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STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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May 12, 1999

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

Dear Mr. Rasmussen:

Re: Proposed Plan of Action for the 224-T Facility

Ecology has reviewed the letter dated April 27, 1999, directed to Mr. M. A. Wilson, Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology), from Mr. James E. Rasmussen, Director, United States Department of Energy -- Richland Operations Office (USDOE-RL), and concurs with the proposed course of action.

1. Manage the 224-T Facility as a "key facility" under Section 8 , "Facility Decommissioning Process" of the Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Compliance Order (Tri-Party Agreement [TPA]), instead of preparing a RCRA closure plan.
2. During the course of FY 1999 identify funding to characterize the process cell side.
3. Develop a safety characterization plan.
4. Establish TPA milestones for tracking progress.
5. By June 1999, finalize an Agreement in Principle to guide TPA negotiations.

Upon completion of the above, and receipt and approval of the TPA change package, the closure of Transuranic Waste Storage and Assay Facility (TRUSAF) will be removed from Modification E of the Hanford Facility RCRA Permit.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me (509) 736-5702.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Julian
Nuclear Waste Program

RJ:ld:



cc: Doug Sherwood, EPA Loren E. Rogers, USDOE/RL Administrative Record: TRUSAF