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STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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May 11, 1999

Mr. George H. Sanders
U. S. Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office
P.O. Box 550 MSIN: A5-15
Richland, Washington 99352



Re: Completion of Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order
Tri- Party Agreement Milestone M-26-011 (99-EAP-263)

This correspondence is in response to your letter, dated April 15, 1999, directed to Michael A. Wilson, regarding the referenced subject. April 20, 1999, the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) received the U.S. Department of Energy's (USDOE) document entitled, "1999 Report on Hanford Site Land Disposal Restrictions (LDR) for Mixed Waste." This report covers the period from April 1, 1998, through March 31, 1999. In accordance with the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) Milestone M-26-011, this report is to be submitted as a primary document.

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I reviewed the 1999 LDR Report and found it to be incomplete. The TPA, Chapter 9, requires the lead regulatory agency to respond to primary document submittals within forty-five (45) days. This letter partially satisfies Ecology's response to submittal of the 1999 LDR Report.

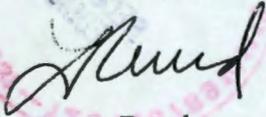
As you know, Ecology has recently conducted an LDR compliance inspection in support of USDOE's 1998 LDR Report. The associated compliance action will be issued by June 4, 1999, and will detail corrective actions to be implemented. The technical evaluation included within this compliance action will provide adequate specificity so that USDOE can make necessary changes to the 1999 LDR report, as deficiencies in the 1998 Report mirror deficiencies in the 1999 report. However, it may be prudent to forgo reissuing the 1999 LDR Report, and focus on resolving the deficiencies in future reports. We will continue this discussion during resolution of the compliance action.

Mr. George H. Sanders
May 11, 1999
Page 2

The upcoming compliance response, in conjunction with this letter, will fully satisfy Ecology's initial response requirements for reviewing and commenting on primary documents per TPA Chapter 9.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (509) 736-5715.

Sincerely,



Laura Ruud
Permitting Specialist
Nuclear Waste Program

LR:ld

cc: Dave Bartus, EPA
Doug Sherwood, EPA
James Rasmussen, USDOE
Dale Black, WMH
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