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Richland Operations Office
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OCT 8 1996

Mr. Douglas R. Sherwood
Hanford Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
712 Swift Boulevard, Suite 5
Richland, Washington 99352-0539

Mr. E. R. Skinnarland
200 Area Section Manager
Nuclear Waste Program
State of Washington
Department of Ecology
1315 West 4th Avenue
Kennewick, Washington 99336-6018



Dear Messrs. Sherwood and Skinnarland:

WASTE SITE GROUPING FOR 200 AREAS SOIL INVESTIGATIONS, DOE/RL-96-81,
DECISIONAL DRAFT

Attached, please find a copy of the subject document. This revision is for joint review and is intended to be an in-progress review draft for the 200 Areas Strategy Development Team. Copies were provided on September 17, 1996, to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the State of Washington, Department of Ecology, strategy development team members and Mr. R. Person, U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)-Headquarters. This document follows the annotated outline previously approved by the strategy development team and subsequent agreement on the level of detail of the conceptual model.

Three issues have been identified that require some discussions with the strategy development team members. In the application of the "representative site" prioritization criteria, the results of the prioritization can be overly skewed by the high rating. A more graded approach (applying partial points instead of an all or nothing approach) is recommended, and needs to be discussed with the team before its implementation. The application of the long-lived and short-lived radionuclide criteria does not differentiate adequately as developed by the strategy team, and additional discussions are needed to make this criteria a meaningful prioritization criteria. The issue of risk assessment (not originally planned for this document) may need to be addressed in a cursory fashion and would require strategy team concurrence on the level of detail of this discussion.

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Messrs. Sherwood and Skinnarland -2-

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Completion of this joint DOE Richland Operations Office and strategy team review is desired by October 4, 1996, to allow time to resolve any possible issues. If you have any questions, please contact me at 376-7087.

Sincerely,



Bryan L. Foley, Project Manager
Remedial Actions Project

RAP:BLF

Attachment

cc w/o attach:

V. R. Dronen, BHI

G. B. Mitchem, BHI

cc w/attach:

R. L. Person, EM-442