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

SEP 27 1996

96-EAP-387

Mr. David S. Dougherty, P.E.
Nuclear Waste Program
State of Washington
Department of Ecology
1315 West Fourth Avenue
Kennewick, Washington 99336-6018

Dear Mr. Dougherty:

NONCOMPLIANCE REPORT FOR THE 200 AREA EFFLUENT TREATMENT FACILITY; EXCEEDING A SULFATE LIMIT AT A GROUNDWATER MONITORING WELL (PERMIT NUMBER ST 4500)

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Pursuant to Section G.19 (C) of State Waste Discharge Permit ST 4500, the U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (RL) is submitting the enclosed noncompliance report for the 200 Area Effluent Treatment Facility (ETF). The sulfate enforcement limit in groundwater at the 200 Area ETF State Approved Land Disposal Site (SALDS) was exceeded. The sulfate concentration at groundwater monitoring well 699-48-77A was calculated at 30,000 ppb (reported as an average of the quarterly measurements) and reported to your office on August 30, 1996. As required by Section G.19 (C) of permit number ST 4500, the following 30-day noncompliance report is due to your office by September 30, 1996.

Based on the conclusions of the geochemical analysis performed to determine the cause of the elevated sulfate levels, a recommendation is made in the report to change the compliance monitoring location for sulfate and total dissolved solids from the groundwater monitoring wells to the facility verification tanks. This will result in obtaining a more accurate representation of the quality of the effluent discharged from the ETF. Sulfate and total dissolved solids would still be monitored for information at the groundwater monitoring wells, and the results reported on the quarterly Discharge Monitoring Report forms.



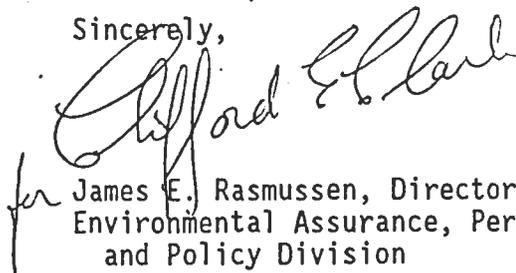
Mr. David S. Dougherty
96-EAP-376

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Should you have any questions or comments, please contact Randall Krekel, of my staff, at 376-4264 or Roger Quintero, of RL, at 373-0421.

Sincerely,


for James E. Rasmussen, Director
Environmental Assurance, Permits,
and Policy Division

EAP:RNK

Enclosure

cc w/encl:

R. Jim, YIN
D. Powaukee, NPT
J. Wilkinson, CTUIR
D. Sherwood, EPA
S. Skurla, Ecology

cc w/o encl:

A. DiLiberto, WHC
W. Dixon, WHC
N. Sullivan, WHC