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Department of Energy

Richland Operations Office
P.O. Box 550
Richland, Washington 99352

JAN 26 1996



96-SFD-023

Dear Interested Party:

TRANSMITTAL OF ADDENDUM (FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT) (FEIS) FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL (SNF) FROM THE K BASINS AT THE HANFORD SITE, RICHLAND, WASHINGTON

Enclosed is a copy of the FEIS for the management of SNF from the K Basins, January 1996 (DOE/EIS-0245F). This FEIS has been prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The FEIS analyzes the potential environmental impacts of the removal of SNF from the K Basins, and subsequently, the management of that fuel for up to 40 years until decisions on ultimate disposition are made and implemented. The purpose of the proposed action is to reduce risks to public health and the environment, specifically to prevent the release of radioactive materials into the air or soil surrounding the K Basins and the potential migration of radionuclides through the soil column into the nearby Columbia River, to reduce occupational radiation exposure, and to eliminate the risks to the public and workers from the formation of radioactive components during continued deterioration of this fuel in the K Basins. Additionally, this document analyzes a no action alternative involving continued storage in the K Basins for up to 40 years with no modifications except for maintenance, monitoring, and ongoing safety upgrades.

This FEIS consists of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and this Addendum which includes comments received on the DEIS during the public comment period and the responses to those comments.

The FEIS and reference documents are available in the Department's public reading rooms and the public libraries. Their addresses are included in Section 5 of the FEIS. For further information or to request additional copies, contact:

Dr. Phillip G. Loscoe
NEPA Document Manager - K Basins SNF EIS
U.S. Department of Energy
P. O. Box 550, MSIN 57-41
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Telephone: (509) 376-7434

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The DOE Richland Operations Office will issue a Record of Decision no less than 30 days after the Environmental Protection Agency publishes a Notice of Availability in the Federal Register for the FEIS.

Thank you for your interest in the K Basins SNF EIS Project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Loscoe', written in a cursive style.

Dr. Phillip G. Loscoe  
NEPA Document Manager  
K Basins SNF EIS

Enclosure