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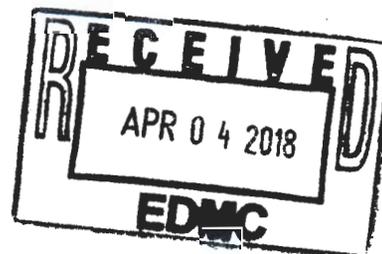
STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

P.O. Box 47600 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7600
(360) 407-6000 • TDD Only (Hearing Impaired) (360) 407-6006

April 2, 1998

Peter M. Knollmeyer
Assistant Manager for Facility Transition
U. S. Department of Energy, MS: A5-11
P. O. Box 550
Richland WA 99352

George Sanders
Tri Party Agreement Administrator
U. S. Department of Energy, MS: A5-15
P. O. Box 550
Richland WA 99352



Dear Messrs. Knollmeyer and Sanders.

RE: Suspension of Plutonium Finishing Plant transition negotiation completion commitment.

On December 11, 1997, the Washington Department of Ecology and U. S. Environmental Protection Agency forwarded the U. S. Department of Energy a joint letter: a) suspending transition negotiations, and b) documenting a number of issues which must be satisfactorily resolved prior to negotiation reinitiation. As you know, this suspension followed the parties' May 1, 1997 "Resolution of Dispute for Milestone M-83-00, Transition Commitments for the Plutonium Finishing Plant" and its attached tentative agreement #M-83-97-02. Included within this tentative agreement was proposed interim milestone M-83-03 "Complete Plutonium Finishing Plant transition phase negotiations: 3/31/98".

Please note that our December 11, 1997 letter suspended all transition negotiation activities, including this March 31, 1998 completion of negotiations commitment.

Sincerely,

Mike Wilson, Manager
Nuclear Waste Program
Washington Department of Ecology

Doug Sherwood, Hanford Project Manager
Environmental Protection Agency
Region 10



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Messrs. Knollmeyer and Sanders
April 2, 1998

- cc: Tanya Barnett, Office of the WA Attorney General
- Dave Bartus, EPA Region 10
- Mike Bussell, EPA Region 10
- Mary Lou Blazek, OOE
- Russell Jim, YIN
- Jim Mecca, DOE-RL
- Donna Powaukee, Nez Perce Tribe
- Merilyn Reeves, HAB
- Randy Smith, EPA Region 10
- J. R. Wilkenson, CTUIR
- Patrick Willison, DOE-RL

Post-It® Fax Note		7671	Date	4-3	# of pages	2
To	OWEN Kramer		From	JON YERXA		
Co./Dept.	FDH		Co.	DOE		
Phone #			Phone #	376-9628		
Fax #	376-2195		Fax #			