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STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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June 4, 1999

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



Dear Mr. Rasmussen:

This is in response to your May 21, 1999, letter to the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) regarding the Hanford Facility Dangerous Waste Part A Permit Application (Part A), Form 3's, for the Plutonium Uranium Extraction (PUREX) Plant, Revision 9.

The Part A, Form 3, Revision 9, for the PUREX Plant was found to be incompatible with the ongoing discussions between Ecology and the United States Department of Energy (USDOE) regarding the Part A, Form 3, for the B Plant Facility. Ecology will not approve the PUREX Plant Part A, Form 3, Revision 9, until discussions regarding the B Plant, Part A, have been finalized. Ecology takes this position to promote consistency in the RCRA permitting process for the Nuclear Waste Program.

If you have any questions, please call me at (509) 736-5715.

Sincerely,

Laura E. Ruud
Permitting Specialist
Nuclear Waste Program

LR:ld

cc: Doug Sherwood, EPA
Keith Klein, USDOE
Sue Price, FDH
Steve Liedle, BHI

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