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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 10 HANFORD/INL PROJECT OFFICE  
309 Bradley Boulevard, Suite 115  
Richland, Washington 99352

September 22, 2006

Bryan Foley  
Project Manager  
U.S. Department of Energy  
PO Box 550, A6-38  
Richland, WA 99352

RECEIVED  
OCT 20 2006

EDMC

Re: EPA Approval of the Central Plateau Terrestrial Ecological Sampling and Analysis Plan  
Phase III (DOE/RL-2006-27)

0070755

Dear Mr. Foley:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Central Plateau Terrestrial Ecological Sampling and Analysis Plan Phase III (DOE/RL-2006-27) and finds the document acceptable. The Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP) provides for characterization that is required to support the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study process for the 200 Area source operable units. EPA understands that there are outstanding issues regarding offsite reference sites that may require further commitment (beyond what is described in the SAP) from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to reach resolution. This commitment may require an update to the SAP or a new SAP and resulting sampling and analysis to close out issues surrounding offsite reference sites in support of the central plateau ecological risk assessment. It is EPA's desire to work collaboratively with DOE and the Washington State Department of Ecology to resolve these issues with input from the Tribes, stakeholders, trustees, and the State of Oregon.

Mark Sprenger from EPA headquarters will assist EPA's Hanford Project Office in resolving these issues and help assure that EPA ecological risk assessment guidance is followed throughout the roll-up of the data from all three phases into a baseline ecological risk assessment. Mr. Sprenger helped write the Ecological Risk Assessment Guidance document for EPA and is therefore a unique resource. We also plan to continue to involve the U.S. Geological Survey (on contract with EPA) to provide technical expertise and maintain institutional knowledge throughout the risk assessment activities.

Please contact me at (509) 376-8665 if you have questions.

Sincerely,



Craig Cameron  
Project Manager

cc: Jane Hedges, Ecology  
Larry Romine, DOE  
Mark Sprenger, EPA ERT  
Stuart Harris, CTUIR  
Gabriel Bohnee, Nez Perce  
Russell Jim, Yakama Nation  
Ken Niles, Oregon Dept. of Energy  
Todd Martin, Hanford Advisory Board  
Patrick Moran, USGS  
✓Administrative Record: 200 Area OU files