



Tri-Party Agreement

0058546

DEC 18 2002

03-PTD-0020

Mr. Patrick Sobotta  
Environmental Restoration/  
Waste Management Program  
Nez Perce Tribe  
P.O Box 365  
Lapwai, Idaho 83540

RECEIVED  
JAN 21 2003

EDMC

Dear Mr. Sobotta:

**NEZ PERCE COMMENT ON THE DRAFT TRI-PARTY AGREEMENT MILESTONE  
CHANGE PACKAGE FOR THE PLUTONIUM FINISHING PLANT TRANSITION AND  
SELECTED DISPOSITION MILESTONES**

Thank you for your July 11, 2002, letter submitting comments on the draft Plutonium Finishing Plant (PFP) Change Package, and for meeting with members of our staffs in May to discuss the draft change package. Response to the Nez Perce's comment has been incorporated into the enclosed comment and response document. The document is available at [www2.hanford.gov/ARPIR/](http://www2.hanford.gov/ARPIR/) (select "Advanced Search" and type in Accession Number "D9178421") and can also be accessed electronically at the U.S. Department of Energy's Information Repositories.

We agree with the Nez Perce on the need for improved consultation opportunities with the Tribes, especially when establishing endpoint criteria. In addition, the agencies will work to ensure that you receive copies of primary documents in a timely manner.

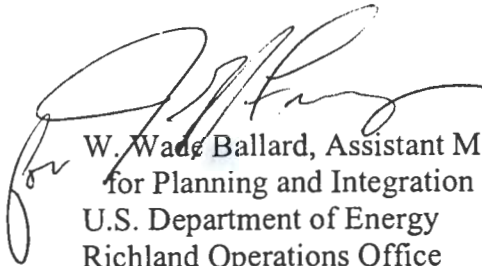
The State of Washington Department of Ecology, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Department of Energy (Tri- Parties) encourage the Nez Perce to attend the Tri-Party Agreement Milestone Review and the Inter-Agency Management Integration Team (IAMIT) meetings held on the fourth Tuesday of the month at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency office (712 Swift, Richland, Washington). Meeting notices and agendas are faxed to the Tri-Parties and other government agencies prior to the meetings. Discussions at these meetings include cleanup progress, accomplishments, and current or upcoming issues.

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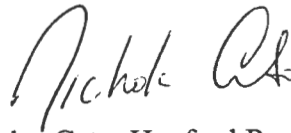
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The Tri-Party Agencies appreciate your continued involvement and the support of your staff in PFP activities. If you need further information or assistance, please contact Kevin Clarke, the U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office Indian Nations Program Manager on (509) 376-6332.



W. Wade Ballard, Assistant Manager  
for Planning and Integration  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Richland Operations Office



Nicholas Ceto, Hanford Project Manager  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 10



Michael A. Wilson, Program Manager  
State of Washington Department of Ecology

Enclosure

cc w/o encl:

Administrative Record (A1-14)

D. A. Isom (H6-08)