore, we will provide risk output for both volatile-only, and volatile plus non-volatile chemicals. All parameters used for the Tribal scenarios will identify the source of the parameter clearly in the appendix to the RI/FS that contains the Tribal scenarios.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me, or your staff may contact Jim Hansen, CERCLA Document Manager, on (509) 376-4648.

Sincerely,



Jonathan A. Dowell, Assistant Manager
for the River and Plateau

AMRP:JAH

cc: L. M. Dittmer, CHPRC
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