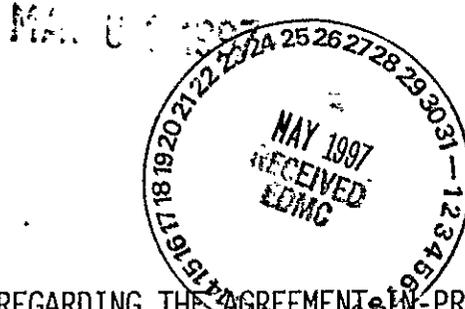




0047336

Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office
P.O. Box 550
Richland, Washington 99352

045577



Ms. Donna L. Powaukee
Nez Perce Tribe
P.O. Box 365
Lapwai, Idaho 83540-0365

Dear Ms. Powaukee:

REQUEST FOR TRIBAL CONSULTATION REGARDING THE AGREEMENT-IN-PRINCIPLE FOR IMPLEMENTING 200 AREAS SOIL INVESTIGATIONS FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM

The U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (RL) is anticipating reaching an agreement-in-principle with the State of Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on the revision of milestones established in Amendment Six of the Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order for the completion of 200 Area soil investigations assigned to the Environmental Restoration Program by May 15, 1997. RL would like to offer an opportunity to consult with the tribes regarding the agreement-in-principle, Revision 0 of the 200 Areas Soil Remediation Strategy for the Environmental Restoration Program, and the Decisional Draft of the Waste Site Grouping for 200 Areas Soil Investigations.

RL along with other members of the development team from EPA and Ecology would be happy to meet with you to provide an overview of the process used to develop the strategy as well as the agreement-in-principle.

This letter follows earlier transmittals of DOE/RL-96-67, Rev. 0, 200 Areas Soil Remediation Strategy for the Environmental Restoration Program and the DOE/RL-96-81, Decisional Draft, Waste Site Grouping for 200 Areas Soil Investigations for your review and comment. It is also in keeping with DOE's commitment to continued sharing of key information and documentation affecting cleanup activities at the Hanford Site - as early as possible.

Please feel free to contact me at (509) 376-7087 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Bryan L. Foley, Project Manager
Remedial Actions Project

RAP:BLF

cc: J. Donnelly, Ecology
V. Dronen, BHI
R. Jim, YIN
G. Mitchem, BHI

L. Seelatsee, Wanapum
D. Sherwood, EPA
J. Wilkinson, CTUIR