



Department of Energy

9300321

Richland Field Office

P.O. Box 550

Richland, Washington 99352

DEC 14 1992

93-RPA-075

Mr. David B. Jansen, P.E.
 Hanford Project Manager
 State of Washington
 Department of Ecology
 P.O. Box 47600
 Olympia, WA 98504-8711



Dear Mr. Jansen:

REQUEST FOR THIRTY-DAY EXTENSION TO NINETY-DAY ACCUMULATION PERIOD FOR MIXED WASTE STORED AT 241-SY TANK FARM

Pursuant to the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 173-303, Dangerous Waste Regulations, the U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Field Office (RL) is requesting a thirty-day extension to the ninety-day accumulation period for mixed waste stored at the 241-SY Tank Farm. The extension, based on WAC 173-303-200(a), is requested due to unforeseen and temporary circumstances.

The ninety-day accumulation period for mixed waste accumulated at a less than ninety-day storage pad within the 241-SY Tank Farm expires on December 13, 1992. The mixed waste cannot be transferred to the Central Waste Complex (CWC) within the ninety-day accumulation period because of technical issues concerning the packaging of the air lances, such as high dose rates and the presence of free liquids.

The wastes in question are three air lances removed from Tank 101-SY during the recent Window G activities. According to the "derived-from" rule, the air lances have been designated as mixed wastes. The air lances have been contained in a device known as a rigid receiver. The rigid receiver is an approximately 70-foot long, 1-inch wall mechanical steel tubing that has flanges in several locations.

Decontamination of the air lances was conducted to reduce radiation exposure to personnel. Poor weather and an aggressive Window G schedule prevented the air lances from being removed immediately after the internal flush was performed. Liquid waste reentered the air lances, voiding the initial decontamination efforts. The air lances were removed from the tank and allowed to drain back into Tank SY-101 prior to being placed in the rigid receivers. Some liquid unexpectedly remained in the air lance.

There are two primary reasons for requesting a thirty-day extension. One reason is to complete design and fabricate a new container to meet the waste acceptance criteria of the CWC, and, the other is to conduct another decontamination of the air lances to reduce radiation exposure to personnel.



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After another decontamination rinse has been completed, the container will be forwarded to the CWC for storage. Because of the special shielding, containment barrier requirements, and special flushing equipment for this Mr. waste, design and procurement of the materials for the storage container will not be completed in time to allow shipment before December 13, 1992.

Approving the thirty-day extension will allow RL time to safely contain the air lances and transfer them to the CWC. Window H is scheduled to open as early as mid-January 1993. Although Window H activities are a high priority, they will not interfere with the efforts to transfer the air lances to CWC by January 12, 1993.

Please transmit approval of the extension to RL in care of Mr. R. G. Holt. Should you have any questions regarding this transmittal, please contact me or Mr. Alex E. Teimouri of my staff on 376-6222.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Holt/Son
James D. Bauer, Acting Program Manager
Office of Environmental Assurance,
Permits, and Policy

EAP:AET

cc: D. C. Nylander, Ecology
G. W. Jackson, WHC
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