



Tri-Party Agreement

0057533

M-45-00A

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**CONCLUSION AGREEMENT ON NEGOTIATION OF REQUIREMENTS
GOVERNING THE NEAR TERM RETRIEVAL OF WASTES FROM THE
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S SINGLE-SHELL TANKS
(NEGOTIATIONS PURSUANT TO MILESTONE M-45-00A)**

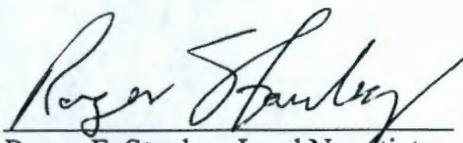
The State of Washington, Department of Ecology and the U. S. Department of Energy, in coordination with the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (hereafter the parties), have concluded the negotiation of near term requirements regarding the retrieval of single-shell tank wastes. These negotiations have been conducted pursuant to the Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (HFFACO) milestone M-45-00A "Complete Negotiation of Near Term (i.e., prior to 9/30/2006) SST Waste Retrieval Activities."

A tentative agreement has been reached and a package of changes to the HFFACO has been developed and found mutually acceptable. These proposed changes are attached to this Negotiation Conclusion Agreement. It is the intent of the parties that provisions in this agreement be performed as the change request is undergoing the process of finalization.

The parties' will submit the Tentative Agreement for a 45-day public comment period to run from approximately October 2, 2000 through November 17, 2000. Following the public comment period, the parties will jointly prepare responses to public comments that have been received. Should the parties not be able to resolve all issues arising as the result of the public comment period, unresolved matters shall be referred to dispute resolution under HFFACO Article VIII, and shall be initiated at the Inter-Agency Management Integration Team (IAMIT) level as described by the HFFACO.

The parties expect to approve final changes to the HFFACO by mid December 2000.

DATE: AUG 30 2000


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State of Washington
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James E. Rasmussen, Lead Negotiator
U. S. Department of Energy
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