

# START



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## Department of Energy

Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550  
Richland, Washington 99352

APR 30 1992

92-TPA-050

Mr. Paul T. Day  
Hanford Project Manager  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 10  
712 Swift Boulevard, Suite 5  
Richland, Washington 99352

Mr. David B. Jansen, P.E.  
Hanford Project Manager  
State of Washington  
Department of Ecology  
P. O. Office Box 47600  
Olympia, Washington 98504-7600

Dear Messrs. Day and Jansen:

SUBMITTAL OF HANFORD SITE GROUNDWATER BACKGROUND REPORT, M-28-04

The Hanford Site Groundwater Background report is hereby submitted by the U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Field Office (RL) to the State of Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Submittal of this report fulfills the April 30, 1992, Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order Milestone (Tri-Party Agreement) M-28-04.

As discussed during a meeting held on April 21, 1992, with representatives from Westinghouse Hanford Company, RL, Ecology, and EPA, this report provides geohydrologic descriptions, data source descriptions, laboratory experiment results, and statistical evaluations of existing groundwater background data. Also included in this report are conclusions and recommendations on what additional data will be needed to verify groundwater background threshold values. These needs are summarized as follows:

- Groundwater data representative of deeper parts of the unconfined aquifer
- Data representing the most evolved groundwater in the upper unconfined aquifer
- Groundwater data specifically designed to characterize the range of compositions resulting from open- and closed-system behavior within the aquifer
- Groundwater data for the purpose of reducing uncertainty in upper bound estimates to acceptable levels.



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Messrs. Day and Jansen  
92-TPA-050

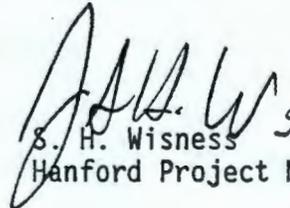
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It is anticipated that acquisition of the identified data and establishment of the groundwater background threshold values will take approximately two years to complete (i.e., by the end of fiscal year 1994), contingent upon resource availability. This schedule will not cause any delay in remediation decisions as currently identified in the Tri-Party Agreement. Based upon the results of your review of this report, more specific planning will take place to ensure that this time frame can be supported. It is requested that a joint meeting be scheduled during the week of July 6, 1992, to address the work scope, schedule, and potential milestones for this activity. This meeting would also be an opportune time to discuss your comments on the current Hanford Site Groundwater Background report.

Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. K. M. Thompson of RL on (509) 376-6421.

Sincerely,

  
S. H. Wisness  
Hanford Project Manager

EAP:KMT

Enclosure:  
The Hanford Site  
Groundwater Background Report.

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Subject: SUBMITTAL OF HANFORD SITE GROUNDWATER BACKGROUND REPORT, M-28-04

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