



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor



OREGON DEPARTMENT  
OF ENERGY

625 Marion St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301-3737  
Phone: 503-378-4040  
Toll Free: 1-800-221-8035  
FAX: 503-373-7806  
www.energy.state.or.us

May 20, 2004

Laura Cusak  
Washington Department of Ecology  
3100 Port of Benton Blvd  
Richland, WA 99352

Jim Rasmussen  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Office of River Protection  
PO Box 450 H6-60  
Richland, WA 99352

RECEIVED  
JUN 22 2004  
EDMC

Subject: Comments on Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) Change request M-45-04-01

61547

Dear Ms. Cusak and Mr. Rasmussen:

Thank you for the opportunity to review TPA Change Request M-45-04-01. We have the following concerns and comments:

1. We are concerned that this change results in the development of new schedules and requirements through submittal of primary documents rather than through establishing new TPA milestones. In the TPA milestone development process, there are specific points and requirements for public involvement. These requirements are absent in the primary document development process. The potential exists for the public to lose their voice in a critical aspect of Hanford cleanup. We recommend that very specific public involvement requirements be included in Appendix I for the tank retrieval and closure primary document development process, equivalent to the public involvement requirements for milestone development.
2. Appendix I also appears to make the assumption that the tank waste retrieval residuals will be allowed to remain in place in the tanks. We recommend that somewhere in Appendix I it be acknowledged that this may not turn out to be the case. The potential implications should also be explained.
3. This change package needs a synopsis or summary that clearly articulates to the public the scope and breadth of this change. The package itself is too detailed to get this information easily.

RECEIVED

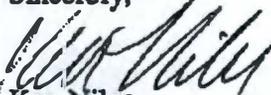
MAY 27 2004

DOE-ORP/ORPCC

4. The Waste Management Area (WMA) integration study mentioned in Appendix I, Section 2.1.1 should look not only at a particular WMA, but should also discuss the effects of the WMA in question on all other tanks WMAs.
5. The pre-retrieval risk assessment required by Appendix I, Section 2.1.3, should also include a long-term ecological risk assessment based on potential leaks during retrieval and potential residual waste after retrieval.

Should you have any questions, please contact Mr. Douglas Huston of my staff at (503) 378-4456.

Sincerely,



Ken Niles  
Assistant Director

Cc: Barbara Jarvis – Chair, Oregon Hanford Cleanup Board  
Armand Minthorn – Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation  
Russell Jim – Yakama Nation  
Patrick Sobotta – Nez Perce Tribe  
Todd Martin – Chair, Hanford Advisory Board  
Nick Ceto – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency