



## Department of Energy

Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550  
Richland, Washington 99352

0002704

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MAR 21 1989

Mr. Roger F. Stanley, Projects Manager  
State of Washington  
Department of Ecology  
Mail Stop PV-11  
Olympia, Washington 98504

Mr. Paul T. Day, Hanford Projects Manager  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 10  
P. O. Box 550, MISN A7-70  
Richland, Washington 99352

Dear Messrs. Stanley and Day:

### HANFORD RADIOACTIVE MIXED WASTE STORAGE

- References: (1) Letter, R. D. Izatt and R. E. Lerch to Roger Stanley and Janet O'Hara, "Hanford Solid Radioactive Mixed Waste Storage Strategy," dated February 12, 1988.
- (2) Letter, R. D. Izatt and R. E. Lerch to Roger Stanley and Janet O'Hara, "Hanford Solid Radioactive Mixed Waste Storage Strategy," dated January 26, 1988.

On January 14, 1988, representatives from the U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (DOE-RL) and Westinghouse Hanford Company (WHC) met with personnel from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 10, and the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology). Agreement was reached on a proposed strategy for storage of radioactive mixed wastes (RMW) on the Hanford Site (Reference 2). The WHC has subsequently submitted monthly reports on the progress of construction of the mixed waste storage facilities.

One year has passed since the agreements on the mixed waste strategy were made and much has been accomplished towards compliant RMW storage. The year's progress is reviewed below, along with plans for additional compliant storage facility construction. The DOE-RL plans to replace the monthly reports with semi-annual status reports.



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It was agreed during the January 14, 1988, meeting, and documented in Reference 1, that a phased approach would be adopted towards upgrading RMW storage at Hanford. The phased approach covered the construction of storage pads, storage buildings, and flammable storage units. As part of the phased approach, it was agreed that waste generated and placed on open retrievable storage unit pads before November 16, 1987, would not be moved to upgraded storage until sufficient space became available in new storage buildings. Wastes generated after November 16, 1987, would be given highest priority for movement to compliant storage as compliant storage space became available.

Construction of the 9,000-square-foot concrete storage pad, two flammable waste storage modules, and two 4,000-square-foot storage buildings has been completed. Currently, the concrete pad, flammable waste storage modules, and one building are storing some of the mixed waste generated after November 16, 1987. The storage building in use (2401-W) contains plutonium-contaminated polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) waste and mixed waste containing lead.

The second recently constructed building, 2402-W, is undergoing an operational readiness review prior to acceptance of waste. Completion of the readiness review and acceptance of waste at 2402-W is scheduled for May 1989.

If you should have any questions regarding this report, please contact Ms. M. J. Anthony of DOE-RL on (509) 376-8375 or Mr. R. J. Roberts of WHC (509) 373-1065.

Sincerely,

*E. A. Bracken*

E. A. Bracken, Acting Director  
Environmental Restoration Division  
Richland Operations Office

ERD:MJA

*R. E. Lerch*

R. E. Lerch, Manager  
Environmental Division  
Westinghouse Hanford Company

cc: ~~R. E. Lerch, WHC~~

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