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

MAR 27 1996

96-EAP-019

Mr. Joseph J. Witczak  
 Unit Supervisor  
 Regulatory and Technical Support  
 State of Washington  
 Department of Ecology  
 P.O. Box 47600  
 Olympia, Washington 98504-7600

Mr. Moses N. Jaraysi  
 200 Area Unit Supervisor  
 State of Washington  
 Department of Ecology  
 1315 West Fourth Avenue  
 Kennewick, Washington 99336



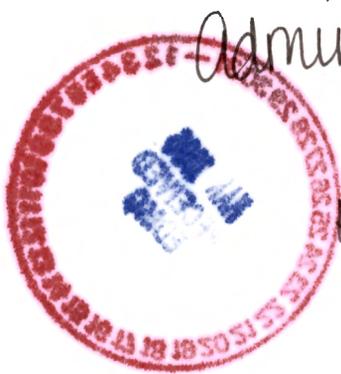
Dear Messrs. Witczak and Jaraysi:

**REQUEST FOR AN EXTENSION TO THE DATE OF FINAL CLOSURE AT 183-H SOLAR EVAPORATION BASINS**

The U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (RL) is requesting approval from the State of Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) for a Class 1 modification to the Hanford Site Dangerous Waste Permit (Permit) for the 183-H Solar Evaporation Basins (183-H). This modification is requested because final closure cannot be achieved by March 28, 1996, due to continuing concerns regarding contaminants remaining in the soil column at 183-H. These concerns were identified by RL in a letter to Joe Witczak and Moses Jaraysi, Ecology, dated March 22, 1996. Final closure by this date is a requirement of Condition V.I.B.m. of the Permit. Washington State Administrative Code 173-303-830 Appendix I requires an Ecology approved Class 1 modification when a change to a unit's closure schedule is required. ✓

RL is requesting that Ecology allow a 60 day extension from the March 28, 1996, closure date. This time frame is requested in order to allow a decision to be made regarding the appropriate closure option for the unit. Should a modified closure be allowed, final closure can be achieved within the 60 day time period. Should a landfill closure be required, a second extension will be required in order to allow time to design a landfill cover system, obtain a Class 3 modification of the Permit to reflect the new cover, and construct the cover over the unit.

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Administrative  
Record

46-08

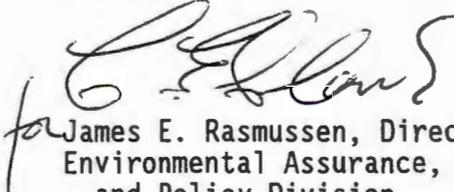
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Messrs. Witczak and Jaraysi  
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If you have any questions regarding this request, please call Jeff Bruggeman on (509) 376-7121 or Ellen Mattlin at (509)-376-2385.

Sincerely,

  
for James E. Rasmussen, Director  
Environmental Assurance, Permits,  
and Policy Division

EAP:EMM

cc: Administrative Record  
J. Badden, BHI  
R. Cordts, Ecology  
L. Miller, BHI  
W. Soper, Ecology