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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

c/o   EPA Region 10
HW-113
1200 - Sixth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98101

March 1, 1989   Hanford Project Office

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Paul Day   Environmental
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency   Protection Agency
Federal Building - Room 178
825 Jadwin Ave.
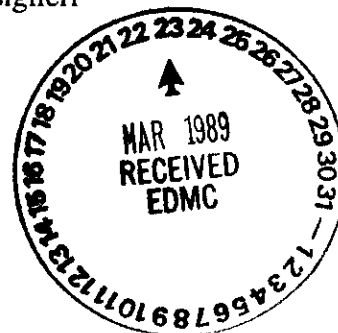Richland, Washington 99352

Dear Paul,

Thanks for sending the draft workplan for the Hanford 1100 Area Remedial Investigation. As I mentioned to you previously, NOAA's concerns and comments at the various sites will vary according to potential threat to trust resources in the Columbia River. It appears that the 1100 area RI will adequately identify potential problems.

The objectives of Phase 1 are to determine the nature and extent of contamination, to obtain data for health and safety planning for further efforts during the RI, to obtain data to improve the preliminary conceptual model, and to provide data to conduct a preliminary baseline risk assessment. The proposed investigations and sampling activities are appropriate to meet these objectives. Because only Phase 1A activities are presented in any detail, the ability of the data generated to meet the objectives after Phase 1 is completed cannot be defined. Hovever, the investigation design is well thought out and appears to be supported by adequate resources to perform a thorough job. From NOAA's perspective, fairly minimal information will probably suffice for most of the areas within the 1100 site to determine whether they pose a threat to resources of trustee interest in the Columbia River.

The phased approach is a good way to tackle the uncertainty associated with the 1100 Area and allows for modifications between phases to address any data gaps and/or deficiencies that might appear.   Review of the Phase 1A and 1B results along with subsequent work plans may lead to more NOAA involvement as information regarding the movement of contaminants towards the Columbia River is developed.

Sincerely,

Lew Consiglieri

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