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Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office
P.O. Box 550
Richland, Washington 99352

17-AMRP-0240

AUG 17 2017

Ms. Alexandra K. Smith, Program Manager
Nuclear Waste Program
Washington State Department of Ecology
3100 Port of Benton Boulevard
Richland, Washington 99354

Dear Ms. Smith:

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NUMBER 14156 - CORRECTIVE ACTIONS TO ENSURE
SAFE STORAGE OF WASTE IN PUREX STORAGE TUNNEL 2

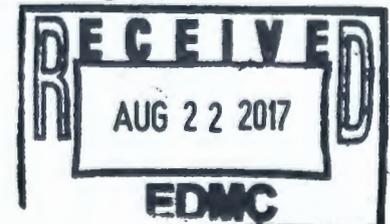
The Administrative Order Docket #14156 for the Hanford Site, EPA/State ID # WA7890008967, dated May 10, 2017, established three corrective actions in response to the May 9, 2017, subsidence/partial collapse observed on the south side of PUREX Storage Tunnel 1 located in the 200 East Area of the Hanford Site. On August 1, 2017, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Richland Operations Office (RL) submitted a draft report detailing the corrective actions to ensure the safe storage of the waste in the PUREX Storage Tunnels 1 and 2 to satisfy Corrective Action 2 (17-AMRP-0222). The draft report detailing corrective actions for storage of waste in the PUREX tunnels outlined a phased approach for PUREX Storage Tunnel 2 consisting of enhanced surveillance and monitoring and convening a "Best and Brightest" panel to consider initial options and prepare a detailed alternative analysis for selection of response actions.

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) responded on August 4, 2017, requesting a schedule for three activities related to PUREX Storage Tunnel 2 by August 18, 2017, (17-NWP-098):

1. Convening the panel of experts who will assess the corrective actions for Tunnel 2.
2. Completing the initial analysis of options and identification of data needs.
3. Completing the detailed alternative analysis for Tunnel 2 and selecting an option to stabilize Tunnel 2 to make continued storage of waste in the tunnels safe.

RL and DOE Headquarters completed selection of the panel of experts on August 16, 2017. The panel of experts are listed below:

John Marra, Chair, Chief Engineer, DOE Office of Environmental Management
Thomas Fletcher, Deputy Manager, DOE RL
David Kosson, Vanderbilt University



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Craig Benson, University of Virginia
Kathy Higley, Oregon State University
Christine Lee, Vice President, ESHQ, CH2MHill-BWXT West Valley
Kurt Kehler, Vice President, Decommissioning & Waste Management, Canadian Nuclear Laboratories
Mark Hasty, Chief Engineer, CH Plateau Remediation Corporation (Observer)

Supporting Expert:

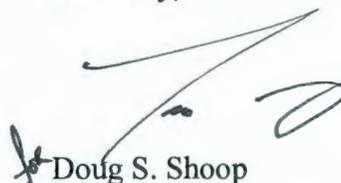
John Ballantyne, Chief Engineer, Nuclear Structures, CH2M-UK

The panel will begin meeting to analyze options and identify needs for PUREX Storage Tunnel 2 on August 25, 2017. After this initial meeting, additional dates requested will be established and provided to Ecology.

RL will continue to develop and complete Corrective Action 3 in accordance with the schedule established in the Administrative Order. RL is fully committed to addressing risk to workers, the public, and the environment, and will continue to work closely with Ecology as it completes the actions required to satisfy the Administrative Order.

If you have any questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact Joe Franco, Assistant Manager for the River and Plateau, on (509) 373-9971.

Sincerely,



Doug S. Shoop
Manager

AMRP:DBC

cc: L. T. Blackford, CHPRC
D. A. Faulk, EPA
R. M. Geimer, CHPRC
M. N. Jaraysi, CHPRC
K. Niles, ODOE
S. N. Schleif, Ecology

Administrative Record (PUREX Storage Tunnels, S-2-1)
Environmental Portal