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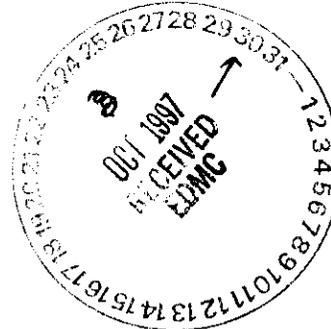
STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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October 7, 1997

Mr. John Wagoner  
U.S. Department of Energy  
P.O. Box 550  
Richland, Washington 99352



Dear Mr. Wagoner:

RE: Tank Waste Remediation System Environmental Impact Statement Review

It has come to my attention that the U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE) intends to perform a review of the Tank Waste Remediation System (TWRS) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Record of Decision (ROD), in accordance with commitments made in the ROD. 46876

The Department of Ecology is committed to providing the public and stakeholders appropriate periodic review of the TWRS-EIS ROD. Because of the timing and sensitivity of the issues, Ecology requests that USDOE ensure the proper level of resources and management attention are committed to this effort to make it timely and successful.

In addition, Ecology believes that new and emerging information on past tank leaks and migration of those contaminants into the vadose zone underscores the need and urgency for retrieval, treatment and disposal of Hanford tank waste. Treatment of Hanford tank waste is, and must remain, a top priority for both Ecology and U.S. Department of Energy, and we must remain vigilant in our efforts to ensure the success of that mission.

Should you have any other questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at (360) 407-7150.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Wilson, Manager  
Nuclear Waste Program



cc:

Scott McKinney

Suzanne Dahl

Roger Stanley

John Grantham

✓ Administrative Files