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Mr. Paul T. Day
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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 10
712 Swift Boulevard, Suite 5
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Mr. Timothy L. Nord
Hanford Project Manager
State of Washington
Department of Ecology
Olympia, Washington 98504-8711



Dear Messrs. Day and Nord:

SINGLE-SHELL TANKS SYSTEMS ENGINEERING STUDY

In September 1991 the draft report, Systems Engineering Study for the Closure of Single-Shell Tanks (WHC-EP-0405), was approved for public release and copies were distributed to the U.S. Department of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State of Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology). The U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Field Office (RL), requests that EPA and Ecology provide the comments resulting from their formal review of this document by December 20, 1991.

The systems engineering approach provides a technical basis and assessment of the alternatives for single-shell tank (SST) operable unit closures and SST waste disposal in support to the SST Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) closure processes. During the past two months, Westinghouse Hanford Company (WHC) has held workshops with representatives of your respective staffs to present details of the report. This report was the subject of the eleventh and twelfth SST National Academy of Science Panel technical review meetings held September 25-26, 1991, and October 31 - November 1, 1991, respectively, in Washington, DC. Because of the significance of this study, RL feels that it is important to get comments from EPA and Ecology.

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