

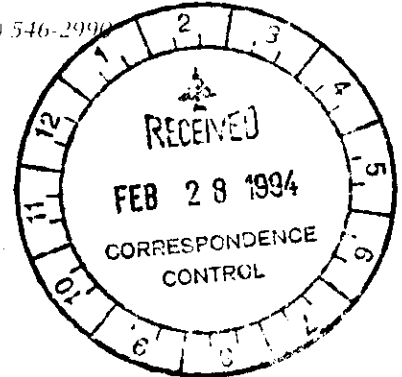
START



9401593

STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

7601 W. Clearwater, Suite 102 • Kennewick, Washington 99336 • (509) 546-2990



February 15, 1994

Mr. Dwayne Speer
Westinghouse Hanford Company
P. O. Box 1970
Richland, WA 99352

Dear Mr. Speer:

Re: 183-D Filter Backwash Wastewater Sampling and Analysis Plan

This letter is in response to your request to stop sampling the 183-D discharge to the 100-D pond since the stream will be stopped by June 1994. I agree that this information is not needed to support a state waste discharge permit (216 permit) application. However, the 100-D pond is a RCRA unit which must be closed. The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) RCRA Unit Manager has reviewed the data collected on June 3, 1993, to determine if any information from the sampling would be needed to support the RCRA closure of 100 D ponds.

During the review of the data collected on June 3, 1993, it was noted that mercury and selenium were detected. The results were shown with qualifiers. In particular, the qualifier "N" was included for mercury and selenium. It is Ecology's understanding that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidelines contained in the "National Functional Guidelines" for data validation indicate that the qualifer "N" indicates "presumptive evidence of material" and that the actual value concentrations may range from 75 to 125% of the reported value. For example, sample number B08KP3 reports a value for mercury of two parts per million (ppm) with an "N" qualifier. Ecology will therefore proceed with the closure based on the fact that mercury in the range of 1.5 to 2.5 ppm was present in the effluent directed to 100 D Ponds on June 3, 1993.

With this understanding, Ecology is willing to approve stopping sampling under the 183-D Filter Backwash Wastewater Sampling and Analysis Plan, WHC-SD-WM-PLN-035. If the U.S. Department of Energy or Westinghouse Hanford Company wish to continue sampling in order to provide a more conclusive analysis for mercury and selenium, you may at your option.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please call me at (509) 736-3021.

Sincerely,

Melodie A. Selby, PE
Nuclear and Mixed Waste Management Program

MS:sr

cc: Glenn Goldberg, USDOE
Jerry Turnbaugh, USDOE
Scott Luke, WHC
Administrative Record for 100-D Ponds (M-20-40, D-1-1)



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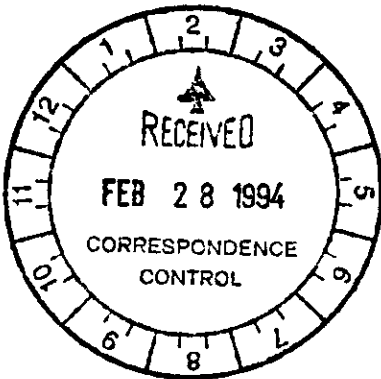
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