



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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March 18, 2013

Mr. Matthew S. McCormick, Manager
Richland Operations Office
United States Department of Energy
PO Box 550, MSIN 07-50
Richland, WA 99352

RE: Letter EMD ¹²¹⁹⁴⁰⁰13-EMD-0019, dated February 1, 2013, "Proposed Class 2 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Permit Modifications and Request for Temporary Authorization at the 183-H Solar Evaporation Unit"

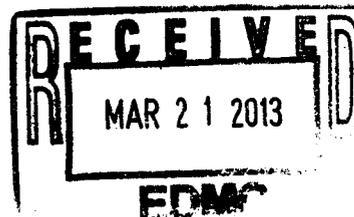
Dear Mr. McCormick:

The United States Department of Energy – Richland Operations Office (USDOE-RL) requested that the Department of Ecology (Ecology) issue a Temporary Authorization under Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 173-303-830(4)(e)(ii)(A)(I). The authorization would allow USDOE-RL to discontinue use of groundwater monitoring well 199-H4-3, and instead use well 199-H4-84.

After reviewing the information and justification for the Temporary Authorization, Ecology finds the applicable requirements of WAC 173-303-830(4)(e) and WAC 173-160 are met.

1. The requested Temporary Authorization would facilitate timely implementation of corrective action activities. [WAC 173-303-830(4)(e)(iii)(B)(I)].
2. The authorized activities are in compliance with the standards of WAC 173-303-280 through 173-303-395 and WAC 173-303-600 through 173-303-680.
3. The Temporary Authorization activities will meet the requirements of WAC 173-160, "Minimum Standards for Construction and Maintenance of Wells."

Therefore, Ecology grants the Temporary Authorization for the activity described above for 180 days, effective March 14, 2013, through September 13, 2013. This Temporary Authorization includes the decommissioning of groundwater monitoring well 199-H4-3. USDOE-RL will meet the requirements of WAC 173-160 for decommissioning of well 199-H4-3 and for the replacement well 199-H4-84.



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The permit modification process in WAC 173-303-830(4) will be followed for this proposed permittee-requested modification.

After public review, Ecology expects to approve a permit modification incorporating the replacement well for groundwater monitoring well 199-H4-3 into the *Hanford Facility Dangerous Waste Permit* (WA7890008967), Part VI, Post-Closure Unit 2, 183-H Solar Evaporation Basins. The final permit decision will replace this Temporary Authorization.

Ecology reminds USDOE-RL of the risk the Permittees are assuming because this proposed permit modification is yet to be approved. Significant public comment might result in changes to the permit modification, affecting the area for which this Temporary Authorization is being approved.

If there are any questions regarding this Temporary Authorization, please contact Nuclear Waste Program staff: Dwayne Crumpler at dwayne.crumpler@ecy.wa.gov or (509) 372-7925 or Andrea Prignano at andrea.prignano@ecy.wa.gov or (509) 372-7911.

Sincerely,



Maia D. Bellon
Director

cc: Dennis Faulk, EPA
Briant Charboneau, USDOE
Ellwood Glossbrenner, USDOE
James P. Hanson, USDOE
Tony McKarns, USDOE
Roberta Day, CHPRC
Bonnie J. Howard, CHPRC
Kristina Ivarson, CHPRC
Donna Yasek, WCH

Stuart Harris, CTUIR
Gabriel Bohnee, NPT
Russell Jim, YN
Steve Hudson, HAB
Ken Niles, ODOE
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Administrative Record: 183-H Solar Evaporation Basins
Environmental Portal
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Hanford Operating Record General File