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STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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August 24, 2018

18-NWP-142

Mr. Brian T. Vance, Manager
Office of River Protection
United States Department of Energy
PO Box 450, MSIN: H6-60
Richland, Washington 99352

Re: Public Comment on Draft Waste Incidental to Reprocessing Evaluation for Closure of Waste Management Area C

Dear Mr. Vance:

As you might be aware, stakeholder groups have reached out to Maia Bellon and Governor Inslee regarding the Draft Waste Incidental to Reprocessing Evaluation for Closure of Waste Management Area C at the Hanford Site (Draft WIR Evaluation). The United States Department of Energy – Office of River Protection is currently holding a public comment period on the draft document.

Several of the stakeholder groups indicated that they asked the United States Department of Energy (USDOE) to hold regional public hearings on the Draft WIR Evaluation.

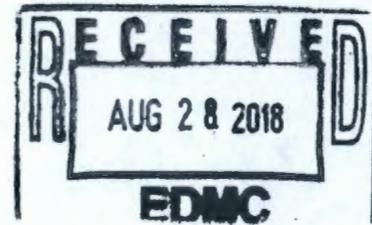
The Department of Ecology supports the concept of USDOE holding public hearings on the Draft WIR Evaluation. As your extension of the public comment period for the Draft WIR Evaluation recognizes, waste reclassification is a complex issue and the potential reclassification of tank waste at Hanford is an important decision. We believe these kinds of important decisions benefit the more the public knows about them, and the more the public has a chance to provide input on them.

We appreciate your consideration of the stakeholders' requests for public hearings. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at alex.smith@ecy.wa.gov or (509) 372-7905.

Sincerely,

Alexandra K. Smith
Program Manager
Nuclear Waste Program

cc: See page 2



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cc electronic:

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Jon Perry, MSA
ERWM Staff, YN
Ken Niles, ODOE
Randy Bradbury, Ecology
Jeff Lyon, Ecology
Cheryl Whalen, Ecology
Environmental Portal
Hanford Facility Operating Record
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Administrative Record
NWP Central File

