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

OCT 23 2007

08-AMCP-0025

Ms. J. A. Hedges, Program Manager
Nuclear Waste Program
State of Washington
Department of Ecology
3100 Port of Benton Boulevard
Richland, Washington 99354

RECEIVED
OCT 29 2007
EDMC

Dear Ms. Hedges:

INITIATION OF DISPUTE RESOLUTION FOR HANFORD FEDERAL FACILITY
AGREEMENT AND CONSENT ORDER (TRI-PARTY AGREEMENT) CHANGE CONTROL
FORM M-91-07-02 CONCERNING MIXED LOW-LEVEL WASTE TREATMENT

The purpose of this letter is to respond to the October 16, 2007, Change Control Form M-91-07-02 disapproval and to invoke dispute resolution with the State of Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) pursuant to Article VIII, Paragraph 30 of the Tri-Party Agreement. The U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (RL) objects to Ecology's disapproval because the operational difficulties experienced at treatment and disposal facilities resulted in delays, as described in Change Control Form M-91-07-02, that RL believes are adequate basis for an extension.

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Recovery actions taken to meet the milestone due date are proceeding well. As of October 18, 2007, all the waste required to meet the treatment milestone (6,520 cubic meters treated by December 31, 2007) had been shipped to commercial treatment facilities. In view of the current progress, RL believes it may not be necessary to elevate the dispute beyond the project manager level if that level of informal dispute can be extended.

RL requests that the dispute at the informal project manager level be extended to January 15, 2008. This will allow time to continue monitoring progress without the need of elevating the dispute to the Interagency Management Integration Team. During this time, regular progress updates will continue to be made to Ecology. If the current progress continues, RL anticipates it will be possible to meet the December 31, 2007, due date. If the milestone is met during this period, RL could withdraw the dispute or allow it to expire.

Please respond with your concurrence on the proposed project manager level extension or alternative proposal by November 7, 2007.

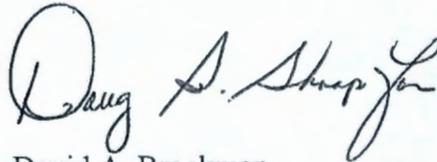
Ms. J. A. Hedges
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OCT 23 2007

If you have any questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact Matt McCormick, Assistant Manager for the Central Plateau, on (509) 373-9971.

Sincerely,



David A. Brockman
Manager

AMCP:GLS

cc: G. Bohnee, NPT
L. Buck, Wanapum
N. Ceto, EPA
R. R. Connolly, EFSH
R. H. Engelmann, EFSH
S. Harris, CTUIR
R. Jim, YN
S. M. Joyce, FHI
S. L. Leckband, HAB
M. L. Mandis, Ecology
K. Niles, ODOE
R. E. Piippo, FHI
K. M. Quigley, EFSH
D. G. Singleton, Ecology
R. Skinnarland, Ecology
J. G. Vance, FFS
Administrative Record
Environmental Portal