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TRI-CITY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

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November 17, 1998

Mr. Larry Gadbois
US Environmental Protection Agency
712 Swift Boulevard, Suite 5
Richland, WA 99352

K Basins Spent Nuclear Fuel Project
TPA Milestone M-34

Dear Mr. Gadbois:

The following comments regarding the proposed Tri Party Agreement (TPA) Milestone M-34 revision are submitted following last week's public meeting on this subject. Due to the potential threat to the Columbia River from the spent nuclear fuel stored in the K Reactor fuel storage basins, it is vital to proceed with expeditious completion of the project. The commitment by Fluor Daniel Hanford, Department of Energy, and EPA senior management to the achievement of or bettering of these estimates indicates a positive commitment to the completion of this project. Therefore, we support the proposed change in M-34 as representing a firm commitment by the TPA parties and the contractors to achieving the projected schedule dates and cost estimates.

We believe that the EPA must maintain a strong public oversight presence in monitoring progress towards these goals. The project management system improvements outlined in the proposed M-34 change package include many project management procedures and controls which must be implemented to insure timely and cost effective completion of this project.

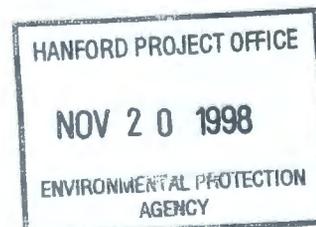
We will look forward to the periodic reporting of progress on this project, which we expect will include significant cost reductions and schedule improvements.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sam Volpentest".

Sam Volpentest
Executive Vice President

Copies to: Ron Hanson
John Wagoner
Secretary William Richardson





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