



U.S. Department of Energy
Office of River Protection

P.O. Box 450
Richland, Washington 99352

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Mr. Michael A. Wilson, Program Manager
Nuclear Waste Program
State of Washington
Department of Ecology
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, Washington 98504

Dear Mr. Wilson:

COMPLETION OF ADDITIONAL CASE STUDIES ON OPERATIONAL WASTE VOLUME PROJECTION REPORT PER THE HANFORD FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT AND CONSENT ORDER (TRI-PARTY AGREEMENT) INTERIM MILESTONES M-46-01G

- References:
- 1: ORP letter from C. E. Clark, RL, to M. A. Wilson, Ecology, "Path Forward for Submittal of Waste Volume Special Case Studies as Agreed Upon in a October 16, 2000, Meeting Between the State of Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)," 00-OSD-135, dated October 31, 2000.
 - 2: ORP letter from C. E. Clark, RL, to D. R. Sherwood, EPA and M. A. Wilson, Ecology, "Completion of Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (Tri-Party Agreement) Interim Milestones M-46-00G and M-46-01G, Submission of Operational Waste Volume Project (OWVP) Report," 00-OSD-115, dated September 28, 2000.

In accordance with the agreement established in Reference 1 to supplement Operational Waste Volume Projection Rev 26 (previously provided to Ecology per the requirements of Tri-Party Agreement Milestone M-46-01G, "Concurrence of Additional Tank Acquisition"), the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Office of River Protection (ORP) is hereby submitting its report on additional Case Studies 2a, 2b, and 3 (attached). Ecology requested that ORP analyze the need for additional double-shell tank (DST) space based upon the following case studies.

Case Study 1: Current operational waste volume forecast using no space savings measures and all waste retrieved from the single-shell tanks (SST) by September 30, 2018 (previously submitted in Reference 2).

Case Study 2a: Operational waste volume forecast using tank space savings measures and a risk-based SST waste retrieval sequence strategy.

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Case Study 2b: Operational waste volume forecast using tank space savings measures and a low volume forecast retrieval sequence strategy.

Case Study 3: Forecast schedule for SST retrieval with optimized use of DST space if no additional tanks are made available.

These case studies are based on substantive modeling assumptions previously agreed to and/or communicated to Ecology. Many of these assumptions have not yet been fully validated. Not all of these modeling assumptions are consistent with DOE's current requirements and obligations under the Tri-Party Agreement and the Director's Tank Waste Final Determination, March 29, 2000, requiring DOE to perform sufficient work with reasonable certainty¹ to assure DOE will meet agreed upon interim and major milestones. These case studies are not representative of current critical baseline planning and controls for ORP imposed by the Tri-Party Agreement and the Director's Final Determination. Additionally, modeling assumptions presumed in the Case Studies did not analyze existing nuclear safety requirement imposed under the Atomic Energy Act² which might prevent the implementation of an alternative(s) presented.

If you have any questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact Victor L. Callahan, Operations Program Division, (509) 373-9880.

Sincerely,



James E. Rasmussen
Environmental Policy Advisor
Office of River Protection

OPD:VLC

Attachment

cc w/o attach:

J. H. Richards, CTUIR
P. Sobotta, NPT
R. Jim, YN
D. I. Allen, CHG
J. G. Kristofzski, CHG
M. J. Riess, CHG
M. J. Brown, Ecology
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R. F. Stanley, Ecology
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O. S. Kramer, FHI
T. Martin, HAB
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C. E. Clark, RL
Administrative Record