



Tri-Party Agreement



AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE

TENTATIVE AGREEMENT ON HANFORD FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT AND CONSENT ORDER

NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE TANK WASTE CHARACTERIZATION PROGRAM

In October, 1996, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), and the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology), hereinafter the Parties, agreed to conduct negotiations for the purpose of revising Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (Tri-Party Agreement) milestones for the Tank Waste Characterization Program. The negotiations were held to establish new M-44 milestones in the Tri-Party Agreement that replace the existing M-44 milestones. The new milestones are to establish the needs for tank waste characterization of the 149 single-shell tanks and 28 double-shell tanks including the development of Tank Waste Remediation System (TWRS) programmatic Data Quality Objectives (DQO's).

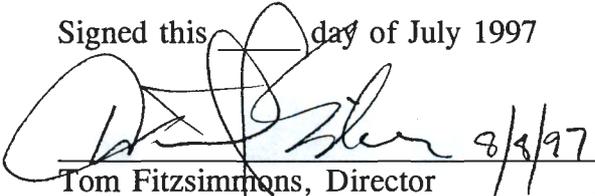
Pursuant to the parties Inter-Agency Management Integration Team (IAMIT) Resolution of Dispute (April 22, 1997) the parties have concluded Tank Waste Characterization negotiations and have reached tentative agreement. A summary and copy of this tentative agreement is attached.

This tentative agreement will be submitted for public review and comment for a 45 day period. Copies of this agreement will also be available for review at the parties' public information repositories. Following the 45 day public comment period, the parties will make appropriate revisions before final approval. The specific public comment period dates will be coordinated to ensure Hanford Advisory Board opportunity for review and comment. Prior to final agreement, a response to comments document will be developed. The parties anticipate that final signatures will take place by October 15, 1997.

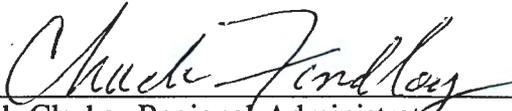
The parties further agree that to minimize additional delay in the event they fail to agree on any changes as the result of public comment, all unresolved matters shall be referred to the Agreement dispute resolution process beginning at the IAMIT level as described in the

Agreement. The parties shall attempt to resolve the dispute(s) as provided for in Agreement paragraph(s) 30 and/or 59.

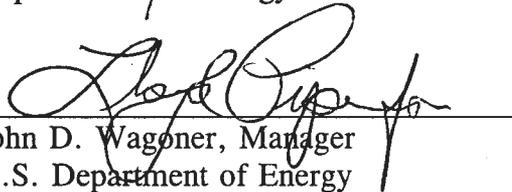
Signed this _____ day of July 1997



for Tom Fitzsimmons, Director
State of Washington
Department of Ecology



for Chuck Clarke, Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 10



John D. Wagoner, Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office