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 Author: RIGDON P
 Addressee: RISPOLI J,
 KLEIN KA

Actionee: Dana Ward
 Due Date: NO ACTION

Title: Notice Letter Hanford Pre-Assessment Screen

<u>DIR</u>	<u>DIV</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>DIR</u>	<u>DIV</u>	<u>NAME</u>
MGR		Rochelle, Diane	AMSE		
DEP		Henrich, Dianne		OOD	
AMRC		Ward, Dana (Actionee)		SED	
		Hathaway, Boyd		SES	
		Wisness, Steve	KBC		
		Zeisloft, Jaime	PPRI	PIC	
AMCP				CMG	
OEC				RPI	
OCC		Smith, Connie	ORP		Schepens, Roy
		Wilcox, Deb	PNSO		
AMA			RLCI		
	BOP				
	FMD				
	HRM				
	PRO				

Comments:

Records Schedule Information:
 TBD (to be determined)

Scan?: Yes Sensitive?: No

Sensitive Attachments?:

IDMS Folder: RL General Corr

Date RL CC Rec'd: 12/15/2006

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Confederated Tribes and Bands
of the Yakama Nation

COPY
Established by the
Treaty of June 9, 1855

December 11, 2006

Honorable James Rispoli
Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue
Washington, DC 20585

Re: Notice Letter – Hanford Pre-Assessment Screen

Dear Mr. Assistant Secretary:

By this letter, the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation (Yakama Nation) gives notice to the Department of Energy (DOE) that 1) the Yakama Nation has conducted and formally adopted a Pre-Assessment Screen regarding the injury and damage to natural resources potentially caused by hazardous substances released from the Hanford Site (Hanford), and 2) based on the findings in the Pre-Assessment Screen, the Yakama Nation has formally determined that it is appropriate to proceed with the assessment of injuries to natural resources caused by hazardous substances released from Hanford.

This notice is given to DOE in its multiple roles as 1) the lead federal natural resource trustee regarding injuries caused by Hanford releases, 2) the lead agency conducting the Hanford response cleanup activities, and 3) the party financially responsible for the natural resource damage caused by the releases, including the cost of injury assessment.

In DOE's capacity as lead federal natural resource trustee, the Yakama Nation invites DOE's participation in the planning and conducting of this injury assessment of natural resources under the shared trusteeship of the federal government and the Yakama Nation.

In DOE's capacity as lead agency conducting the Hanford response cleanup activities, the Yakama Nation looks forward to DOE's full cooperation in providing all data related to our assessment of natural resources and providing access to all locations at Hanford for further data collection related to the injury of natural resources.

In DOE's capacity as the party financially responsible for the natural resource damage at Hanford, including the cost of natural resource injury assessment, the Yakama Nation expects DOE to pay the Yakama Nation's natural resource injury assessment costs on an ongoing basis. I realize that DOE has previously taken a contrary position, but now that

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DOE-RI/BI/CC

the Pre-Assessment Screen has been adopted and the Injury Assessment is moving forward, I urge you to reconsider.

Our goal remains to work cooperatively with all natural resource trustees who choose to move forward in planning and conducting this assessment. Hopefully, this will include DOE. A copy of the Pre-Assessment Screen is being provided to your staff. If you wish an electronic version, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Philip Rigdon, Deputy Director
Yakama Nation Department of Natural Resources

cc: Keith Kline
Ray Schepens
Dana Ward