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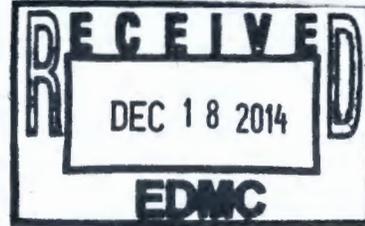


Department of Energy  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550  
Richland, Washington 99352

15-AMRP-0044

DEC 16 2014

Ms. J. A. Hedges, Program Manager  
Nuclear Waste Program  
State of Washington  
Department of Ecology  
3100 Port of Benton Blvd.  
Richland, Washington 99354



Dear Ms. Hedges:

15-DAY REPORT FOR THE DECEMBER 9, 2014, DISCOVERY OF LIQUID NEAR  
WASTE CONTAINERS AT THE CENTRAL WASTE COMPLEX

This letter transmits a 15-day report summarizing the discovery of liquid on December 9, 2014, within containment at 2403-WC Building. The provisions of Agreed Order and Stipulated Penalty Number DE-10156 (AO), Exhibit A, Section 1.3.1 were applied to the event, using the 3-step process of the Hanford Emergency Management Plan, Section 4.2 in compliance with the requirements of WAC 173-303-360. Based on application of the 3-step process, it was determined that the event did not constitute an emergency and hence did not trigger the notification requirements of WAC 173-303-360(2)(d). Although there was no release to the environment associated with the event, information was provided via telephone to both the State of Washington Department of Ecology Nuclear Waste Program and the Central Regional Office, followed by an email summary on the morning of December 10, 2014.

If you have any questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Al Farabee, of my staff, on (509) 376-8089.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ray J. Corey".

Ray J. Corey, Assistant Manager  
for the River and Plateau

AMRP:MSC

Attachment

cc: See page 2

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Ms. J. A. Hedges  
15-AMRP-0044

-2-

DEC 16 2014

cc w/attach:

D. B. Bartus, EPA

G. Bohnee, NPT

R. Buck, Wanapum

B. J. Dixon, CHPRC

D. A. Faulk, EPA

S. Harris, CTUIR

S. Hudson, HAB

M. N. Jaraysi, CHPRC

R. Jim, YN

N. M. Menard, Ecology

K. Niles, ODOE

J. B. Price, Ecology

D. Rowland, YN

C. J. Simiele, CHPRC

D. G. Singleton, Ecology

E. R. Skinnerland, Ecology

Administrative Record

Environmental Portal

15-DAY REPORT TO STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY  
(ECOLOGY) CONCERNING POSSIBLE LIQUID DISCHARGE FROM WASTE PACKAGE  
CONTAINER #9600342 AT CENTRAL WASTE COMPLEX BUILDING 2403-WC

The following 15-day report is prepared as a follow-up to actions taken pursuant to implementation of the contingency plan for the Central Waste Complex.

**(i) Name, address, and telephone number of the owner or operator**

U.S. Department of Energy  
P.O. Box 550  
Richland, Washington 99352  
Telephone: (509) 376-7395

**(ii) Name, address, and telephone number of the facility**

Hanford Facility, Central Waste Complex (CWC)  
P.O. Box 550  
Richland, Washington 99352  
Telephone: (509) 376-7395

**(iii) Date, time, and type of incident (e.g., fire, explosion):**

On December 9, 2014, at 1:58 p.m., during a routine weekly Resource Conservation and Recovery Act inspection in the 2403-WC Building located within CWC, a small amount of liquid was discovered at the base of Container #9600342 and on the pallet and floor. This container is an 85-gallon drum with a 55-gallon drum inside (overpack). According to the Solid Waste Information and Tracking System (SWITS), the drum contents include contaminated debris, paper, cloth, rags, wood, empty fiber or plastic containers, glass, piping, or other solids. The liquid looked like water with a little rust. No odor was detected in the vicinity. As a precaution and in response to procedures, work was stopped and personnel exited the 2403-WC Building.

Emergency procedures and the Hanford Emergency Management Plan were implemented in compliance with the Dangerous Waste Regulations and consistent with the Agreed Order and Stipulated Penalty DE-10156 (AO), Exhibit A, Section 1.3.1. Although this event did not meet the criteria for implementing the contingency plan, the plan was implemented as a precautionary measure and notification to Ecology was provided.

**(iv) Name and quantity of material(s) involved:**

Less than a cup of liquid with no detected odor was observed on the pallet and floor. During the investigation of the source of the liquid, a wet, rusty spot was noted on the bottom surface of the container. Radiological and industrial hygiene monitoring was conducted. No radiological contamination was detected and volatile organic compounds were at background levels. The liquid on the floor and pallet was pH tested and showed a range of 6-7.

**(v) The extent of injuries, if any:**

No injuries occurred as a result of this incident.

**(vi) An assessment of actual or potential hazards to human health or the environment, where this is applicable:**

Personnel in 2403-WC exited the building. Radiological surveys and industrial hygiene monitoring were performed upon building re-entry. The results indicated no new hazards above background. No sample was collected because there was insufficient quantity for a laboratory analysis. The liquid was confined to an area on the floor immediately adjacent to the container. The floor is designed to provide secondary containment.

**(vii) Estimated quantity and disposition of recovered material that resulted from the incident:**

Less than a cup of liquid was observed. Absorbents were applied to the liquid upon re-entry into the building. The resulting material will be disposed of according to facility waste management procedures.

**(viii) Cause of the incident:**

There are no indications of roof leaks at this location. The assumed cause is condensation associated with the container overpack due to changes in temperature in the building.

**(ix) Description of corrective action taken to prevent reoccurrence of the incident:**

Container #9600342 was successfully overpacked on December 11, 2014. Inspections to detect and correct problems during storage continue to be performed weekly.