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

05-AMRC-0439

OCT 28 2005

Mr. Michael A. Wilson, Program Manager
Nuclear Waste Program
State of Washington
Department of Ecology
3100 Port of Benton Blvd.
Richland, Washington 99354

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Dear Mr. Wilson:

**SUBMITTAL OF DOE/RL-96-73, REVISION 3, 324 BUILDING RADIOCHEMICAL
ENGINEERING CELLS, HIGH-LEVEL VAULT, LOW-LEVEL VAULT, AND ASSOCIATED
AREAS CLOSURE PLAN**

The purpose of this letter is to transmit Revision 3 of DOE-RL-96-73, 324 Building Radiochemical Engineering Cells, High-Level Vault, Low-Level Vault, and Associated Areas Closure Plan (Enclosure 1), Revision 2 of the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Environmental Checklist (Enclosure 2), and the Notice of Deficiency (NOD) Comments Resolution Table (Enclosure 3), for the State of Washington, Department of Ecology's (Ecology) approval. The revised SEPA Environmental Checklist was prepared to reflect the revision of the closure plan.

The closure plan was revised to provide consistency with the Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (Tri-Party Agreement) M-094 series milestones. The revised closure plan incorporates information consistent with Tri-Party Agreement Milestones M-094-02 and M-094-03. The scope of the closure plan remains the same; which is to close the mixed waste units in the 324 Building. The revised closure plan acknowledges that the closure of the mixed waste units in the 324 Building (Tri-Party Agreement Milestone M-89-00) will be performed in parallel with the complete disposition (including demolition) of the 324 Building by September 30, 2010, under Tri-Party Agreement Milestone M-094-03. Enclosure 4 is a copy of the revised M-89-00 milestone for your review and submission for public comment.

The revised closure plan incorporates comments from Ecology as addressed in cooperative workshop meetings completed recently, as well as Notice of Deficiency (NODs) from Revision 2. Ecology's comments and the corresponding comment resolutions are provided in the enclosed NOD Comments Resolution Table for the closure plan. The participation and cooperation provided by Ecology during the conduct of the workshop meetings were very much appreciated.

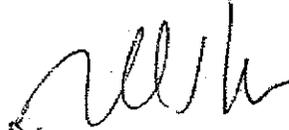
Mr. Michael A. Wilson
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If you have any questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Dave Evans, Deputy Assistant Manager for the River Corridor, on (509) 373-9278.

Sincerely,



Keith A. Klein
Manager

AMRC:RFG

Enclosures

cc w/encs:

A. L. Boyd, EPA

G. Bohnee, NPT

F. W. Bond, Ecology

N. Ceto, EPA

R. H. Gurske, FHI

S. Harris, CTUIR

R. Jim, YN

Environmental Portal, LMSI