



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

09-AMCP-0143

JUN 02 2009

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

Mr. D. A. Faulk, Program Manager  
Office of Environmental Cleanup  
Hanford Project Office  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
309 Bradley Boulevard, Suite 115  
Richland, Washington 99352

Addressees:

**PATH FORWARD FOR CENTRAL PLATEAU "INNER AREA" OPERABLE UNIT  
DECISION DOCUMENTS**

The intent of this letter is to express the U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office's (RL) proposed approach to aligning existing operable unit decision documents with the Central Plateau strategy currently under discussion per the Tentative Agreement on Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order Modifications Regarding Accelerated Groundwater and Soils Milestones/Fiscal Year 2009 Funding/Waste Management/K Basins and Other Issue Solutions, Section 3, Agreement in Principle, February 2009. RL believes that this alignment can occur without impacting the progress of cleanup in Hanford's Central Plateau, and can help to complete the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) (or RCRA Facility Investigation/Corrective Measures Study) process for all Inner Area waste sites and burial grounds within the next few years. RL's objective is to complete the RI/FS process for the Inner Area as close to the December 2011 timeframe as possible (the current M-15-00 Major Milestone date, December 2011, is now TBD in the tentative agreement).

RL is proceeding with implementation of its "2015 Vision" which includes a number of key, near-term Central Plateau cleanup activities in addition to cleanup activities along the Columbia River Corridor. The cleanup activities include both those that are supported by the site budget baseline and those that have been accelerated by supplemental funding through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Significant progress in the cleanup of the Central Plateau will be realized through:

- De-inventory of special nuclear materials from the Plutonium Finishing Plant (PFP).
- Elimination of the protected area at PFP.

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- Removal and decontamination of all process equipment and gloveboxes in the Remote Mechanical A/Remote Mechanical C lines at PFP.
- Construction of the Interim Storage Area and consolidation of slightly irradiated fuels.
- Accelerated cleanup of a number of facilities and waste sites within the 55 square mile "Outer Zone."
- Completion of the decision process for groundwater plumes in the Central Plateau.
- Design and construction of the 200 Area groundwater treatment systems (e.g., 200-ZP-1 and 200-BP-5).
- Demolition of numerous Central Plateau industrial facilities.
- Continuing remediation of the U Plant geographic area, including the U Plant canyon and remaining ancillary facilities.
- Continue retrieval of post-1970, contact-handled transuranic wastes.
- Elimination of the backlog of mixed low-level wastes.

This work will proceed in parallel to the proposed alignment of existing operable unit decision documents with a Central Plateau cleanup strategy.

Over the next month, RL expects to reach agreement with the other parties on the process to refine and implement nine Inner Area decision principles and use those principles in developing the remedy decision documentation process for the Inner Area, i.e., the portion of the Central Plateau not included in the Outer Area decision.

To achieve the necessary alignment with the decision principles, RL proposes to review and modify the Feasibility Studies for the 200-PW-1/3/6, 200-CW-5, and 200-UW-1 Operable Units to ensure consistency with the agreed upon Inner Area decision principles. Also, because balancing considerations will be evaluated for the Inner Area as a whole, RL proposes to incorporate development of proposed plans for these operable units with the Inner Area decision process. This approach permits appropriate balancing and modifying considerations to be applied to remedy selection in the context of the whole Inner Area.

The schedule for implementing these changes, including revised schedules for the Operable Units 200-PW-1/3/6, 200-CW-5, and 200-UW-1 Feasibility Study and Proposed Plan submittals will be included in the deliverable planned by the Agreement in Principle due July 31, 2009. All other Inner Area operable unit feasibility studies will be subsumed within the Inner Area decision process. The July 31, 2009, deliverable will include the proposed Tri-Party Agreement change approach to align interim milestones to support the strategy. This approach will allow the Tri-Parties to develop a coherent and complete strategy for addressing the Inner Area of the Central Plateau.

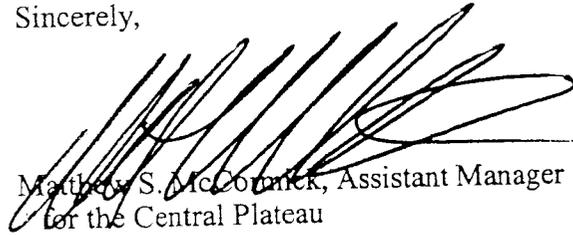
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If you have any questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact Briant Charboneau, of my staff, on (509) 373-6137.

