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Department of Energy

Richland Field Office

P.O. Box 550

Richland, Washington 99352

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Mr. David B. Jansen, P.E.
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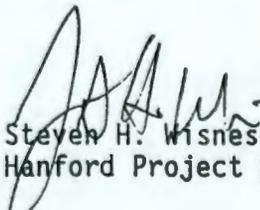
Dear Messrs. Day and Jansen:

GROUT STATUS REPORT FOR WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

Enclosed is the monthly Grout Status Report on the Hanford Grout Disposal Program for the month of September.

If you have any questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Lori Huffman of the Disposal Division on (509) 376-0104.

Sincerely,


Steven H. Wisness
Hanford Project Manager

DSD:RC

Enclosure

cc w/encl:
J. L. Epstein, WHC
G. H. Williamson, WHC
B. A. Austin, WHC
R. F. Wood, WHC



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GROUT REPORT
FOR
SEPTEMBER 1992

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Hanford Grout Disposal Program (HGDP) is currently planning a 1993 Grout Facilities restart. Efforts associated with completion and approval of the Performance Assessment (PA), Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR), Grout Issue Paper recommendations, Grout Facilities physical upgrades/modifications, Operational Readiness Review (ORR) and the finalization of grout formulation are major activities for the final disposal and solidification of the first one million gallons from Hanford's double-shell tanks (partial M-01-01A). Discussions with the regulators on schedule impacts have begun. A Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) change request was transmitted to the regulators on September 27, 1992, proposing rescheduling of M-01 and a 13 month delay to M-01-01A. The proposed delay is associated with the uncertainty associated with the petition before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) challenging the definition of certain Double-Shell tank wastes as incidental wastes, the magnitude and complexity of rewrite/rework of the PA based on the U. S. Department of Energy - Headquarters (DOE-HQ) Peer Review Panel (PRP) comments and the heat of hydration issue resulting in the need to pour the grout campaigns in lifts.

PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

A number of items related to initiation of modeling activities have been completed. This includes an update of hydraulic properties for grout system components and preliminary predictions of grout vault barrier cracking. Two major modeling issues remain. These are: a definition of appropriate initial conditions to the base case problem and selection of the best method of defining hydraulic properties for cracks in asphalt. Westinghouse Hanford Company (WHC) and Pacific Northwest Laboratory (PNL) have agreed on a definition of the base case. PNL is experiencing problems demonstrating computer modeling software. The re-submittal of this document to the DOE-HQ Peer Review Panel remains a critical path activity.

FINAL SAFETY ANALYSIS REPORT (FSAR)

Comments were given to WHC from the U. S. Department of Energy - Richland Field Office (DOE-RL) on the FSAR which was submitted to DOE-RL in July 1992. Resolution of these comments is underway. Work around plans are being developed and implemented to expedite the submittal of the Grout Treatment Facility (GTF) FSAR to DOE-HQ for approval.

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OPERATIONAL READINESS REVIEW (ORR)

The work on the ORR has been deferred until FY 1993. Completion of Integrated System Test/Cold Operational Demonstration Plans, reorganization of self assessment team and completion of applicability analysis portion of ORR are planned during FY 1993.

GROUT FORMULATION

Quality Verification work being performed at University of Cincinnati for Fernald (Ohio DOE site) is being investigated by WHC. U of C is funded to generate a report on quality verification methods being considered at various DOE sites.

DANGEROUS WASTE PART B PERMIT APPLICATION

The document has been submitted to the State of Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) and the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Work is progressing on the permit compliance implementation plan. The implementation plan is being developed using Revision 2 of the GTF permit application, which was submitted to Ecology and EPA on July 26, 1992.

HYDROGEN GENERATION

Work is proceeding to verify gas generation rates. This topic remains an open item in the FSAR and as a Notice of Deficiency (NOD) and will be discussed with Ecology on October 6, 1993.

PROGRAM PLANNING

The major program priorities in FY 1993 will be: GTF upgrades, complete PA, approval of FSAR, complete feed tank characterization/formulation, operating/maintenance procedures, training certification packages, completion of training, Phosphate-Sulfate Waste (PSW) core analysis, and complete and accept vaults 102-105.

VAULTS 102-105 (Project B-714)

Installation of piping and piping supports between the Grout Processing Facility (GPF) and the vaults is in progress. Vault construction is currently behind schedule, but does not impact the program critical path.

Work is progressing on leachate pits, cover blocks for pits, and installation of diffusion barrier material around piping.

Planning has begun for a hydrostatic test of vault 103 in accordance with the agreement reached with Ecology (letter from Witczak to Wisness, dated 7/9/92).

VAULTS 106-109 (Project W-125)

In case of denial of the Grout change request by the regulators, plans to meet milestone M-01-02A (Initiate construction of vaults 106-109 by 11/92) will continue. The plan will be to re-issue the bid for the fixed price construction contract on project W-125, which would excavate and place the bottom barrier for vaults 106-109. During the bidding process an off-site contractor will be hired to begin excavation work. Plans will also include initiation of efforts to extend utilities to future site and complete design work on vaults 106-109.

MISCELLANEOUS

The Acceptance Test Procedure for the cathodic protection at the GPF and the Grout Disposal Facility (GDF) has been issued and will be performed immediately. Completion of the cathodic protection was identified as an action in the Tank Integrity Assessment.

A Conduct of Operations self assessment was completed concerning the lock and tag program. The assessment covered the following areas: Lockout and Tagout use, Lockout and Tagout Implementation, training and Communication, Notification of Personnel, and Outside Contractors.

Four Grout Training Certification Manuals are complete to date. Five operators and three managers are complete to date on the Dry-Materials Facility (DMF) Operator Certification.

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CORRESPONDENCE DISTRIBUTION COVERSHEET

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Subject: GROUT STATUS REPORT FOR WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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