



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
 REGION 10 HANFORD/INL PROJECT OFFICE  
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September 10, 2008

Mr. Briant L. Charboneau  
 Federal Project Director  
 U.S. Department of Energy  
 PO Box 550, A6-33  
 Richland, WA 99352

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 SEP 11 2008  
 EDMC

Re: Extension for Review of 200-CW-5 Feasibility Study and Proposed Plan

Dear Mr. Charboneau:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is taking a 30-day extension in our review of the draft 200-CW-5 Cooling Water Operable Unit Feasibility Study and Proposed Plan (DOE/RL-2004-26 and -24). The original 45-day review period will end September 15, 2008. The 30-day extension will be tacked onto the end of the original review period extending the due date for comments to October 15, 2008.

The extension is necessary for EPA to adequately review and comment on the documents which have been significantly revised as called for by milestone M-015-40D. DOE utilized a three-month extension granted by EPA to the milestone due date to allow DOE to complete the engineering analysis of the Z-Ditches. We look forward to reviewing in greater depth the engineering analysis upon which much of the feasibility study is based.

Another reason for the extension lies in the significant changes to the documents resulting from the transfer of many of the waste sites originally in the operable unit group to the 200-CW-1 ponds operable unit and to the Conceptual Model Group 1 operable units (200-MG-1 and 2), as well as the separation of the 200-SC-1 operable unit from the 200-CW-5 group. Fortunately, the focus on the Z-Ditches should provide for a more straightforward proposal for public comment once EPA and DOE agree on a preferred alternative.

Finally, more time is necessary to evaluate the documents in light of comments received from the Washington Department of Ecology and the Oregon Office of Energy. We encourage DOE to prepare to address those comments while our review continues. We anticipate receiving comments from the Tribes, as well. If you have questions, please contact me at 509 376-8665.

Sincerely,

Craig Cameron  
 Project Manager

cc: Greg Sinton, DOE  
 Ken Niles, ODOE  
 John Price, Ecology  
 ✓ Administrative Record: 200-CW-5 Operable Unit

Stuart Harris, CTUIR  
 Gabriel Bohnee, Nez Perce Tribe  
 Russell Jim, Yakama Nation