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STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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July 23, 2013

13-NWP-077

Mr. William Johns
12608 S. Scribner Road
Cheney, Washington 99004

Re: Submitted Comments on the Hanford Air Operating Permit

Dear Mr. Johns:

Thank you for taking the time to provide comments on the Hanford Air Operating Permit (AOP). You submitted two comments summarized below:

1. The old permit expired on 12/31/11 and the new one was issued on 4/1/13, so why is a permit needed?
2. I receive two mailed announcements for the same information and only need to receive one.

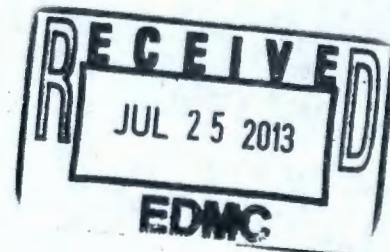
The permit is still needed as the underlying conditions for the permit are still present. When an AOP expires, a provision in the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) allows for all of the terms and conditions of the expired permit to remain in effect until a renewed permit is issued if a timely and complete application has been submitted (WAC 173-401-710 (3)). The U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE) submitted a complete and timely application to the Department of Ecology. USDOE continued to operate and abide by the conditions of the expired permit until the new permit was issued on 4/1/13.

We have also corrected our mailing lists and removed one of the duplicate entries for your address.

If you have any questions, please contact me at pgent@ecy.wa.gov or 509-372-7983.

Sincerely,

Philip M. Gent, PE
Nuclear Waste Program



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Mr. William Johns
July 23, 2013

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cc:

Nancy Helm, EPA Region 10
Robert Anderson, MSA
Tom Beam, MSA
Administrative Record: AIR Permits
Environmental Portal
Correspondence Control, USDOE-ORP

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