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

03-RCA-0151

FEB 26 2003

Mr. Nicholas Ceto  
Hanford Project Manager  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
712 Swift Boulevard, Suite Five  
Richland, Washington 99352

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EDMC

Dear Mr. Ceto:

DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) AND THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, RICHLAND OPERATIONS OFFICE (RL) ON HANFORD FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT AND CONSENT ORDER (TRI-PARTY AGREEMENT) MILESTONE M-016-03H "COMPLETE REMEDIATION OF THE WASTE SITES IN THE 300 FF-1 OPERABLE UNIT . . ."

As suggested in letter 03-ERD-0044, dated January 14, 2003, RL and EPA are looking into the concerns of the City of Richland, Benton County and the Port of Benton, and have provided them with a familiarization overview/tour of the planned 300 Area cleanup on February 4, 2003. RL and EPA have had subsequent discussions on the 300-FF-1 Operable Unit regrading and the associated impacts to Tri-Party Agreement Milestone M-16-03H as well. Based upon the mutual agreement to continue discussions on the 300-FF-1 Operable Unit regrading, RL will meet the cleanup portion of Tri-Party Agreement Milestone M-16-03H by December 31, 2003. Due to the ongoing discussions, RL requests relief on the regrading portion of the Tri-Party Agreement milestone. Based on the outcome of future discussions, RL will submit a formal Tri-Party Agreement change request if the results of the discussion affects the completion date of the milestone.

If you have any questions, please contact Ellen Dagan, of my staff, on (509) 376-3811 or Kevin Bazzell, Facility Transition Division, on (509) 373-0463.

Sincerely,

Joel Hebdon, Director  
Regulatory Compliance and Analysis Division

RCA:EBD

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**Administrative Record**