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TRI-CITY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
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September 12, 1996

Mr. David Olson
U.S. Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office
PO Box 550, MSIN HO-12
Richland, WA 99352

Mr. Phillip Staats
Washington State Department of Ecology
1315 West 4th Avenue
Kennewick, WA 99336



Gentlemen:

Proposed 100 N Area Test of Passive Cleanup Technology

We are pleased to provide you with our comments regarding the proposed In Situ test installation for cleanup of Strontium-90 from the ground water at 100-N.

The Tri-City Industrial Development Council (TRIDEC) has been designated by the Department of Energy as the "one voice" spokesman for the local business community on Hanford issues.

Our comments on this subject reflect our concerns that a cost effective method be found to achieve the cleanup of the 100-N Springs releases to the Columbia River. The insignificant contribution the flow of the contaminated ground water makes to the Columbia River, places emphasis upon minimizing the cost of achieving the required cleanup of the 100-N ground water. This proposed passive technology offers the potential for achieving cost reductions from the pump and treat technology which is also under demonstration testing at 100-N.

We support proceeding with the proposed test in the most expeditious and cost effective manner. However, the test installation should be designed to be expanded to a full scale passive system if the current test program results indicate that this is a cost effective solution to the problem. The current test plan calls for removal of the test installation following completion of the test period. This strategy needs to be revised to provide for consideration of an expansion of the test to a full scale installation if the test results indicate this is a cost effective and technically adequate alternative to the pump and treat strategy, rather than the categorical removal of the test installation at the completion of the program.

We recommend proceeding with the proposed test installation as rapidly as possible, consistent with our comments above.

Thank you for the opportunity of submitting our comments on this subject.

Very truly yours,

Sam Volpentest
Sam Volpentest
Executive Vice President

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cc: John Wagoner
Joe Nemeč