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STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

1117 W. 4th Avenue • Kennewick, Washington 99336-6018 • (509) 735-7581

February 5, 1998

Mr. James E. Rasmussen, Director  
Environmental Assurance, Permits, and Policy Division  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550, MSIN: A5-15  
Richland, WA 99352-0550



Dear Mr. Rasmussen:

Re: Modifications to State Waste Discharge Permit ST-4501

On December 15, 1997, the U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (USDOE) submitted to the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) a request for modifications to State Waste Discharge Permit ST-4501 for the 400 Area Secondary Cooling Water. After reviewing the proposed changes and the justifications for the changes, Ecology determined the changes would constitute a major modification to the permit. The draft version of the modified permit was available for public comment from December 29, 1997 through January 27, 1998.

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Two comments were received during the public comment period, both from USDOE. The first comment suggested clarified language for defining the method of calculating the average monthly flow rate in Special Condition S.2. This comment was incorporated into the final permit. The second comment suggested modified language for the paragraph in Condition S.8 that describes the installation and operation of the new downgradient monitoring well. This comment was partially incorporated. The text was modified acknowledging a new well now exists and defines the sampling and monitoring requirements for the well.

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Enclosed is a copy of the modified permit. The effective date for this modification is February 10, 1998, and is listed on the cover page of the permit as "Modification Date." Please replace old copies of the permit with the new modified version.

If there are any questions about this letter, please call me at (509) 736-3011.

Sincerely,



Steven J. Skurla  
Permit Manager  
Nuclear Waste Program

SS:skr

cc w/o enclosure: Bill Adair, FDH  
Mary Lou Blazek, ODOE  
Doug Chapin, USDOE,  
Tom Dillhoff, BWHC,  
Russell Jim, YIN  
Bob Haggard, RFSH,  
Donna Powaukee, NPT  
Doug Sherwood, EPA,  
Alex Teimouri, USDOE,  
J. Wilkinson, CTUIR  
Administrative Record:  
Liquid Effluents Consent Order