



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
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August 18, 2006

Mr. Roy J. Schepens, Manager
Office of River Protection
United States Department of Energy
P.O. Box 450, MSIN: H6-60
Richland, Washington 99352

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EDMC

Re: Tank Farm Interim Barriers

Dear Mr. Schepens:

Thank you for taking a proactive approach to address high-priority tank farm releases with interim barriers. We appreciate your invitation to participate in the planning phase of the T-Farm interim barrier design. We want to remind you that any field work related to releases associated with the waste management areas is a regulated activity. This field work requires submittal of a proposed design and schedule report for Department of Ecology approval. With our participation, we anticipate a more effective review process.

We understand that you consider these interim barrier actions as part of the scope for Tri-Party Agreement Milestone M-45-58. We are currently reviewing a draft proposed change package for the RCRA facility investigation/corrective measures study and interim action milestones M-45-55 through M-45-60. As part of our review, we are making revisions that reflect this work and other work we believe is necessary.

Again, thank you for taking actions to develop interim barriers to mitigate tank farm releases, and for including Ecology early in the planning process. This reflects a willingness to expedite cleanup activities and resolve concerns in an efficient manner. It is a good example of implementing the principles outlined in the Tri-Party Agreement.

If you have any questions, please contact Jeff Lyon at 509-372-7914.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Whalen
Cleanup Section Manager
Nuclear Waste Program

cc: See next page

Mr. Roy J. Schepens

August 18, 2006

Page 2

cc: Tom Post, EPA
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