



**U.S. Department of Energy**

Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550  
Richland, Washington 99352

0048807

056068

FEB 13 1998

Mr. Steve M. Alexander  
Perimeter Areas Section Manager  
Nuclear Waste Program  
State of Washington  
Department of Ecology  
1315 W. Fourth Avenue  
Kennewick, Washington 99336-6018

Mr. Douglas R. Sherwood  
Hanford Project Manager  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
712 Swift Boulevard, Suite 5  
Richland, Washington 99352-0539



Dear Messrs. Alexander and Sherwood:

RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND RECOVERY ACT (RCRA) GROUNDWATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT  
REPORTS FOR WASTE MANAGEMENT AREAS (WMA) S-SX, T, AND TX-TY

- Reference: (1) Chemical Information on Tank Supernatants, Cs Adsorption from Tank Liquids onto Hanford Sediments, and Field Observations of Cs Migration from Past Tank Leaks, PNNL-11495, February 1997, R. J. Serne, J. M. Zachara, and D. S. Burke.
- (2) A Comprehensive Analysis of Contaminant Transport in the Vadose Zone Beneath Tank SX-109, PNNL-11463, February 1997, A. L. Ward, G. W. Gee, and M. D. White.

The Phase I RCRA Groundwater Quality Assessment Reports for WMA's S-SX, T, and TX-TY are hereby submitted in accordance with the requirements of 40 CFR 265. These reports represent the compilation, interpretation and reporting of data to assess the impact on groundwater quality associated with these WMA's. These assessments were initiated in 1993 and 1996 for T and TX-TY and for S-SX, respectively.

These reports conclude that another source for recently observed groundwater contamination in the proximity of these facilities can not be identified with available data, and these WMA's have therefore impacted groundwater quality. Accordingly, a Phase II assessment plan will be prepared to further delineate the nature and extent of the contamination.

Messrs. Alexander and Sherwood

-2-

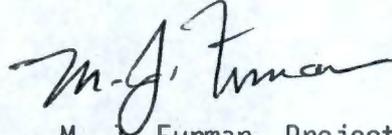
FEB 13 1992

056068

The S-SX Assessment report is supported by two supplemental reports (References 1 and 2). Reference 1 includes tank chemistry and related considerations relevant to WMA T.

If you want to discuss this matter further or require additional information, please contact me at 373-9630.

Sincerely,



M. J. Furman, Project Manager  
Groundwater Project

GWP:MJF

Attachment

cc w/o attach:

C. J. Chou, PNNL  
S. L. Dahl, Ecology  
F. N. Hodges, PNNL  
V. G. Johnson, PNNL  
S. Leja, Ecology  
S. P. Luttrell, PNNL  
R. M. Smith, PNNL