Sincerely,



Matthew S. McCormick, Assistant Manager  
for the Central Plateau

AMCP:GLS

cc: C. E. Cameron, EPA  
D. L. Foss, CHPRC  
M. N. Jaraysi, CHPRC  
J. B. Price, Ecology

**Task# DOE-AMCP-C-2009-0143**

E-STARS<sup>R</sup> Report  
 Task Detail Report  
 05/29/2009 1721

**TASK INFORMATION**

<b>Task#</b>	DOE-AMCP-C-2009-0143	<b>Status</b>	Open
<b>Subject</b>	PATH FORWARD FOR CENTRAL PLATEAU "INNER AREA" OPERABLE UNIT DECISION DOCUMENTS		
<b>Parent Task#</b>		<b>Due</b>	
<b>Reference</b>		<b>Priority</b>	High
<b>Originator</b>	Hintzen, Kathryn M	<b>Category</b>	None
<b>Originator Phone</b>	(509) 373-9971	<b>Generic1</b>	
<b>Origination Date</b>	05/27/2009 1934	<b>Generic2</b>	
<b>Remote Task#</b>		<b>Generic3</b>	
<b>Deliverable</b>	None	<b>View Permissions</b>	Normal
<b>Class</b>	None		
<b>Instructions</b>	bcc: AMCP OFF File KM Hintzen, AMCP GL Sinton, AMCP AC Tortoso, AMCP JG Morse, AMCP F Roddy, AMCP K Leary, AMCP M Voogd, AMCP BL Charboneau, AMCP MS McCormick, AMCP SR Weil, EMD JA Frey, AMMS RM Carosino, OCC KE Lutz, ORP KS Ballinger, OCE		

**RECEIVED**  
**JUN 03 2009**  
**DOE-RLCC**

Record Note: This letter expresses RL's proposed approach to aligning existing operable decision documents with the Central Plateau strategy currently under development per the Tentative Agreement on Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order Modifications Regarding Accelerated Groundwater and Soils Milestones/Fiscal Year 2009 Funding/Waste Management/K Basins and Other Issue Solutions, Section 3, Agreement in Principle, February 2009.

This letter expresses RL's proposed approach to aligning existing operable unit decision documents with the Central Plateau strategy currently under discussion per the Tentative Agreement on Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order Modifications Regarding Accelerated Groundwater and Soils Milestones/Fiscal Year 2009 Funding/Waste Management/K Basins and Other Issue Solutions, Section 3, Agreement in Principle, February 2009. A number of Operable Unit decision documents currently exist, or are in production, which do not reflect emerging strategies for Central Plateau (CP) clean-up. These include 200-CW-5, 200-PW-1/3/6, 200-MW-1, and 200-UW-1. The purpose of this letter is to notify the regulators and interested parties of RL's intent to align the exiting operable unit decision documents with the CP strategy currently under development in accordance with the February 2009 AIP. When agreement is reached between the parties on the nine Inner Area decision principles they will then be used to update the decision documents. This approach will allow consistent cleanup decision-making and cleanup activity implementation on the CP. This letter is also intended to lead to superseding previous schedule commitments for these "in-process" documents such as the 200-CW-5 FS/PP

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which currently has a commitment based on a comment response letter (not a milestone) to provide Revision 0 of the FS/PP by August 31, 2009. This letter (09-AMCP-0143) indicates that the new schedule for implementing these changes, including revised schedules for 200-PW-1/3/6, 200-CW-5, and 200-UW-1, FS and PP submittals, will be included in the deliverable planned by the AIP, due July 31, 2009. Because 200-MW-1 has a FS/PP submittal interim milestone of September 30, 2009, a Tri-Party Agreement change package will be needed to revise that date to be consistent with the proposed approach.

This record note was modified based on concurrence comments from R. Carosino.

This letter does not close any ESTARS Action.

**ROUTING LISTS**

1 Route List Active

- Sinton, Gregory L - Approve - Approved with comments - 05/28/2009 1413  
*Instructions:*
- Tortoso, Arlene C - Approve - Approved - 05/28/2009 1245  
*Instructions:*
- Charboneau, Briant L - Approve - Approved - 05/28/2009 1453  
*Instructions:*
- Carosino, Robert M - Approve - Approved with comments - 05/29/2009 1355  
*Instructions:*
- McCormick, Matthew S - Approve - Awaiting Response - Due Date  
*Instructions:*

*RM*  
*5/29/09*

**ATTACHMENTS**

- Attachments
1. 09-AMCP-0143 Background (09-AMCP-0056 Dated January 20, 2009).tif.pdf
  2. 09-AMCP-0143 Background (09-AMCP-0074 Dated April 14, 2009).tif.pdf
  3. 09-AMCP-0143 Background (Agreement in Principle, February 2009).tif.pdf
  4. 09-AMCP-0143.doc

**COMMENTS**

**Poster** Sinton, Gregory L - 05/28/2009 1413  
Approve

**Poster** Carosino, Robert M - 05/29/2009 1355  
Approve

OCC approves in sending the letter as a "proposal". However we do not construe the letter as unilaterally changing existing due dates for documents and to tht extent the record note suggests otherswies we would caution that RL will need to close on that matter with the regulator before those dates can be considered superceded. Thusto the extent that any of the dates that may be moved are required dates that are enforcable through various predecessor commitments, we read the letter as a proposal that is only intended to generate additional discussion which may later lead to a change in dates. RMC

**TASK DUE DATE HISTORY**

*No Due Date History*

**SUB TASK HISTORY**

**Task# DOE-AMCP-C-2009-0143**

**Subtask#** DOE-AMCP-C-2009-0143.1  
**Subject** PATH FORWARD FOR CENTRAL PLATEAU "INNER AREA" OPERABLE UNIT DECISION DOCUMENTS  
**Originator** Carosino, Robert M (Corbin, Peggy A)

**Routing List** Route List

<b>Assignee</b>		<b>Response</b>	<b>Concur w/Com</b>
Williamson, Barbara D			

-- end of report --