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Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office
P.O. Box 550
Richland, Washington 99352

MAY 4 2001

01-ERD-036

Mr. Patrick Sobotta, Director
Environmental Restoration/
Waste Management Program
Nez Perce Tribe
P.O. Box 365
Lapwai, Idaho 83540

RECEIVED
MAY 30 2001
EDMC

Dear Mr. Sobotta:

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION AND DISPOSAL FACILITY (ERDF) MITIGATION CONCERNS

Thank you for your January 8, 2001, letter regarding mitigation for cells 1 and 2 of the ERDF Project. Your letter and attachments helped me better understand the long-standing concerns raised by the Nez Perce Tribe and other members of the Natural Resource Trustee Council.

I would like an opportunity to meet with you and the other trustees to discuss in more detail both of your concerns regarding the impacts of ERDF construction and the U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operation Office's (RL) position on the efforts taken to mitigate those impacts. We also need to discuss the budgetary constraints RL is currently facing and the impacts those constraints have on any unplanned work. To facilitate these discussions, I'm planning to attend your next meeting on May 31, 2001, in Richland, Washington, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

If you should have any questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact Jamie Zeisloft at (509) 372-0188.

Sincerely,

Keith A. Klein
Manager

ERD:OCR

cc w/attach:

J. H. Richards, CTUIR
L. Goldstein, Ecology
R. Johnson, FDH
S. Hughes, ODOE
T. O'Brien, USFWS
J. McConnaughey, WDFW
R. Jim, YN

T. Zielman, YN
Admin Record (ERDF)