



U.S. Department of Energy Hanford Site

January 20, 2021

21-TF-000239

Mr. Jeffrey J. Lyon, Tank Systems Operations
and Closure Project Manager
Nuclear Waste Program
Washington State
Department of Ecology
3100 Port of Benton Blvd.
Richland, Washington 99354

Dear Mr. Lyon:

RESPONSE TO 20-NWP-199 FROM THE WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY

- References:
1. Ecology letter from J. J. Lyon to B. A. Harkins, ORP, "Re: Department of Ecology's (Ecology) Review Comment Record on the United States Department of Energy – Office of River Protection's *FY2019 Annual Interim Surface Barrier Monitoring Report*, RPP-RPT-62684, Revision 0," 20-NWP-199, dated December 23, 2020.
 2. ORP letter from B. A. Harkins to J. J. Lyon, Ecology, "The U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection, Transmittal of RPP-RPT-62684, *FY2019 Annual Interim Surface Barrier Monitoring Report, Rev. 0, to Meet Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order Milestone M-045-92AD*," 20-TF-0095, dated October 7, 2020.
 3. Ecology, EPA, and DOE, 1989, *Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order*, as amended, Washington State Department of Ecology, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and U.S. Department of Energy, Olympia, Washington, 89-10 Rev. 8, dated October 28, 2020.
 4. Ecology letter from J. J. Lyon to B. A. Harkins, ORP, "Re: Extension of the Department of Ecology's (Ecology) Comment Review Period for the *FY2019 Annual Interim Surface Barrier Monitoring Report*, RPP-RPT-62684, Revision 0," 20-NWP-178, dated November 5, 2020.

January 20, 2021

Thank you for your comments on RPP-RPT-62684, *FY2019 Annual Interim Surface Barrier Monitoring Report* (Reference 1). The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) appreciates your review of RPP-RPT-62684, *FY2019 Annual Interim Surface Barrier Monitoring Report* (Reference 2). DOE has reviewed the Washington State Department of Ecology's (Ecology) comments and will incorporate them as appropriate into the next annual interim surface barrier monitoring report that addresses Fiscal Year 2020 activities. Pursuant to Section 9.2.3 of the Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (HFFACO) Action Plan (Reference 3), DOE's response to Ecology's comments are provided via this letter.

DOE notes that Ecology extended its original deadline to provide comments to December 21, 2020 (Reference 4). Section 9.2.1 of the HFFACO Action Plan, which applies to secondary document as well as primary document reviews (see HFFACO Action Plan Section 9.2.3), states, "[t]he lead regulatory agency may extend the comment period for a specified period by written notice to the DOE prior to the end of the initial comment period." Notwithstanding Ecology's extended review period that ended on December 21, 2020 (Reference 4). Ecology failed to transmit its comments until December 23, 2020.

Please note that DOE ensured staff availability on December 21, 2020, in order to begin immediate review of Ecology's comments, in light of your letter of November 5, 2020 (Reference 4). Ecology submitted comments two days later than the extended deadline, on December 23, 2020, which was a Hanford facility closure day (due to Christmas holiday).

If you have any questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact Becky Blackwell, Closure Project Manager, Tank Farms Programs Division, Office of River Protection, on (509) 376-0058.

Sincerely,

**Brian A.
Harkins**

Digitally signed by
Brian A. Harkins
Date: 2021.01.20
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Brian A. Harkins, Deputy Assistant Manager
Tank Farms Project
Office of River Protection

TF:RIB

cc: See page 3

Mr. Jeffrey J. Lyon
21-TF-000239

-3-

January 20, 2021

cc:

J. Alzheimer, Ecology
M. Barnes, Ecology
J. H. Bell, NPT
A. Buck, Wanapum
J. Burrigh, ODOE
L. Contreras, YN
G. A. Day, Ecology
D. R. Einan, EPA
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