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

12-AMCP-0075

**FEB 16 2012**

Ms. J. A. Hedges, Program Manager  
Nuclear Waste Program  
State of Washington  
Department of Ecology  
3100 Port of Benton  
Richland, Washington 99354

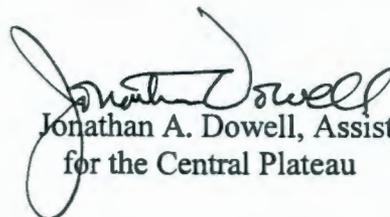
Dear Ms. Hedges:

**INITIATION OF DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESS FOR HANFORD FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT AND CONSENT ORDER (TRI-PARTY-AGREEMENT) CHANGE CONTROL FORM M-37-11-02 FOR INTERIM MILESTONE M-037-03**

On January 30, 2012, the U.S Department of Energy Richland Operations Office (RL) provided the State of Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) a Class II Tri-Party Agreement Change Control Form M-37-11-02, signed by RL. The change control form proposed a 30 month extension of the M-037-03 Interim Milestone due date, from April 30, 2012, to October 30, 2014. An Ecology letter (12-NWP-017) received by RL on February 14, 2012, disapproved the change control form. Since the Ecology disapproval letter was not received by RL prior to the end of 14 days after submittal, the date of disapproval based on Tri-Party Agreement Action Plan Section 12.3.3 will be considered to be February 13, 2012. This letter is to notify Ecology that RL objects to the Ecology disapproval and is invoking the dispute resolution process pursuant to Tri-Party Agreement Article VIII, Paragraph 30.

RL will make a good faith effort to informally resolve this dispute with Ecology at the Project Manager level. If you have any questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact Briant Charboneau, of my staff, on (509) 373-6137.

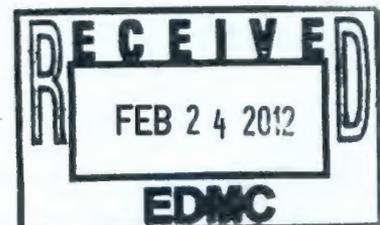
Sincerely,



Jonathan A. Dowell, Assistant Manager  
for the Central Plateau

AMCP:GLS

cc: See Page 2



Ms. J. A. Hedges  
12-AMCP-0075

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FEB 16 2012

cc: G. Bohnee, NPT  
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L. C. Buelow, EPA  
P. A. Burke, CHPRC  
R.L. Cathel, CHPRC  
L. M. Dittmer, CHPRC  
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R. E. Piippo, MSA  
J. B. Price, Ecology  
D. Rowland, YN  
**Administrative Record (M-37)**  
Environmental Portal