

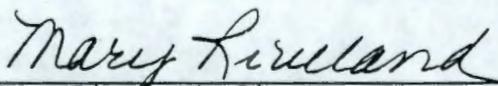
START**EXTENSION FOR COMPLETION OF NEGOTIATION OF COMMITMENTS FOR SOLID WASTE AND MATERIALS AT THE HANFORD SITE**

Negotiations between the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the State of Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) have proceeded in accord with the "Agreement in Principle (AIP) Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (Tri-Party Agreement) Negotiation of Milestones for Solid Waste and Materials" approved on June 30, 1995. This AIP specified a negotiation completion date of March 31, 1996.

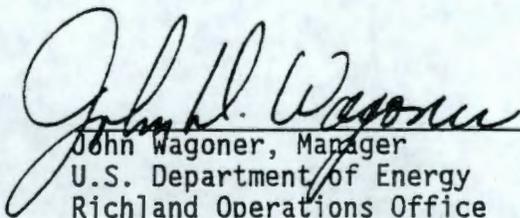
The development of appropriate commitments for the storage, processing, and/or disposal of Hanford Site solid waste and materials has proven to be very complex. Based upon the complexity and upon recommendations made by the Hanford Advisory Board the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), DOE, and Ecology find it necessary to extend the date for completion of these negotiations. Additionally, on February 27, 1996, the Tri-Party Agreement Inter Agency Management Integration Team found sufficient justification for an extension of these negotiations.

Therefore, the DOE, Ecology, and the EPA agree to extend the period of time allowed to complete these negotiations to June 14, 1996.

Signed this 1st day of April 1996.



Mary Riveland, Director
State of Washington
Department of Ecology



John Wagoner, Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
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Chuck Clarke, Regional Administrator
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