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STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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October 28, 1996

Mr. K. Michael Thompson
U.S. Department of Energy
P.O. Box 550, MSIN: H4-83
Richland, Washington 99352

Dear Mr. Thompson:

Re: Hanford Sitewide Groundwater Remediation Strategy - Groundwater Contaminant Predictions (BHI-00469, Rev. 0)

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The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has completed its review of the *Hanford Sitewide Groundwater Remediation Strategy-Groundwater Contaminant Predictions* report. As per our discussion and presentations of the October 1, 1996, meeting, Ecology does not endorse the above study. The results of this study should not be used in any form until Ecology and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) come to a common understanding of the U.S. Department of Energy's (USDOE) modeling efforts.

Ecology recommends a data quality objective (DQO) process be initiated with members from Ecology, EPA, and USDOE. It is also necessary to coordinate all modeling efforts among programs. We expect this direction will lead towards a common understanding and resolution of issues related to vadose and groundwater problems at the Hanford site. Both, EPA and Ecology agree the proposed DQO process should start as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (509) 736-3015.

Sincerely,

Dib Goswami, Ph.D.
Nuclear Waste Program

DG:sb

cc: Paul Beaver, EPA
Dennis Faulk, EPA
Doug Sherwood, EPA
Doug Hildebrand, USDOE
Donna Wanek, USDOE
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