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STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

1315 W. 4th Avenue • Kennewick, Washington 99336-6018 • (509) 735-7581

April 16, 1998

Mr. George H. Sanders
U.S. Department of Energy
P.O. Box 550
Richland, WA 99352



Dear Mr. Sanders:

Re: Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (Tri Party Agreement)
Target Milestone M-50-04-T01, "Submit Conceptual Design of High-Level Waste
(HLW) Pretreatment Facility"

This letter is in response to your March 20, 1998, letter notifying the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) of the completion of Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) Target Milestone M-50-04-T01. Ecology does not concur with this notification of completion. Adequate information was not provided to document successful milestone completion.

Milestone M-50-04-T01 work scope described in the TPA addressed the pretreatment of HLW as established by the U.S. Department of Energy's (USDOE) re-baselining effort described in the 1994 negotiated changes to the TPA. This work scope included an evaluation to demonstrate that adequate pretreatment capacity will be available to complete processing in the required time frame. The report submitted does not adequately address HLW pretreatment conceptual design as described in the TPA milestone.

All the HLW pretreatment and treatment milestones as presently contained in the TPA do not reflect USDOE's present privatization approach. USDOE is proceeding on the privatization path at their own risk as it relates to HLW TPA milestones. Treatment contracts that include HLW are not executed, the above-mentioned milestones, as contained in the TPA, will be enforceable in their present form.

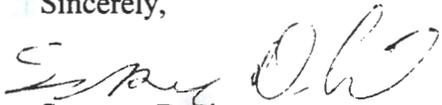
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Ecology suggests HLW TPA milestones impacted by USDOE's privatization approach be modified to reflect the actual privatization contract work scopes and schedules as soon as they are available. Ecology is available to discuss the above information with you in detail at your convenience at (509) 736-5705.

Sincerely,



Suzanne Dahl

TWRS Project Manager

SD:ch

cc: Carolyn Haass, USDOE
Jackson Kinzer, USDOE
William Taylor, USDOE
John Wagoner, USDOE
Marilyn Reeves, HAB
Mary Lou Blazek, ODOE
Tanya Barnett, AG
Administrative Record: TWRS/Process Waste/Milestone Deliverables

**bcc: John Grantham, Ecology
Moses Jaraysi, Ecology
Dan Silver, Ecology
Roger Stanley, Ecology
Mike Wilson, Ecology
Central Files: TWRS/Process Waste/Milestone Deliverables**