



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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

May 9, 1996

Mr. Jon Peschong, Deputy Director
Waste Storage Division
U.S. Department of Energy Richland Operations Office
P.O. Box 550
Richland, WA 99352



Dear Mr. Peschong:

Re: Environmental Permitting to Support Single Shell Tank Flammable Gas Exhauster Upgrades

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has been provided schedules for the last three months addressing various Tank Waste Remediation System (TWRS) flammable gas issues to be resolved prior to resumption of TWRS interim stabilization and rotary mode core sampling activities. Of particular interest to Ecology are permitting activities to be performed by Ecology which have been tracked as activity identification numbers 601 and 701. Although not discernible from the schedules provided, it is Ecology's understanding the associated environmental permitting activities are on what is commonly referred to as "critical path." Ecology is currently undergoing some staff changes and the individuals responsible for these activities may change in the near future. As Ecology's Safety Project Manager, please keep me informed of all applicable permitting needs/expectations in relation to these activities to ensure Ecology's timely review and approval.

Please communicate what critical path elements are associated with the above activities as soon as possible so Ecology may begin processing the necessary permits. If you or your staff have any questions regarding this topic, please call me at (509) 736-3018.

Sincerely,

Dr. Alex Stone, Safety Project Manager
Nuclear Waste Program

AS:mf

cc: James McClusky, USDOE
Mary Jarvis, USDOE
Craig Groendyke, USDOE
Roger Bacon, WHC
Administrative Records, M-41