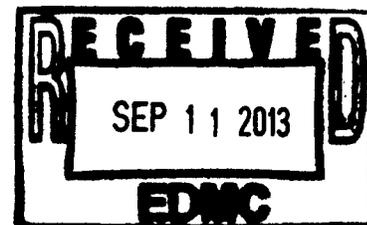




UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
 REGION 10
 HANFORD/INL PROJECT OFFICE
 309 Bradley Boulevard, Suite 115
 Richland, Washington 99352

February 13, 2012



The Honorable Harry Smiskin
 Chairman
 Confederated Tribes and Bands
 of the Yakama Nation
 P.O. Box 151
 Toppenish, Washington 98948

Re: Consultation for Three Hanford Upcoming Cleanup Decisions.

Dear Chairman Smiskin:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is planning three cleanup decisions for the Hanford Site in accord with our oversight role of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act. Tribal consultation and staff involvement are important to the cleanup decision-making process.

The EPA staff have been involved with Tribal staff via ongoing venues for information exchange and dialogue. In addition to those, and in recognition of the importance of the three Records of Decision that the EPA anticipates issuing later this year, we invite formal consultation with your Tribal elected leadership. The three RODs for which EPA invites consultation are the 100-K Reactor Area, the 300 Area, and the 200-UP-1 groundwater unit.

The U.S. Department of Energy extended an invitation for formal consultation in their January 23, 2012 letter to you and, as mentioned in that letter, DOE anticipates the State's and EPA's participation. We look forward to acceptance of these invitations, and EPA appreciates the opportunities our staff have for ongoing dialogue on these important cleanup issues.

In addition, EPA invites the Tribe's participation in the EPA National Remedy Review Board. The Board consists of experts from around the nation who review and provide comments on cleanup projects. The meeting will be conducted March 27 through 29 in Richland, Washington. The Agency would like to discuss the background and purpose of the Board with the Tribe, the structure of the reviews, and to explain how the Tribe might best prepare for the meeting. At the meeting, the Tribe is usually offered an opportunity to speak about technical issues important to the them (approximately 10 to 15 minutes). The Tribe also has the an opportunity to summarize in writing, 10 pages or less, any technical issues you believe are pertinent to the cleanup decision, including your recommended approach and rationale for your recommendation for site cleanup.

300-ff-1, 300-ff-2, 300-ff-5

The EPA looks forward to discussing these projects with you. If the Tribe is interested in presenting at the Remedy Review Board, please contact me at 509-376-8631.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Faulk". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a long, sweeping tail.

Dennis Faulk
Program Manager, Hanford Project Office

cc: Russell Jim, Yakama Nation