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DEC 9 1999

Mr. Douglas R. Sherwood
Hanford Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
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Mr. Michael A. Wilson, Program Manager
Nuclear Waste Program
State of Washington
Department of Ecology
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, Washington 98504-7600



Dear Messrs. Sherwood and Wilson:

**100-B/C AREA REMEDIAL ACTION HANFORD FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT
AND CONSENT ORDER (TRI-PARTY AGREEMENT) MILESTONE**

This letter is to notify you the Tri-Party Agreement milestone for completing backfill at 100-B/C may not be met as scheduled. The milestone, M-16-08B, "Complete Remediation and Backfill of 19 Liquid Waste Sites in the 100-BC-1 and 100-BC-2 Operable Units," as defined in the "Remedial Design Report/Remedial Action Work Plan (DOE/RL-96-17, Rev. 1)" for the 100 Area, is currently scheduled for March 31, 2000. All of the sites have been excavated. The six Group 1 sites are already backfilled. The 12 Group 3 sites are scheduled to be backfilled beginning in January of 2000.

Closeout verification sampling for two of the sites, 116-B-6A and 116-B-16 (adjacent sites), has indicated a potential contamination plume on one side slope. We have proposed to resample the area in question because additional field screening has failed to conclusively confirm the presence of the contamination. Depending on the analytical results, the site closeout process will continue or additional soil will be removed. The milestone is achievable if no further excavation is required. However, if additional excavation is necessary, the completion of backfill for these two sites may extend beyond March 31. Results of sampling are expected to be available by mid-January 2000.

In any case, RL plans to proceed with backfilling all available sites as scheduled. If additional excavation is required for 116-B-6A and 116-B-16 prior to backfilling, an alternative milestone proposal will be prepared prior to the March 31, 2000 deadline.

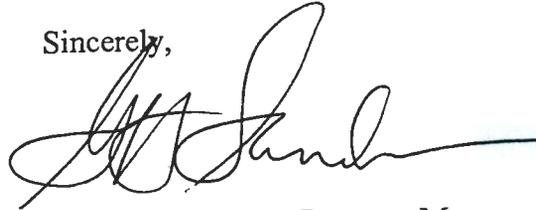
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Messrs. Sherwood and Wilson

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If you have any questions or comments on this proposed course of action, please contact Glenn I. Goldberg, Environmental Restoration Division, at (509) 376-9552.

Sincerely,



George H. Sanders, Program Manager
Office of Regulatory Liaison

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