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STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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June 8, 2000

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

Ms. Mary DeLozier
CH2M Hill Group
P.O. Box 1500, MSIN: H7-07
Richland, Washington 99352

RECEIVED
JUN 19 2000
EDMC

Dear Mr. French and Ms. DeLozier:

Re: Hanford Facility Agreement and Consent Order (Tri-Party Agreement) Milestone
M-45-11A, *Complete 244-AR Vault Interim Stabilization*

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has completed its review of the *244-AR Vault Interim Stabilization Project Plan* as submitted by the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection (ORP).

As per Interim Milestone M-45-11, the facility will be interim stabilized, isolated from process liquid lines and waste transfer lines, and the intrusion paths will be mechanically blocked so as to provide liquid intrusion.

Generally, Ecology concurs with this project scope and schedule and approves this document; specifically, Ecology wishes to make note of a few outstanding issues regarding, amongst other things:

- Sampling of Tank Waste in accordance with HNF-SD-WM-DQO-001

These issues should not cause a delay in the schedule; however, Ecology has confidence that follow-up meetings will result in their resolution.

Ecology applauds ORP and CH2M Hill Group (CHG) efforts to conduct a similar stabilization effort on the 244-CR Vault. We greatly appreciate your willingness to pro-actively address the similar 244-CR Vault situation in a timely manner.

Mr. French and Ms. DeLozier

June 8, 2000

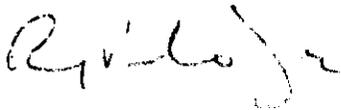
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Additionally, Ecology is pleased to acknowledge that the success which resulted in the timely submittal of this high quality document is due to the collaborative efforts between both ORP and Ecology.

Ecology hopes this is the start of a trend whereby substantial issues, such as this, can be successfully and efficiently negotiated, as this effort has proven.

Please feel free to contact me at (509) 736-5719 if you have any questions or comments regarding this letter.

Sincerely,



Antonio Valero, Tank Waste Storage Project Manager
Nuclear Waste Program

AV:sdb

cc: Doug Sherwood, EPA
Maple Barnard, ORP
Ami Sidpara, ORP
Cherri Defigh-Price, CHG
Carolyn Haass, CHG
Marilyn Reeves, HAB
Russell Jim, YIN
Mary Lou Blazek, OOE
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