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

AUG 22 1997

97-EAP-622

Mr. Tom Fitzsimmons, Director
State of Washington
Department of Ecology
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, Washington 98504

Mr. Chuck Clarke
Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101

Dear Mr. Fitzsimmons and Mr. Clarke:

APPROVAL OF HANFORD FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT AND CONSENT ORDER (TRI-PARTY AGREEMENT) COMMITMENTS FOR DISPOSITION OF HANFORD SURPLUS REACTORS (M-93-00)

Enclosed are three Tri-Party Agreement change requests reflecting the outcome of the completed negotiations for signature by the State of Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The public comment period for new commitments that resulted from completion of negotiations for Major Milestone M-93-00 closed on July 23, 1997. A joint response was developed between the staff of Ecology, the Lead Regulatory Agency, and the U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (RL) for the three public comments received. All comments were supportive of the proposed commitments we jointly developed.

New major milestone M-93-00 establishes specific commitments for the 105-C Reactor, 105-B Reactor, 105-F Reactor and 105-DR Reactor and commits to future negotiations on the remaining reactors, based on experience gained. Section 8.0 changes update the section to specifically identify the Hanford key facilities and clarify language regarding the decision documents required for the decommissioning of the key facilities.

The change request and attachments are being provided to Ecology for signature. The package should then be forwarded to EPA for signature.



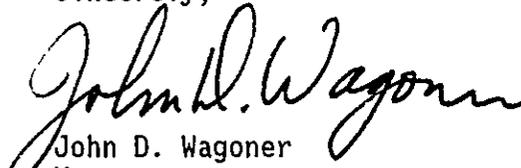
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If you have any questions, please contact me or your staff may contact James E. Rasmussen, Director, Environmental Assurance, Permits and Policy Division on (509) 376-5441.

Sincerely,


John D. Wagoner
Manager

EAP:FRM

Enclosures (3)

cc w/encls:

L. D. Arnold, FDH
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