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

05-AMRC-0376

AUG 5 2005

Mr. Nicholas Ceto, Program Manager
Office of Environmental Cleanup
Hanford Project Office
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
309 Bradley Blvd, Suite 115
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AUG 20 2005

EDMC

Mr. Michael A. Wilson, Program Manager
Nuclear Waste Program
State of Washington
Department of Ecology
3100 Port of Benton Boulevard
Richland, Washington 99354

Addressees:

NOTICE FOR POTENTIAL DELAY IN HANFORD FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT AND CONSENT ORDER (TRI-PARTY AGREEMENT {TPA}) INTERIM MILESTONE M-016-70 DUE OCTOBER 30, 2005

Completion of TPA Interim Milestone M-016-70, "Begin Sampling the 100 and 300 Area Component of the RCBRA," due October 30, 2005, is predicated on regulatory approval of the Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP) by September 20, 2005. The U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (RL) remains committed to meeting this milestone. Due to the tight schedule between the scheduled receipt (August 15) and resolution of a potentially large set of comments from both regulators and Hanford Natural Resource Trustee Council (HRTC) members, RL is concerned that the milestone may be in jeopardy. RL has informed you of our concern during the TPA quarterly meeting on June 28. To meet the milestone, a tight, cooperative working relationship with the Tri-Parties will need to continue to help the review process, expedite document and comment transmittals, and resolve issues. RL would like to discuss further the schedule and concerns for meeting the milestone and ask how we can currently support your review.

A workshop is planned on August 9 and 10, to discuss the details of the SAP. The workshop is designed to support HRTC member's review, but should prove useful for your review as well.

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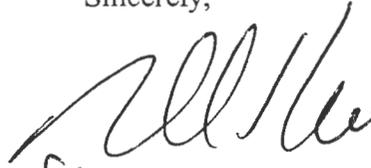
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Should it become apparent that more time beyond September 20 is required to obtain regulatory approval of the SAP, RL intends to submit a milestone change package for your approval.

If you have any questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact Leif Erickson, Assistant Manager for the River Corridor, at (509) 376-7272, or Briant Charboneau, Acting Director, Office of Environmental Services, at (509) 376-0104.

Sincerely,



Keith A. Klein
Manager

AMRC:JPS

cc: D. Bartus, EPA
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Administrative Record (H6-08)