



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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November 15, 2001

Mr. Michael Schlender
Deputy Manager, Site Transition
Richland Operations Office
United States Department of Energy
P.O. Box 550, MSIN: A7-50
Richland, Washington 99352

RECEIVED
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EDMC

Dear Mr. Schlender:

Re: Proposal for Accelerated Site Technology Deployment (ASTD) – Transuranic (TRU)
Waste Processing

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has reviewed the information you presented regarding the aforementioned proposal and offers the following comments:

1. The proposal offers an important advancement in the management of TRU waste processing needed to support cleanup at the Hanford site.
2. This proposal offers an approach that is consistent with current discussions between USDOE and Ecology on developing urgently needed technology deployments in regards to Transuranic/Transuranic Mixed (TRU/TRUM) waste processing at the Hanford site.
3. This proposal will implement technology and innovations intended to produce a much more efficient TRU waste disposal process, resulting in saving time and money and better use of Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) disposal capabilities. The implications of the proposal's uses and benefits appear to offer important potential waste cleanup benefits to other waste sites in the USDOE complex.

Ecology encourages this type of work and wishes to underscore the value and benefits of ASTD grant funding to develop and rapidly implement this proposal to address urgent Hanford waste cleanup needs in regards to TRU waste processing and disposal.

Sincerely,

Fred C. Jamison, Waste Management Project Manager
Nuclear Waste Program

FCJ:sdb

cc: Doug Sherwood, EPA
Roger Bowman, FH
Ken Niles, OOE
Administrative Record: Hanford Solid Waste Strategic Plan, M-91, WRAP, and Site Technology
Deployment (TRU/Mixed Wastes)