

U.S. Department of Energy Office of River Protection

> P.O. Box 450, MSIN H6-60 Richland, Washington 99352

> > JUN 0 7 2007

07-TPD-031

Ms. Jane A. Hedges, Program Manager Nuclear Waste Program Washington State Department of Ecology 3100 Port of Benton Blvd. Richland, Washington 99354



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Dear Ms. Hedges:

RECOVERY PLAN FOR HANFORD FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT AND CONSENT ORDER (HFFACO) MILESTONE M-45-05A, "COMPLETE INITIAL WASTE RETRIEVAL FROM TANK S-102"

- References: 1. Ecology letter from J. J. Lyon to S. J. Olinger, ORP, "Re: Missed Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (HFFACO) Milestone M-45-05A, Complete Initial Waste Retrieval from Tank S-102," dated April 24, 2007.
 - ORP letter from S. J. Olinger to J. Hedges, Ecology, "Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (HFFACO) Milestone M-45-05A, 'Complete Initial Waste Retrieval from Tank S-102," 07-TPD-015, dated March 30, 2007.
 - 3. ORP letter from R. J. Schepens to J. Hedges, Ecology, "Retrieval Completion 007151b Plan for Single-Shell Tank (SST) 241-S-102, Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (HFFACO) Milestone M-45-05A," 06-TPD-075, dated November 1, 2006.

The Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) asked the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection (ORP) to provide a recovery plan for completing retrieval of waste from Single-Shell Tank (SST) 241-S-102 (Reference 1). As stated in Reference 2, ORP and its contractor CH2M HILL Hanford Group, Inc. (CH2M HILL) remain committed to completing waste retrieval at Tank 241-S-102 in accordance with the HFFACO retrieval criteria, and intend to continue to follow the technical approach provided to Ecology in November 2006 (Reference 3). Since retrieval operations were suspended in March 2007 because of an equipment failure with the Seepex® pump, the following work activities have been performed to resume waste retrieval at Tank S-102 as expeditiously as practical:

• Conducted laboratory testing using waste simulant to troubleshoot plugging of several orifices on the three High Pressure Mixers (HPM) (also known as the Rotary Viper) deployed in Tank S-102 and subsequently unplugged the orifices using a hot water rinse.

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- Trained operations personnel to use new electric pumps that are expected to improve the performance of the HPMs. These pumps have nearly double the flow capacity of the diesel pumps currently in use and have the potential to support simultaneous operation of multiple HPMs.
- Performed work planning and developed construction mock-ups to support the removal of the failed Gorman-Rupp® pump from Tank 241-S-102. This will be a high-risk activity, based on expected levels of radioactive contamination, requiring careful and detailed work planning to ensure worker safety. Pump removal is expected to be completed in June 2007.
- Received a replacement Seepex® pump and started engineering and fabrication work to support the installation of the new Seepex® pump in the tank by early July 2007.

ORP and CH2M HILL have briefed your staff on these activities in detail on a weekly basis and will continue to do so. We expect to re-start retrieval of Tank S-102 in July 2007.

If you have any questions, you may contact me, or your staff may contact Delmar Noyes, Acting Assistant Manager for Tank Farms Project, (509) 376-5166.

Sincerely,

Shirley J./Olinger, Acting Manager Office of River Protection

TPD:RAQ

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