



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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September 8, 1992

Mr. Steven Wisness
U.S. Department of Energy
P.O. Box 550
Richland, WA 99352



Dear Mr. Wisness:

Re: Initiation of Milestones M-05 and M-07 TPA Negotiations

In September of 1991, the Department of Energy-Richland Field Office (DOE-RL) missed milestone M-05-03 (Interim stabilize an additional nine single shell tanks). Since that time DOE-RL has been informing the Department of Ecology (Ecology) that Milestone M-05-04 (Interim stabilize an additional 9 single shell tanks) is also in jeopardy and that DOE-RL intended to enter into negotiations with Ecology and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in order to change the M-05 milestones. These negotiations would include a consideration of the retrieval of the single shell tanks and the creation of milestones to accomplish this task.

On July 17, Ecology met with members of your staff to discuss Ecology's response to DOE-RL's draft issue paper on interim stabilization. At that time Ecology stated that we were willing to enter negotiations on M-05 and related milestones, provided that DOE-RL has a representative from Department of Energy-Headquarters (DOE-HQ) present and that DOE-RL be willing to make firm commitments during the negotiation process.

On July 22, Ecology staff met with DOE-RL and Westinghouse Hanford Company (WHC) representatives to discuss Tank 241-C-106 issues and the milestones proposed by Roger Stanley in his June 1 letter to Ron Izatt. At that time (July 22) some of the milestone changes proposed by Mr. Stanley were not discussed pending the approaching M-05 and M-07 discussions. The DOE-RL once again stated that negotiations would be commencing shortly and requested that Ecology staff remain prepared and available.

To date Ecology has not had a formal request from DOE-RL stating that they are prepared to begin negotiations on M-05, M-07, and related milestones. It is the understanding of Ecology staff that DOE-RL is waiting for decisions from DOE-HQ on the negotiation parameters and strategy. With the rapidly approaching deadline for M-05-04, it is paramount that negotiations commence immediately. We will not extend the milestone to accommodate time for renegotiation.

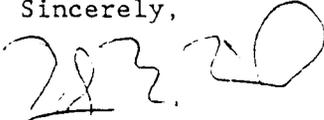
With this letter Ecology is providing notice that in order to begin negotiations on M-05, M-07 and related milestones, Ecology must receive a



written request from DOE-RL which states when DOE-RL will be prepared to enter discussions, what the boundaries of the discussions will be, that DOE-RL will be prepared to make firm commitments during the negotiations, that the responsible parties will be present, and who will be representing DOE-HQ during the negotiation process.

If you have any questions on this subject please contact Mr. Toby Michelena or Mr. Scott McKinney at (206) 438-7016 and (206) 459-6725 respectively.

Sincerely,



Sur David B. Jansen, P.E.
Hanford Project Manager
Nuclear and Mixed Waste Management

DBJ:SM:jr

cc: Paul Day, EPA
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Subject: INITIATION OF MILESTONES M-05 AND M-07 TPA NEGOTIATIONS

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