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STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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July 6, 1994

Steven H. Wisness, Acting Program Manager
Office of Environmental Assurance,
Permits, and Policy
U.S. Department of Energy
P.O. Box 550
Richland, Washington 99352



Dear Mr. Wisness:

Re: Additional Requirements for the Rotary Mode Core Sampling Permit (NOC-93-04)

I received your letter dated May 31, 1994, concerning the additional requirements addressed in the letter to Mr. Steve Stites from Mr. Bob King, dated March 15, 1994. In your letter, you commented on the two additional requirements which are "The applicant, U.S. Department of Energy, shall notify Ecology of tank vapor space sampling test results for each tank prior to rotary-mode core sampling. Before rotary-mode core sampling, applicant shall call Ms. Melodie Selby and me at least three working days in advance of the startup of each core-sampling activity."

As a courtesy, let me explain these additional requirements. These requirements are not additional conditions of the permit, but these requirements are based upon state regulations. The intent of Bob King's letter of March 15, 1994, is to emphasize some existing requirements of our state regulations. One of the conditions in this permit states, "... Nothing in this determination shall be construed to relieve Energy of its obligations under any local, state, or federal laws or regulations." Therefore, under a permit, an applicant needs to be in compliance with not only the conditions required by the permit, but also the requirements of related regulations. In general, an applicant shall notify Ecology of the startup date for each emission unit under a permit in order to satisfy the requirement of RCW 70.94.200 and WAC 173-400-105. Please understand that the permit (NOC-93-04) addresses each tank as a separate air emission unit. Therefore, we need to know the results for each tank space vapor sampling in order to determine whether the tank is permitted to conduct the rotary-mode core sampling. In addition, providing Ecology with written results is necessary because the Ecology inspector might not have enough time to review vapor space sampling results on-site.

Although notifications are called for in the regulations, Ecology may discontinue requiring them if additional notifications are deemed unnecessary. This could happen as Ecology builds up

Mr. Steven H. Wisness
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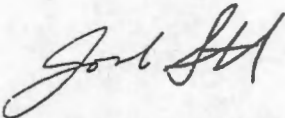
enough confidence in the results of vapor space sampling from first few tanks. On-site inspection during startup of rotary core sampling activities will provide assurance that the air emission control systems are installed and operated according to the permit, permit application, and applicable regulations. Therefore, Ecology's participation in the startup operations will build confidence in permit performance.

If you have additional concerns, please let me know. I would be happy to meet with you and your staff. If you or your staff have any questions regarding this issue, please call me at (206) 407-7107, or Bob King at (206) 407-7147.

I have also received your June 17, 1994, letter regarding the results of tanks 204-C-104, 105, and 106 vapor sampling. Bob is reviewing the results. He will phone Mr. Steve Stites if he have any comments. We appreciate your cooperation in this matter.

37346

Sincerely,



Joseph S. Stohr, Manager
Technical Assistance & Regulatory Coordination Section
Nuclear Waste Program

JSS:BK:db

cc: Steve Stites, Energy

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Subject: ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ROTARY MODE CORE SAMPLING PERMIT
(NOC-93-04)

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