



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

3100 Port of Benton Blvd • Richland, WA 99352 • (509) 372-7950

February 27, 2007

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**EDMC**

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

Mr. Mark S. Spears, President  
CH2M Hill Hanford Group, Inc.  
P.O. Box 1500, MSIN: H6-63  
Richland, Washington 99352

Re: Inspection on the Completion Status of Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (HFFACO) Milestone M-48-07 Conducted August 17, 2006

Dear Mr. Schepens and Mr. Spears:

Thank you for the assistance from the United States Department of Energy (USDOE) - Office of River Protection (ORP) and CH2M Hill Hanford Group (CH2M) personnel during the Department of Ecology's recent inspection of the completion status of M-48-07.

Milestone M-48-07, due June 30, 2006, required the completion of work to stabilize, isolate, and monitor miscellaneous tank farm equipment that is not compliant with Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 173-303-640, Tank System Requirements. The purpose of this inspection was to determine whether this work had been completed.

We consider the specific requirements of M-48-07 to have been met; however, we remain concerned with the remaining waste in the catch tanks and the double-contained receiver tanks (DCRT). Collectively, thousands of gallons of liquid and sludge wastes remain in these tanks which violate the standards of WAC 173-303-640. Two of these tanks, ER-311 and UX-302A, are known to have already leaked.

We are currently reviewing the Composite Liquid Mitigation Report (RPP-RPT-31148), submitted to Ecology, on the Catch Tanks and DCRTs, and are assessing the best use for this information. Concurrent with our review of the Composite Liquid Mitigation Report, we advise that USDOE-ORP and CH2M initiate the development of enforceable HFFACO Milestone(s) addressing the removal of waste and closure of the Catch Tanks and DCRTs. A proactive approach to cleanup should be taken before additional tanks develop leaks.



Mr. Schepens and Mr. Spears

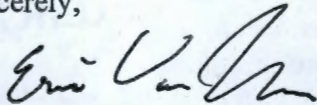
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If a timely agreement cannot be made on a cleanup schedule for these tanks, we reserve the right to issue penalties and orders based on the observed non-compliance.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 509-372-7929.

Sincerely,



Eric Van Mason  
Compliance Inspector  
Nuclear Waste Program

pll

cc: Moses Jarayasi, CH2M  
Phillip Miller, CH2M  
Susan Lecband, HAB  
Stuart Harris, CTUIR  
Gabriel Bohnee, NPT  
Russell Jim, YN  
Ken Niles, ODOE  
Administrative Record: TWRS TPA M-48-07  
Environmental Portal