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STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

7601 W. Clearwater, Suite 102 • Kennewick, Washington 99336 • (509) 546-2990

January 18, 1994



Mr. Steve Wisness
U.S. Department of Energy
P.O. Box 550
Richland, WA 99352

Dear Mr. Wisness:

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has reviewed the information received to date concerning the 200 Area Effluent Treatment Facility (ETF). In addition, conferences were held with internal experts and technical people at the U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE) and Westinghouse Hanford Company (WHC). Based on this information, Ecology has decided to authorize an initial period during which the processes represented in the present ETF design can be evaluated.

USDOE and WHC will be provided with the opportunity to demonstrate to Ecology that the current processes within the ETF will be sufficient to meet water quality standards, which will be defined within the 216 Water Quality Permit. Ecology reserves the right, after review of the data from initial runs of the 242-A Evaporator process condensate through the ETF, to determine the effectiveness of the facility treatment processes. At that time, should water quality standards not be met, Ecology may require that additional chemical treatment module(s) be added to the treatment process stream, or other changes be made within the ETF in order to attain the required water quality. In addition, Ecology must be notified of USDOE's and WHC's intent prior to transferring process condensate through the ETF. Any treatment of process condensate during this evaluation period without notifying Ecology will violate this agreement and invalidate data from the ETF operation.

In order to facilitate this evaluation process, I request that all pertinent data be presented to me as quickly as possible and that Ecology, USDOE and WHC work closely in order to make this evaluation process as efficient as possible.

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Lastly, the scope of this document provides approval only to demonstrate that the ETF treatment processes do meet water quality standards as part of the RCRA permitting process. This does not imply tacit agreement by either the 216 Water Quality Permitting group at Ecology or the Environmental Protection Agency, which is assessing the delisting petition.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (509) 736-3018. I look forward to working with USDOE and WHC during this interesting period.

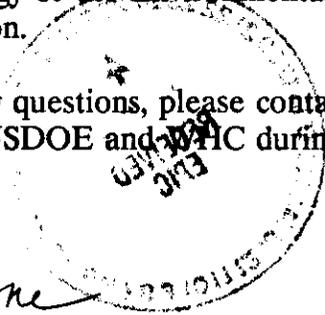
Sincerely,

Alex Stone

Alex Stone, ETF Unit Manager
Nuclear & Mixed Waste Management Program

AS:sr

cc: Dana Bryson, USDOE
Cliff Clark, USDOE
Jan Fields, WHC
Sue Price, WHC
Armin Vogt, WHC
Dan Duncan, EPA
Administrative Record



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