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DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

April 20, 1993



TO: Toby Michelena
Nuclear and Mixed Waste Management Program

FROM: Elizabeth Anne Wiley *E. Wiley*
Nuclear and Mixed Waste Management Program

SUBJECT: Summary of The 216-3-B Pond System

The 216-B-3 Pond system is a series of ponds and lobes located in the 200 BP-11 Operable Unit. The main pond receives discharges from the Purex plant and from other facilities in the 200 area. Most discharges at this time are from the ventilation systems in these buildings. There have been discharges from the vault and the chemical sewers into the main pond. There are three lobes attached to the main pond, these lobes are A, B, and C lobes. Lobe B has been stabilized and does not receive discharges at this time. Lobe C receives a minimal amount of discharges, but contains the highest amount of radioactive contamination. The highest count from lobe C has been around 750 picocuries. Most readings are between 200 and 300 picocuries.

At this point in the Permit Application process, we have resolved all but two NODs. These NODs are being incorporated into a schedule which will deal with interim stabilization of the main lobe and then interim and final capping, and the clean closure of lobes A, B, and C.

Sampling and analyses of soils and waters from the lobes occurred in September of 1992. No significant amounts of contamination were found to be present. There were two slightly elevated concentrations of metals, but these were below MTCA industrial standards.

Ecology has written a letter to DOE requesting that the three lobes at the site be clean closed. DOE has put together a timeline and schedule to clean close this area under RCRA/CERCLA integration. The main issues under resolution are the clean closure of the lobes and the interim and final capping of the pond.

DOE has started to conduct meetings with the CERCLA group in Kennewick. At the last Unit Managers Meeting, I had invited Jeannie Wallace. She will attend the final Unit Managers Meeting that I will attend for B-pond on May 4, 1993. If this project goes to the Kennewick Office, Jeannie will be the ideal replacement upon my resignation from Ecology. At this time Jeannie for RCRA, and Darci for CERCLA are in contact with the group handling B-Pond closure.

EAW:lj

cc: Dave Jansen
Dave Nylander