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Department of Energy

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

91-EAB-230

SEP 5 1991

Mr. R. S. Burd, Director
Water Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Sixth Avenue, Mail Stop WD-131
Seattle, Washington 98101

Dear Mr. Burd:

HANFORD SITE NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT MODIFICATION REQUEST FOR PROJECT L-045H

Project L-045H calls for the construction of a facility to treat all Hanford Site 300 Area liquid process effluent with subsequent discharge to the Columbia River under a NPDES permit. Currently, this effluent is discharged to the soil column via the 300 Area Process Trenches. Treatment of this wastewater, and discharge to the Columbia River, is required to meet Tri-Party Agreement Milestone M-17-06, "Cease all Discharges to the 300 Area Process Trenches."

The NPDES permitting process requires that best available treatment (BAT) technology be utilized for any discharge. The determination of BAT is an iterative process that begins with the submittal of an Engineering Report. The Engineering Report examines all treatment technologies potentially applicable to the effluent stream to be permitted and recommends one of those technologies examined as BAT. The enclosed document, WHC-SD-LO45H-ER-001, "300 Area Treated Effluent Disposal Facility Selection Engineering Report," is the Engineering Report for Project L-045H. A copy of this document was informally transmitted to Mr. Ken Mosbaugh of your staff for review and comment on July 26, 1991. Comments need to be returned to DOE Field Office, Richland by September 9, 1991, to avoid an additional impact to the Project L-045H schedule.

If you have any questions regarding this letter or the enclosed BAT assessment, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. S. D. Stites, of my staff, on (509) 376-8566.

Sincerely,

E. A. Bracken

E. A. Bracken, Director
Environmental Restoration Division

ERD:SDS

Enclosure:
NPDES Engineering Report

cc: P. T. Day, EPA, w/encl.
R. E. Lerch, WHC, w/o encl.



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Subject: HANFORD SITE NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PERMIT
MODIFICATION REQUEST FOR PROJECT L-045H

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