



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 10 HANFORD PROJECT OFFICE

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Richland, Washington 99352

0052767

March 22, 2000

Owen C. Robertson  
Senior Program Manager  
Environmental Restoration/Waste Disposal  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550, H0-12  
Richland, Washington 99352

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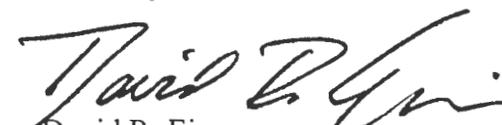
Re: Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility Leachate Sampling to Support Delisting

Dear Mr. Robertson:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) understands that several factors contributed to the interruption of the leachate sampling program for the Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility (ERDF). These factors include the extended absence of key personnel and delays in the approval of the *Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility Leachate Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP)*.

A conservative interpretation of the SAP might indicate that, because of the interruption, the Department of Energy (DOE) is not in compliance with the SAP. A subsequent interpretation of the amended record of decision (ROD) for ERDF might indicate that the conditional delisting of the ERDF leachate granted in the amended ROD is jeopardized. However, EPA's interpretation is that DOE will be in compliance with the SAP provided that DOE implements the SAP with the following exception: the leachate sample taken earlier this year will constitute the first of the quarterly baseline samples and the rest of the baseline samples are taken in the three subsequent quarters.

Sincerely,

  
David R. Einan  
ERDF Project Manager

cc: Vern Dronen, BHI  
Linda Johnson, CHI  
Ashur Michael, BHI  
Ben Moyers, BHI  
~~Administrative Record~~  
Post-decisional/per Dave