



Department of Energy
 Richland Operations Office
 P.O. Box 550
 Richland, Washington 99352
MAR 4 1999

00000075
 066939



Mr. Stanislaw Leja
 Acting Perimeter Areas Section Manager
 Nuclear Waste Program
 State of Washington
 Department of Ecology
 1315 W. Fourth Avenue
 Kennewick, Washington 99336-6018

Dear Mr. Leja:

NOTIFICATION OF SPECIFIC CONDUCTANCE EXCEEDANCE AT 200 EAST AREA LIQUID EFFLUENT RETENTION FACILITY (LERF)

The LERF is a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) unit in the 200 East Area (Attachment, Figure 1), which has been monitored under an interim-status detection program (40 CFR 265.92). The average result from quadruplicate samples collected from downgradient wells 299-E26-9 and 299-E26-10 in January 1999 exceeded the critical mean value for specific conductance. Verification sampling conducted in February 1999 confirmed the exceedance. Specific conductance results are listed in Table 1.

Table 1. LERF CONDUCTIVITY RESULTS (Critical mean: 489.4 μ mhos/cm)

Sample event	299-E26-9 ⁽¹⁾	299-E26-10 ⁽¹⁾	299-E26-11 ⁽²⁾	299-E35-2 ⁽¹⁾
Original Field Result	498	498	377	398
	497	497	377	431
	497	497	377	410
	497	498	375	408
Resample Field Result	487 ⁽⁴⁾	497 ⁽³⁾	NA	NA
	491	498	NA	NA
	490	498	NA	NA
	494	494	NA	NA

- (1) Original field sample taken 1/6/99.
- (2) Original field sample taken 1/11/99.
- (3) Tabulated results from resampling event on 2/25/99. Results from 2/18/99 averaging 855.5 μ mhos/cm were deemed erroneous after review and evaluation of the data.
- (4) Well resampled on 2/25/99.

Specific conductance is an indicator parameter under interim-status regulations and these two wells have shown a progressive increase in this parameter over time (Hanford Site Groundwater Monitoring for Fiscal Year 1998, PNNL-12086). Because specific conductance at a downgradient well has been determined to be statistically different from background, the following actions are required:

“ . . . the owner or operator must provide written notice to the Regional Administrator—within seven days...that the facility may be affecting groundwater quality.” [40 CFR 265.93(d)(1)]

Mr. Stanislaw Leja

-2-

066939

The information in this letter is sufficient to fulfill this requirement. An assessment plan will be prepared.

If you want to discuss this matter further or require additional information, please contact me at 373-9630.

Sincerely,



M. J. Furman, Project Manager
Groundwater Project

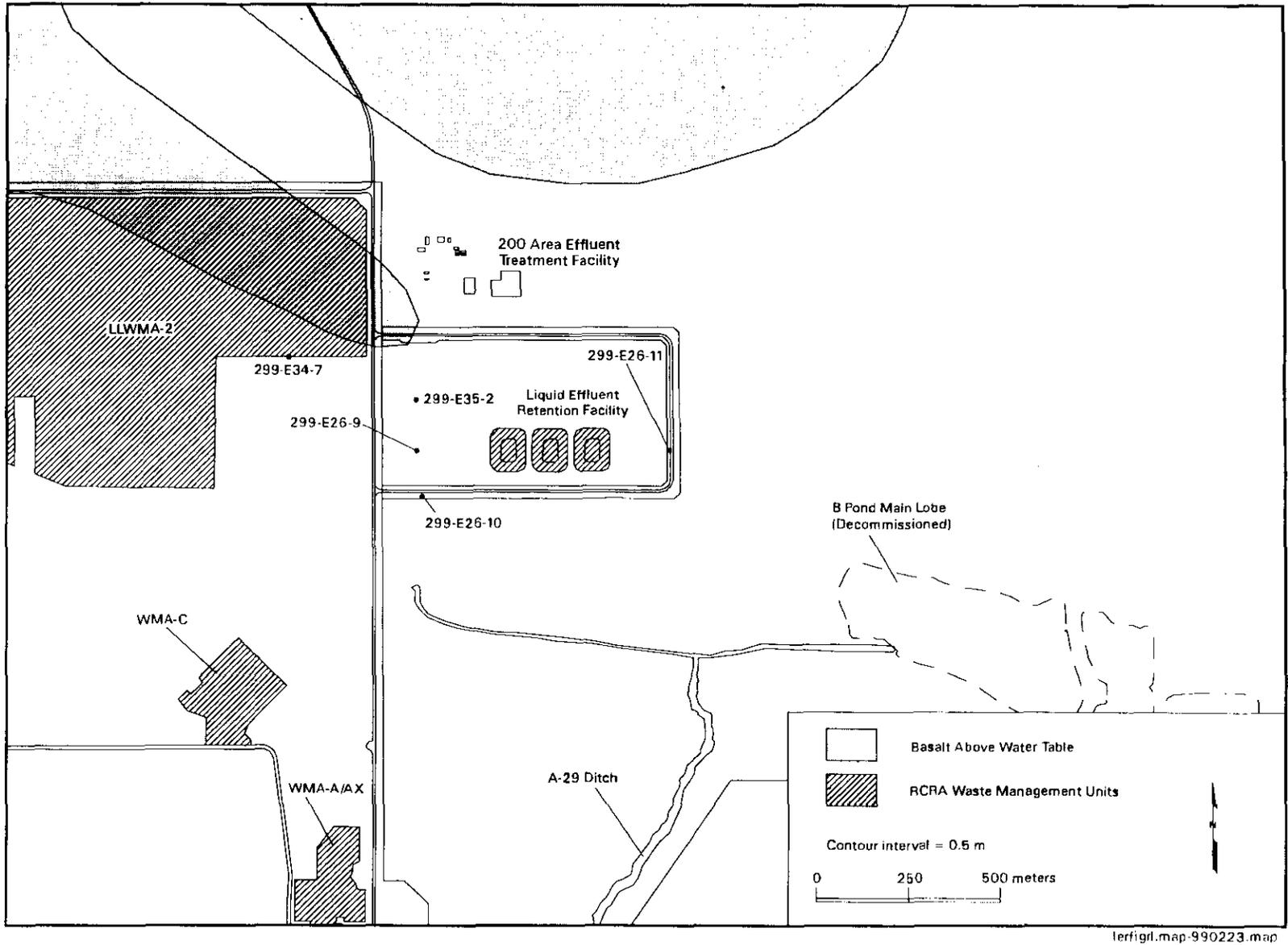
GWP:MJF

Attachment

cc w/attach:

J. G. Adler, WMH
M. W. Bowman, WMH
D. L. Flyckt, WMH
M. J. Hartman, PNNL
M. N. Jaraysi, Ecology
S. P. Luttrell, PNNL
A. G. Miskho, FDH
R. M. Smith, PNNL
M. D. Sweeney, PNNL

Figure 1. Location Map



066939