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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 10 HANFORD PROJECT OFFICE  
712 SWIFT BOULEVARD, SUITE 5  
RICHLAND, WASHINGTON 99352

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July 9, 1997

Linda K. Bauer  
Assistant Manager  
Environmental Restoration  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Richland, Washington 99352

Re: 200 Area Remediation Strategy



Dear Ms. Bauer:

The purpose of this letter is to inform the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) of grave concerns the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) have with regards to DOE's developing FY 99 Budget and its potential impact on compliance with Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order requirements. As you know, EPA and Ecology management are currently assessing DOE actions, and will be discussing our concerns at the agencies' Salt Lake City Management Forum later this month. However, due to timing constraints, we are taking this opportunity to point out one particular area of concern, i.e., the 200 Area Remediation Strategy.

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Ecology, DOE, and EPA have spent nearly two years in the development of a more efficient strategy for completion of past-practice waste site investigations for operable units within the 200 Area at Hanford. However, based on the July 2, 1997 memorandum from Lloyd Piper to Alvin L. Alm, DOE Richland Operations Offices' (RL) FY 1999 Integrated Priority List (IPL), DOE has not forwarded DOE-HQ a budget request sufficient to achieve compliance with the requirements of our tentatively agreed to 200 Area Soil Remediation Strategy.

Based on this submittal, it is apparent to EPA and Ecology that even though this new strategy represents a significant improvement over existing requirements, DOE has chosen to not implement it.

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As of July 11, 1997, the agencies' April 30, 1997 200 Area Soil Remediation Strategy Agreement-In-Principle expires. Be advised that EPA and Ecology will grant no further extension of that agreement. Therefore, effective July 14, 1997 all existing Milestones M-13 and M-20 stayed by this agreement are in force. Further, we note that sufficient funds have not been requested to implement either the 200 Area Soil Remediation Strategy, or existing requirements of Milestones M-13 and M-20.

Should you require any additional clarification, please contact us directly at (509) 376-9529 or (360) 407-7150, respectively.

Sincerely,



Douglas R. Sherwood  
Hanford Project Manager  
U.S. Environmental Protection  
Agency, Region 10



Michael A. Wilson  
Manager, Nuclear Waste Program  
State of Washington  
Department of Ecology

cc: Tanya Barnett, WA AG Office  
Mary Lou Blazek, ODOE  
Andy Boyd, EPA  
Mary Harmon, DOE  
Lloyd Piper, DOE  
Merilyn Reeves, HAB  
Dan Silver, Ecology  
Randy Smith, EPA  
Patrick Willison, DOE