



U.S. Department of Energy  
**Office of River Protection**

0068958

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Richland, Washington 99352

MAR 13 2006

06-TPD-016

Ms. Jane Hedges, Program Manager  
Nuclear Waste Program  
State of Washington  
Department of Ecology  
3100 Port of Benton Blvd.  
Richland, Washington 99352

RECEIVED  
MAR 14 2006

EDMC

Dear Ms. Hedges:

TRANSMITTAL OF BIENNIAL UPDATE TO SINGLE-SHELL TANK (SST) RETRIEVAL SEQUENCE DOCUMENT AND DOUBLE-SHELL TANK SPACE (DST) EVALUATION DOCUMENT, IN RESPONSE TO HANFORD FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT AND CONSENT ORDER (HFFACO) MILESTONE M-45-02M

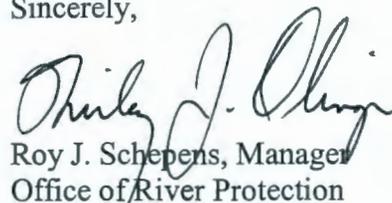
Enclosed is the "Single-Shell Tank Retrieval Selection and Sequence," RPP-21216, Revision 1, submitted in accordance with HFFACO Milestone M-45-02M.

The scope of the enclosed report is constrained primarily due to ongoing review of the startup date for the Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant (WTP). Consequently, the information provided in the attached report is based on relative sequence of SST retrievals previously anticipated and does not include specific dates. As we have discussed, until the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) reviews are completed and the determination made about when the WTP will come on-line, it is extremely difficult to formally establish and commit to associated schedules under the HFFACO, including but not limited to, milestones regarding retrieval of the Hanford SSTs. DOE is expected to announce a new Estimate at Completion for the WTP by late summer 2006, which will provide a better basis for future updates to SST retrieval selection and DST space evaluation.

We appreciate your cooperation and understanding in this matter and look forward to continued collaboration in the future as we develop an overall realistic strategy to accomplish our mutual goals.

If you have any questions, you may contact me, or your staff may contact Roger Quintero, Tank Farms Programs and Projects Division, (509) 373-0421.

Sincerely,

  
Roy J. Schepens, Manager  
Office of River Protection

TPD:RAQ

Enclosure

cc: See page 2

Ms. Jane Hedges  
06-TPD-016

-2-

MAR 13 2006

cc w/encl:

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