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STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

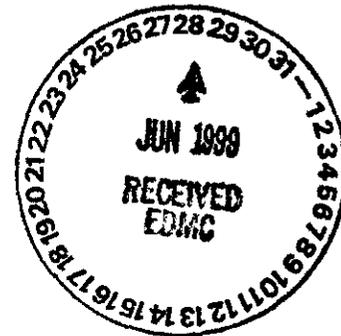
1315 W. 4th Avenue • Kennewick, Washington 99336-6018 • (509) 735-7581

June 24, 1999

Mr. Richard French
U.S. Department of Energy
P.O. Box 550, MSIN: A6-54
Richland, Washington 99352

Mr. Timothy Veneziano
Fluor Daniel Hanford, Incorporated
P.O. Box 1000, MSIN: H8-67
Richland, Washington 99352

Ms. Mary Delozier
Lockheed Martin Hanford Corporation
P.O. Box 1500, MSIN: H7-07
Richland, Washington 99352



Dear Ms. Delozier, Messrs. French and Veneziano:

Re: Completion of Corrective Measures per July 8, 1998, SY Tank Farm Notice of Correction

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) performed a dangerous waste compliance inspection of the SY double-shell tank (DST) farm on March 28, 1998. This inspection revealed five (5) violations of Chapter 40, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), as referenced by Washington Administrative Code (WAC) Chapter 173-303, Dangerous Waste Regulations. The violations were:

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1. Failure to assess the integrity of the 244 -S Double Contained Receiver Tank (244-S DCRT).
2. Failure to provide adequate leak detection in double-shell tanks.
3. Failure to operate the secondary containment of double-shell tanks to remove waste within twenty-four (24) hours, or in as timely a manner as possible.
4. Failure to adequately inspect all tank monitoring equipment.
5. Failure to adequately document data gathered from leak detection monitoring equipment.

Ecology issued a Notice of Correction to the U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE), Fluor Daniel Hanford, Inc. (FDH), and Lockheed Martin Hanford Corp. (LMH), on July 8, 1998, describing corrective measures, for voluntary resolution, corresponding to each of the violations listed above. At the same time, Ecology issued Penalty #98NW-007 regarding violation #2. Ecology was unable to reach satisfactory resolution with USDOE and its contractors for violation #2, and subsequently issued Administrative Order #98NW-009, to set forth mandatory actions to ensure adequate leak detection was in place for all twenty-eight (28) double-shell tanks on the Hanford Site.



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To date, Ecology has received satisfactory responses from USDOE, FDH, and LMH to corrective measures #4 and #5. Corrective measure #2 was addressed through Pollution Control Hearings Board Order of Dismissal #PCHB 98-249; 98-250. Therefore, Ecology considers the March 28, 1998, inspection closed regarding violations #2, #4, and #5. However, USDOE and its contractors remain subject to enforcement of leak detection requirements for the DSTs, pending completion of the actions described in PCHB Order of Dismissal #PCHB 98-249; 98-250. Corrective measures #1 and #3 require the actions described below for closure.

Regarding corrective measure #3: Ecology has conducted a number of meetings with USDOE, FDH, and LMH, to accomplish voluntary resolution of violation #3. As a result of these meetings, and to coordinate this compliance action with ongoing RCRA permitting efforts for the DSTs, Ecology will withhold formal enforcement (penalties and/or orders) on this violation subject to the following conditions:

1. By October 31, 1999, USDOE, FDH, and LMH must submit a report to Ecology that provides a schedule for obtaining and operating out-of-tank pumps and associated equipment capable of removing all liquid waste from the secondary containment of all twenty-eight (28) double-shell tanks on the Hanford Site. This schedule must provide that all equipment and procedures, necessary to meet the stated requirements, be in place by June 30, 2000.
2. The report described above shall include:
 - A schedule for procurement of all required out-of-tank pumps and associated equipment to remove waste from the secondary containment of all double-shell tanks as soon as possible, and not to exceed June 30, 2000.
 - A schedule for testing acceptance and readiness to deploy all required out-of-tank pumps and associated equipment to remove waste from the secondary containment of all double-shell tanks as soon as possible, and not to exceed June 30, 2000.
 - A schedule, to coincide with acceptance of the newly acquired out-of-tank pumps and associated equipment, for completion of revision of the Double-Shell Tank Emergency Pumping Guide, HNF-3484, Rev. 1: This revision will supersede HNF-3484, Rev. 1, and must include:
 - Storage locations of the newly acquired out-of-tank pumps and equipment;
 - Reference to maintenance programs to ensure the newly acquired out-of-tank pumps and equipment are maintained in working order; and,
 - Revision of Section 3.6 "Estimated Time to Start Pumping Tanks" within HNF-3484, reflecting use of the newly acquired out-of-tank pumps and equipment.
 - All other sections of HNF-3484 will remain "as is" unless re-negotiated with Ecology prior to June 30, 2000.

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Regarding corrective measure #1: The future use of the 244-S DCRT is unclear, and the integrity assessment performed on this tank system failed to adequately address tank wall thinning. The 244-S DCRT has reached, or exceeded, its design life. The current assessment of the tank system's integrity is the only such examination that has been performed on the system since it became operational in 1980. Ecology will withhold formal enforcement (penalties and/or orders) on this violation subject to the following conditions:

1. On or before August 20, 1999, USDOE, FDH, and LMH, must submit a report to Ecology documenting the planned duration of use for the 244-S DCRT. If the planned duration of use of the 244-S DCRT will exceed September 30, 2001, further assessment of the integrity of the 244-S DCRT will be required prior to that date. This integrity assessment must address all the recommendations from the 244-S DCRT Integrity Assessment Report (HNF-3608), including a rigorous analysis of wall thinning. If the 244-S DCRT is to be removed from service prior to September 30, 2001, all liquids must be drained, transfer lines isolated, intrusion protection installed, and the tank and its vault, included in tank farms closure planning by September 30, 2001.

Please be advised that failure to complete the actions described, within the time frames specified in this letter, may result in penalties and/or orders per Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 70.105.080. A request for additional time to complete these actions must be in writing, describe the reasons for the request for additional time, specify the additional time requested, and be received by me, for consideration, no later than July 30, 1999. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please feel free to contact me at (509) 736-3031.

Sincerely,



Bob Wilson
Nuclear Waste Program

RW:ld

cc: Dana Bryson, USDOE
James Rasmussen, USDOE
William Adair, FDH
Steve Szendre, FDH

Brad Erlandson, LMHC
Mary Lou Blazek, OOE
Administrative Record: DST and 204-AR