



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

1315 W. 4th Avenue • Kennewick, Washington 99336-6018 • (509) 735-7581

May 29, 2003

Mr. James E. Rasmussen, Director  
Environmental Division  
United States Department of Energy  
Office of River Protection  
P.O. Box 450, MSIN: H6-60  
Richland, Washington 99352

**RECEIVED**  
JUN 10 2003  
**EDMC**

Dear Mr. Rasmussen:

Re: Notice of Intent for Proposed Contact Handled Transuranic Mixed Waste Packaging and Interim Storage Facility

This letter serves as notification of receipt by the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) of the United States Department of Energy (USDOE) Notice of Intent (NOI), 03-ED-061, dated May 15, 2003, and provides clarification of the following issues:

- The USDOE has described proposed activities in this unit as "packing" and "storage"; however, the activities described in Section 2.2. also meet the following definition of "Treatment" provided in Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 173-303-040:

*"Treatment" means the physical, chemical, or biological processing of dangerous waste to make such wastes non dangerous or less dangerous, safer for transport, amenable for energy or material resource recovery, amenable for storage, or reduced in volume, with the exception of compacting, repackaging, and sorting as allowed under WAC-173-303-400(2) and 173-303-600(3).*

- The Permit application USDOE intends on submitting will be processed under final status and be incorporated as modification to the existing Hanford Facility Site Wide Permit.

Since the proposed activity is considered treatment, and there is a storage component for the waste after treatment, the permit application will need to reflect this facility as both a treatment and storage facility. In addition, the final facility standards of WAC 173-303-600 and the permit requirements of WAC 173-303-800 are applicable.

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Ecology has forwarded copies of the NOI to the respective local governments as required by WAC 173-303-281 and 173-303-902(5) (b) (i).

Again, USDOE and contractor staff are strongly encouraged to discuss issues associated with this unit, with Ecology, to clarify any questions and/or concerns.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this letter, please contact me at (509) 736-5705 or Jean Vanni at (509) 736-3046.

Sincerely,



Suzanne Dahl  
Tank Waste Disposal Project Manager  
Nuclear Waste Program

SD:jc

cc: Nick Ceto, EPA  
Robert Yasek, USDOE-ORP  
Billie Mauss, USDOE-ORP  
Ed Aromi, CHG  
Felix Miera, CHG  
Al Conklin, DOH  
Ken Niles, OOE  
Rick Gay, CTUIR  
Pat Sobotta, NPT  
Russell Jim, YIN  
Administrative Record: Tank Waste Treatment Requirements