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Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office
P.O. Box 550
Richland, Washington 99352

DEC 28 2000

01-RCA-088

Michael A. Wilson, Program Manager
Nuclear Waste Program
State of Washington
Department of Ecology
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, Washington 98504

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EDMC

Dear Mr. Wilson:

NOTICE TO ECOLOGY ON THE STATUS OF HANFORD FEDERAL FACILITY
AGREEMENT AND CONSENT ORDER (TRI-PARTY AGREEMENT) MILESTONE
M-91-07

This letter is to inform you that the status of Tri-Party Agreement Milestone M-91-07, due on September 30, 2004, is in jeopardy. The milestone states "Complete Project W-113 for Post 1970 CH TRU/TRUM Retrieval."

Construction of the Project W-113 facility as originally envisioned will not occur. The retrieval of the Contact Handled (CH) Transuranic (TRU) /Transuranic Mixed (TRUM) will be performed without constructing a containment structure. The U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (RL) estimates that approximately 9,000 CH TRU/TRUM drums remain to be retrieved to complete this milestone. Based on a realignment of resources and budget constraints that affect retrieval operations, the completion of retrieving this amount of drums is not anticipated before Fiscal Year 2006.

RL has had recent discussions with the State of Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) concerning the Waste Management Strategic Plan, which highlights the real issues involved with waste management activities under the confines of the current budget profiles.

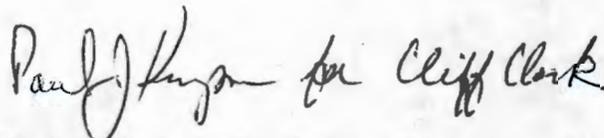
Mr. Michael A. Wilson
01-RCA-0088

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RL would like to continue working with Ecology on adjusting the date for this milestone consistent with the development of the Waste Management Strategic Plan. RL will submit a Recovery Plan within 60 days outlining a proposed path forward.

If you have any questions, please contact Ellen B. Dagan, Regulatory Compliance and Analysis Division, on (509) 376-3811.

Sincerely,



Clifford E. Clark, Acting Program Manager
Office of Regulatory Liaison

RCA:EBD

cc: J. H. Richardson, CTUIR
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