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

17-ESQ-0030

FEB 01 2017

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

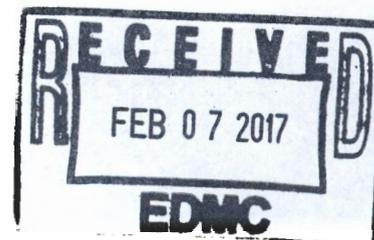
Dear Ms. Smith:

RESPONSE TO CLOSURE NOTICE OF CONTAINER STORAGE AREAS LOCATED IN THE 400 AREA MANAGEMENT UNIT

1241667

This letter is in response to the December 1, 2016, (16-NWP-207) letter regarding the Department of Ecology's (Ecology) notification of a "failure to submit closure notice for the container storage areas located in the 400 Area Waste Management Units (400 Area WMU): the Interim Storage Facility [sic] (ISA) and Fuel Storage Facility (FSF)." The U.S. Department of Energy Richland Operations (RL) officially received this letter on December 6, 2016. The 400 Area WMU is operated and maintained in accordance with the final status permit conditions identified in the Hanford Facility Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit, Part III Unit-Specific Conditions for Final Status Operations, Operating Unit Group 16 for long-term storage of sodium (NA) and sodium-potassium (NaK) at the ISA and FSF. The 400 Area WMU Permit was publically reviewed, comments addressed, and subsequently approved by Ecology in November 2007. The 400 Area WMU Fact Sheet and other documents make it clear that the 400 Area WMU will provide long-term waste storage.

RL is requesting an extension of one (1) year, to January 27, 2018, to evaluate closure of the 400 Area WMU, and to determine the appropriate closure process for this treatment, storage, and disposal unit. As long as the 400 Area WMU remains open and has the capacity to receive additional NA and/or NaK dangerous wastes, RL and its contractor, CH2M HILL Plateau Remediation Corporation will maintain compliance with the permit and Dangerous Waste Regulations (Chapter 173-303 Washington Administrative Code) to prevent threats to human health and the environment.



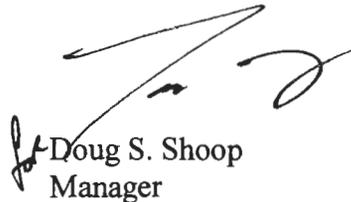
Ms. Alexandra K. Smith
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If you have any questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact Jeffrey A. Frey, Assistant Manager for Safety and Environment, on (509) 376-7727.

Sincerely,



Doug S. Shoop
Manager

ESQ:DBC

cc: Dave B. Bartus, EPA
Gabriel Bohnee, Nez Perce
Jack L. Boller, EPA
Jerry W. Cammann, MSA
Kathy Conaway, Ecology
Darin Corriell, CHPRC
Laura J. Cusack, CHPRC
Dennis A Faulk, EPA
Moses N. Jaraysi, CHPRC
Russell Jim, YN
John B. Price, Ecology
Kevin Schanilec, EPA
Connie J. Simiele, CHPRC
Deborah G. Singleton, CHPRC
Rod Skeen, CTUIR
Ron R. Skinnerland, Ecology
Joel F. Williams Jr, CHPRC
Administrative Record, TSD: S-4-2 (Hardcopy)
Ecology NWP Library (Hardcopy)
Environmental Portal, G3-35
HF Operating Record (J. K. Perry, MSA A3-01)