



U.S. Department of Energy  
**Office of River Protection**

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0078744

08-TF-062

SEP 12 2008

Ms. Jane A. Hedges, Program Manager  
Nuclear Waste Program  
Washington State  
Department of Ecology  
3100 Port of Benton Blvd.  
Richland, Washington 99352

**RECEIVED**  
SEP 12 2008  
EDMC

Dear Ms. Hedges:

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY (ECOLOGY) COMMENTS ON  
SINGLE-SHELL TANK (SST) RETRIEVAL SELECTION AND SEQUENCE DOCUMENT -  
RPP-21216, REVISION 3A

- References:
1. Ecology letter from J. J. Lyon to S. J. Olinger, ORP, "Single-Shell Tank (SST) Retrieval Selection and Sequence Document, RPP-21216, Revision 3, Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (HFFACO) Milestone M-45-02N," dated May 15, 2008.
  2. Ecology email from J. J. Lyon to R. A. Quintero, ORP, "M-45-02N Comments, Electronically Sent," dated May 21, 2008
  3. ORP letter from S. J. Olinger to J. A. Hedges, Ecology, "Resolution of Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) Comments on Single-Shell Tank (SST) Retrieval Selection and Sequence Document - RPP-21216," 08-TF-049 Reissue, dated July 23, 2008.
  4. Ecology letter from J. J. Lyon to S. J. Olinger, "Response to Resolution of Department of Ecology Comments on Single-Shell Tank (SST) Retrieval Selection and Sequence Document, RPP-21216, Revision 3," dated August 1, 2008.

As committed in Reference 3, enclosed is the revised Single-Shell Tank Retrieval Selection and Sequence Document, RPP-21216, Revision 3A, with the incorporation of Ecology comments (References 1 and 2). This update reflects a year-long effort by the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection (ORP), Ecology, and the Tank Farm Contractor to establish modeling assumptions, review modeling results, discuss interpretations, and issue the document.

After discussions with Ecology, a number of notable changes have been made to RPP-21216, including:

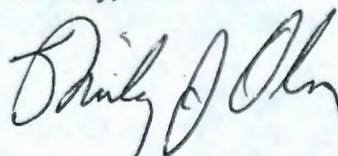
- Expanded discussion of potential double-shell tank (DST) Space Options (Section 5.2);
- Expanded discussion of sensitivity of the Ecology Case to Melter Capacities (Section 6.5);
- New analysis for sensitivity of the Ecology Case to DST Capacity (Section 6.6);
- New analysis for sensitivity of the Ecology Case to Simultaneous Retrieval and Retrieval Technology Performance Assumptions (Section 6.9); and
- New analysis for sensitivity of the ORP Case to Retrieval Technology Performance Assumptions (Section 6.10).

The report continues to conclude there is sufficient existing DST space to support retrieval of the C, A, and AX SSTs prior to the Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant Project startup and for completion of the River Protection Project (RPP) mission. Also as stated in the report, there are no plans in the RPP baseline to construct additional DSTs.

On August 1, 2008, Ecology notified ORP of the intent to prepare a white paper with an analysis of the DST volume projections and the ability to meet certain mission objectives (Reference 4). ORP looks forward to reviewing and discussing Ecology's white paper of DST volume projections as stated in Reference 4.

If you have questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact Stacy L. Charboneau, Assistant Manager for Tank Farms Project, (509) 373-9112.

Sincerely,



Shirley J. Olinger, Manager  
Office of River Protection

TF:RLF

Enclosure

cc w/o encl:

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