



0056102

RECEIVED
JAN 10 2002

AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE

EDMC

Tentative Agreement on the Central Plateau Remedial Actions
Tri-Party Negotiations

The U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) have agreed to enter into negotiations regarding the Hanford Site Central Plateau in accordance with the Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (Tri-Party Agreement). The parties agreed to negotiate compliance schedules consistent with the common objective to achieve timely remediation of waste sites in the Hanford Site Central Plateau. The parties further agreed to confer with the affected Tribal Nations, State of Oregon, stakeholder groups, and the public to obtain and respond to their values and concerns. All three parties agreed to complete negotiations resulting in a tentative agreement by January 31, 2002. All three parties agreed to complete public review and sign off any agreed to Tri-Party Agreement changes by June 5, 2002.

The Tri-Party Agreement contains commitments for the USDOE to: (1) by December 31, 2005, submit 200 Area non-Tank Farm operable unit work plans to complete the investigation of past-practice units (Tri-Party Agreement Milestones M-13-00M through -00P); (2) by December 31, 2008, complete all 200 Area non-Tank Farm pre-ROD site investigations under approved work plan schedules (Tri-Party Agreement Milestone M-15-00C); (3) by December 31, 2018, complete the remedial actions for all non-Tank Farm operable units (Tri-Party Agreement Milestone M-16-00); and (4) by February 28, 2004, submit Part B Permit Applications or Closure/Postclosure Plans for all RCRA TSD units (Tri-Party Agreement Milestone M-20-00). The focus of these negotiations is to 1) define the specific non-Tank Farm operable units for which work plans are to be prepared and the sequence and schedule for workplan completion, 2) develop a strategy for remedial action implementation that allows for direct linkage with Tri-Party Agreement Tank Farm corrective and/or closure actions and other Central Plateau waste management units and facility schedules, and 3) reconcile the alignment of the completion of non-Tank Farm RCRA TSD Closure/Postclosure plans in coordination with operable unit RI/FS activities.

The parties have developed this AIP in order to establish the basis for implementing these discussions and, if negotiations are successful, the follow-on preparation of Tri-Party Agreement change packages.

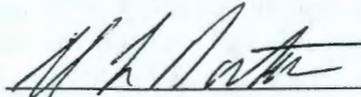
Based on information discussed, the parties have agreed to the following:

- A. Enter into negotiations to determine the scope and to define the schedule for completion of all non-Tank Farm Central Plateau remedial actions including:

- Issuance of RI/FS workplans
 - Submittal of draft Feasibility Studies and Proposed Plans
 - Remediation of waste sites.
- B. Enter into negotiations to agree to a strategy for waste site remediation and non-Tank Farm RCRA corrective action and closure in the Central Plateau.
- C. Consistent with the above strategy, enter into negotiations to determine the schedule for submittal of RCRA TSD Closure/Postclosure plans in coordination with RI/FS submittals for the appropriate operable unit.
- D. Final groundwater remedial action decisions are excluded from these negotiations. Future groundwater decisions shall be required upon completion of source remedial actions and an appropriate period to assess the performance of these actions.
- E. EPA and Ecology share regulatory authority for activities addressed under this AIP.
- F. The negotiated draft milestone change packages, when completed, shall be available to the public for comment in accordance with the Tri-Party Agreement and Community Relations Plan.
- G. M-13-00L is due on December 31, 2001. On September 17, 2001, USDOE submitted a change request to delay this milestone. Ecology and EPA denied that request on September 30, 2001. USDOE chose not to dispute this denial. Further dispute processes for the M-13-00L milestone are not available.



Keith A. Klein, Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office



Harry L. Boston, Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
Office of River Protection



Tom C. Fitzsimmons, Director
State of Washington
Department of Ecology



L. John Iani, Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region X