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

99-EAP-486

SEP 21 1999

Mr. Michael A. Wilson, Program Manager  
Nuclear Waste Program  
State of Washington  
Department of Ecology  
P. O. Box 47600  
Olympia, Washington 98504



Dear Mr. Wilson:

HANFORD FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT AND CONSENT ORDER (TRI-PARTY AGREEMENT) CLASS II CHANGE FOR HANFORD SITE SODIUM ACTIVITIES

Enclosed for your review and signature is a proposed Tri-Party Agreement Class II Change Control Form associated with Hanford's sodium disposition activities. In January 1997, the Secretary of Energy made a decision to maintain Hanford's Fast Flux Test Facility (FFTF) in a standby mode pending a decision (to be made by December 1998) on whether or not the Facility will play a role in the nation's tritium production strategy and/or isotope production. On December 22, 1998, the Secretary of Energy announced that the FFTF would not play a role in tritium production and a decision on any future missions would be made by Spring, 1999. On August 18, 1999, the Secretary of Energy decided to initiate the preparation of a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential impacts associated with restarting the FFTF as a nuclear science research and irradiation services user facility.

This Change would place in abeyance (temporary suspension) the Tri-Party Agreement interim milestones on sodium facility acquisition planning and developing a Sodium Project Management Plan until the Secretary of Energy issues a final decision (Record of Decision) on the future of FFTF. At that time reliable decisions can be made for acquisition of sodium facilities and a comprehensive Sodium Project Management Plan can be developed.

If you are in agreement, please sign and return the original Change Control Form to this office. If you have any questions, please contact me on (509) 376-6888, or O. A. Farabee, FFTF Standby Office, on (509) 373-8089.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George H. Sanders".

George H. Sanders, Administrator  
Hanford Tri-Party Agreement

EAP:JKY

Enclosure

cc: See Page 2

Mr. Michael A. Wilson  
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cc w/encl:

J. R. Wilkinson, CTUIR

R. F. Stanley, Ecology

D. R. Sherwood, EPA

J. S. Hertzell, FDH

D. B. Klos, FDH

R. E. Piippo, FDH

M. Reeves, HAB

M. L. Blazek, OOE

R. Jim, YN

TPA Administrative Record, FDH

**Enclosure 1**

Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order

**Change Control Form  
Change Number  
M-92-98-01**

September 1999

Change Number M-92-98-01	<b>Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order Change Control Form</b> <small>Do not use blue ink. Type or print using black ink.</small>	Date 8/26/99
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Originator O. A. Farabee, Director of FFTF Standby Project Office Phone 376-8089

**Class of Change**

I - Signatories       II - Executive Manager       III - Project Manager

**Change Title**

Agreements in regard to DOE's sodium facilities acquisition and disposition activities. Placement of Agreement M-92-09 and M-92-10 interim milestones in abeyance. Modification of Agreement M-92-10 interim milestone to delete reference to M-81-02-T01 target.

**Description/Justification of Change**

In January 1997 the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) issued DOE's decision to maintain Hanford's Fast Flux Test Facility (FFTF) in a standby mode pending a decision (to be made by December 1998) on whether or not FFTF will be evaluated for use by the nation's nuclear weapons complex (tritium production) and for other potential missions, including medical isotope production. As a consequence FFTF deactivation activities associated with sodium drain from the plant and fuel storage vessels were suspended, resulting in a major effect to the Agreements M-92-09 and M-92-10 interim milestones. The majority (approximately 86%) of Hanford's radioactive sodium is associated with the FFTF. The remaining radioactive sodium, Hallam and Sodium Reactor Experiment (SRE), continues to be safely stored in the 200 West area of the Hanford Site.

**Impact of Change**

**Approval of this change control request:**

- (1) Places current Agreement M-92-09 and M-92-10 interim milestones in abeyance until the Secretary of Energy issues a final decision on whether or not to restart FFTF.
- (2) And deletes reference to the M-81-02-T01 target from the M-92-10 interim milestone description.

**Affected Documents**

The Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order, as amended, and Hanford Site internal planning, work authorization, and budget documents (e.g., Project Management Plans, Baseline Change Control documents and Multi Year Work Plans).

**Approvals**

<i>Sp 9 Abrey</i>	9/23/99	Date	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Disapproved
DOE				
EPA	Date		<input type="checkbox"/> Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Disapproved
Ecology	Date		<input type="checkbox"/> Approved	<input type="checkbox"/> Disapproved

**Description/Justification of Change (Continued)**

On December 22, 1998, the Secretary of Energy announced that the FFTF would not play a role in tritium production and a decision on any future missions would be made by Spring, 1999. On August 18, 1999, the Secretary of Energy decided to initiate the preparation of a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential impacts associated with restarting the FFTF as a nuclear science research and irradiation services user facility.

Based on the status of the FFTF the parties have agreed to place the Agreements M-92-09 and M-92-10 interim milestones in abeyance (temporary suspension) until the Secretary of Energy issues a final decision (Record of Decision) on whether or not to restart FFTF.

Should the Secretary of Energy decide that FFTF has no future missions, and that FFTF transition and initiation of the surveillance and maintenance phase should occur, DOE shall issue within 120 days of the Secretarial decision a draft Agreement change control request for proposed revised dates to the subject interim milestones.

Should the Secretary of Energy decide to restart the FFTF, based on an EIS Record of Decision, the existing M-92-09 and M-92-10 milestones will be deleted and RL shall issue within 120 days of the Secretarial decision a draft Agreement change control request for the Hallam and SRE sodium inventories.

**Agreement Appendix D, Table D is hereby modified as follows:**

**The following Agreement M-92 interim milestones (reproduced below) have been placed in abeyance in accordance with the terms of this M-92-98-01 change request.**

Milestone	Description	Due Date
M-92-09	Complete acquisition of new facilities, modifications of existing facilities, and/or modification of planned facilities necessary for storage, treatment/processing, and disposal of Hanford site sodium.	(in abeyance)
M-92-10	Submit Hanford Site Sodium Project Management Plan (PMP) to Ecology pursuant to Agreement Action Plan section 11.5.  The Hanford Site Sodium PMP will include all plan elements required by Agreement Action Plan section 11.5.  Should DOE determine (pursuant to the Hanford Site Sodium PMP and Agreement interim milestone M-50-03) that TWRS use of Hanford Site radioactive sodium (FFTF, Hallam & Sodium Reactor Experiment) is warranted, it shall specify in its TWRS, High Level Waste Vitrification Plant Request For Proposal(s) that use of Hanford site radioactive sodium is a requirement.  Should the Hanford Site PMP and findings pursuant to Agreement interim milestone M-50-03 determine that TWRS use of Hanford site radioactive sodium is not warranted DOE shall issue accompanying proposed Agreement change requests for alternate Hanford Site radioactive sodium disposition (e.g., necessary milestones and target dates associated with the construction of the sodium reaction facility). <del>See also Agreement target date M-81-02-T01.</del>	(in abeyance)