

1250516

[0064376H]



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

19-AMRP-0022

NOV 07 2018

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

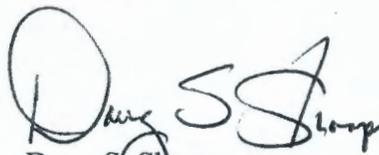
Dear Ms. Smith:

15-DAY REPORT FOR THE OCTOBER 26, 2018, OBSERVANCE OF VAPOR EMISSION FROM PUREX STORAGE TUNNEL #2

This letter transmits the 15-day report required under Washington Administrative Code 173-303-360(2)(k), summarizing the observance of water vapor emissions from PUREX Storage Tunnel #2. The report is required as a result of activating the PUREX Storage Tunnels Contingency Plan. Even though there was no chemical/radioactive release during the incident, the PUREX Storage Tunnels Contingency Plan was implemented as a precaution early in the event, before the incident could be fully evaluated. The report provides information regarding the incident and the certification page.

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

Sincerely,


Doug S. Shoop
Manager

AMRP:DBC

Attachment

cc: See page 2



Ms. Alexandra K. Smith
19-AMRP-0022

-2-

NOV 07 2018

cc w/attach:

D. B. Bartus, EPA

J. Bell, NPT

R. Buck, Wanapum

K. A. Conaway, Ecology

D. R. Corriell, CHPRC

L. J. Cusack, CHPRC

D. R. Einan, EPA

S. Hudson, HAB

M. N. Jaraysi, CHPRC

M. Johnson, CTUIR

K. Niles, ODOE

J. B. Price, Ecology

D. Rowland, YN

S. Schleif, Ecology

C. J. Simiele, CHPRC

E. R. Skinnarland, Ecology

Administrative Record, TSD: S-2-1

Ecology NWP Library

Environmental Portal

HF Operating Record (J. K. Perry, MSA)

**15-DAY REPORT TO STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
(ECOLOGY) CONCERNING OBSERVANCE OF VAPOR EMISSION FROM PUREX
STORAGE TUNNEL #2**

The following 15-day report is prepared in compliance with Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 173-303-360(2)(k).

(i) Name, address, and telephone number of the owner or operator:

U.S. Department of Energy
P.O. Box 550
Richland, Washington 99352
Telephone: (509) 376-7395

(ii) Name, address, and telephone number of the facility:

Hanford Facility, PUREX Storage Tunnels
P.O. Box 550
Richland, Washington 99352
Telephone: (509) 376-7395

(iii) Date, time, and type of incident (e.g., fire, explosion):

On the morning of October 26, 2018, at approximately 5:55 a.m., vapor was observed emitting from a structure on the north end of PUREX Storage Tunnel #2 located in the 200 East Area of the Hanford Site.

(iv) Name and quantity of material(s) involved:

There was no known release of mixed waste during the incident. The contingency plan was implemented as a precaution early in the event before the incident could be fully evaluated.

(v) The extent of injuries, if any:

No injuries occurred as a result of this incident.

(vi) An assessment of actual or potential hazards to human health or the environment, where this is applicable:

Hanford emergency procedures were implemented and a take cover order was issued. There was no evidence of mixed waste release found and no evidence of actual or potential hazardous to human health or the environment.

(vii) Estimated quantity and disposition of recovered material that resulted from the incident:

There was no evidence of mixed waste release and therefore no material recovered.

(viii) Cause of the incident:

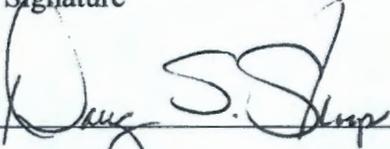
Lights and cameras placed inside the tunnel to support stabilization efforts showed vapor in the tunnel, resulting from the curing of the engineered grout recently placed in the tunnel to stabilize it. The curing process generates heat and releases moisture. When the warm moist air left the tunnel and interacted with the cool early morning atmosphere, vapor was visible. The vapor left the tunnel from an opening in the structure that houses equipment to open a large door used to access the tunnel for placement of railcars containing contaminated equipment inside the tunnel. The opening in the structure had been previously sealed and apparently the integrity of the sealing had degraded over time. The structure is original to the tunnel, which was completed in 1964. Cars were last placed in the tunnel in 1996.

(ix) Description of the corrective action taken to prevent reoccurrence of the incident:

Corrective actions included verifying the leak pathways from the water door housing and sealing the confirmed and potential leak pathways from the structure. The retired ventilation system on the south side of PUREX Storage Tunnel #2 was also evaluated for potential leak pathways and those areas that exhibited potential to provide leak pathways were sealed. Once all potential leak pathways were identified and sealed, stabilization activities continued on October 31, 2018.

**CERTIFICATION OF 15- DAY REPORT FOR THE OCTOBER 26, 2018,
OBSERVANCE OF VAPOR EMISSION FROM PUREX STORAGE TUNNEL #2**

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Operator	Signature	Date Signed
Doug S. Shoop, Manager U.S. Department of Energy Richland Operations Office		11/7/18
Co-Operator L. Ty Blackford President and Chief Executive Officer CH2M HILL Plateau Remediation Company		11/5/18