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STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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September 11, 2000

Mr. K. Michael Thompson
U.S. Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office
P.O. Box 550, MSIN: A5-13
Richland, Washington 99352

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EDMC

Dear Mr. Thompson:

Re: B-BX-BY, U, T, TX-TY and S-SX Single-Shell Tank (SST) Waste Management Area (WMA) Data and Information Confirmation Requests

During a Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) Milestone M-24-00 outyear workshop meeting on June 29, 2000, survey comparison data for Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) groundwater monitoring wells was presented by Susan Narbutovskih. During the presentation, it was indicated that fieldwork at the B-BX-BY SST WMA would be performed in August. It is Ecology's understanding that the fieldwork would augment existing groundwater monitoring well survey and water level information. It is also Ecology's understanding that two and four RCRA groundwater monitoring wells at the B-BX-BY SST WMA were proposed to be installed during calendar years 2001 and 2002 respectively. Ecology is currently reviewing TPA Milestone M-24-00 well installation proposals. To support this review, Ecology requests the field data collected at B-BX-BY SST WMA during fieldwork performed in August. During a TPA Milestone M-24-00 workshop on August 30, 2000, it was indicated that the U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE) would like to reach agreement by October 2000 on TPA Milestone M-24-00M wells to be installed during calendar year 2001. Therefore, Ecology requests the data be provided as soon as possible.

During a TPA Milestone M-24-00 workshop meeting on August 30, 2000, it was indicated that USDOE may be considering changing the pump rate of an extraction well associated with a pump-and-treat remediation system located near the U SST WMA. If so, USDOE should identify potential impacts to the RCRA groundwater monitoring wells proposed to be installed along the northern perimeter of the U SST WMA. It is Ecology's understanding that four RCRA groundwater monitoring wells at the U SST WMA were proposed to be installed during calendar year 2001. Furthermore, it is Ecology's understanding that one of the U SST WMA wells is proposed to be installed upgradient to the WMA. In an Ecology letter dated May 30, 2000, it was indicated that "absent linear regression calculations, Ecology will require the installation of up to two upgradient replacement wells during calendar year 2001". In a July 3, 2000, electronic mail message to Marvin Furman, Alisa Huckaby requested linear regression calculations for the two existing upgradient groundwater monitoring wells (299-W18-25 and 299-W18-31). To date,

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the linear regression calculation information has not been received by Ecology. During a TPA Milestone M-24-00 workshop on August 30, 2000, it was indicated that USDOE would like to reach agreement by October 2000 on TPA Milestone M-24-00M wells to be installed during calendar year 2001. Therefore, Ecology requests the linear regression information/calculations be provided as soon as possible.

It is Ecology's understanding that during a TPA Milestone M-24-00 workshop on June 29, 2000, two RCRA groundwater monitoring wells at the TX-TY SST WMA and no wells at the T SST WMA were proposed to be installed during calendar year 2001. (Note: Ecology identified the current need for one assessment monitoring program well at the T SST WMA to be installed during calendar year 2001.) In addition, two RCRA groundwater monitoring wells at the S-SX SST WMA were proposed to be installed during calendar year 2001. Ecology would like to extend an invitation to USDOE to provide any additional new information obtained from the recent installation of TPA Milestone M-24-00L monitoring wells for consideration of TPA Milestone M-24-00M wells.

If you have any questions about the above data requests, please contact Alisa Huckaby at 509/736-3034.

Sincerely,



Dib Goswamai, PhD, Senior Hydrologist
Nuclear Waste Program

DG:ADH:lkd

cc: Dennis Faulk, EPA
Doug Sherwood, EPA
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Administrative Record: S-SX, T, TX-TY, U, and B-BX-BY SST WMAs