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STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

1315 W. 4th Avenue • Kennewick, Washington 99336-6018 • (509) 735-7581

April 12, 1999

Mr. Marvin J. Furman  
U.S. Department of Energy  
P.O. Box 550, MSIN: H0-12  
Richland, WA 99352



Dear Mr. Furman:

Re: Site-Wide Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Well Installation for Milestone M-24-00

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has completed the Data Quality Objective (DQO) process to prioritize the installation of Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) groundwater monitoring wells for the Hanford Site for fiscal year (FY) 1999. Ecology's prioritization process to select eight (8) wells was based on a number of criteria. These included information on the extent of contaminant migration, urgency of installing wells, compliance with interim status regulations, and integration with other projects. Additional criteria were evaluated, such as the timing and schedule of various work plans, status of existing DQO processes, and the schedule for remaining DQO's for the Tank Waste Remediation System (TWRS). The locations and the number(s) of well(s) selected are as follows:

<u>Treatment, Storage, and Disposal (TSD) Unit</u>	<u>Number of Wells</u>
S-SX Tank Farm	3
B-BX-BY Tank Farm	2
T and TX-TY Tank Farm	1
B Pond	1
S-10 Pond & Ditch	1

All of the above wells are expected to meet RCRA requirements and to provide valuable information needed by other programs to understand the nature and extent of contaminants, build better defined vadose and groundwater conceptual models, hydrogeology, etc. Ecology is not expecting a drastic change in the normal sampling protocol for these wells. However, to meet the identified objectives and to ensure the effectiveness of the well drilling program, a detailed sampling analysis plan for each well must be developed as soon as possible.

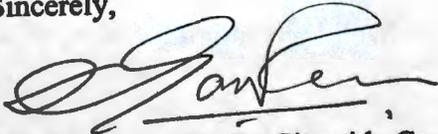
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In the future, Ecology would like additional groundwater monitoring system discussions on a sitewide basis to ensure that the remaining TSDs and other state permitted facilities have been adequately evaluated. Subsequent evaluations of monitoring wells should be carried out based on anticipated water level declines so that both parties can assess and plan on the future installation of monitoring wells.

At present, no money exists for FY2000 or FY2001. Ecology does not support this inadequate funding profile. It is critical that the U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE) pursue alternative sources to carry out the important task in the future.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Dib Goswami at (509) 736-3015.

Sincerely,



Dib Goswami, Ph.D., Sitewide Groundwater Coordinator  
Nuclear Waste Program

DG:sb

cc: Tom Post, EPA  
Doug Sherwood, EPA  
Rich Holten, USDOE  
Mike Tompson, USDOE  
Mary Lou Blazek, OOE  
Administrative Record