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Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office
P.O. Box 550
Richland, Washington 99352

MAR 13 1998

98-WDD-029

Mr. Mike Wilson, Manager
Nuclear Waste Program
State of Washington
Department of Ecology
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, Washington 98504-7600

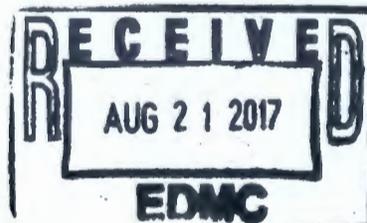
Dear Mr. Wilson:

COMPLETION OF HANFORD FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT AND CONSENT ORDER (TRI-PARTY AGREEMENT) DECEMBER 1997 MILESTONE M-90-01, "SUBMIT INTERIM STORAGE AND DISPOSAL IMMOBILIZED LOW-ACTIVITY WASTE (ILAW), AND INTERIM STORAGE IMMOBILIZED HIGH-LEVEL WASTE (IHLW) PROJECT MANAGEMENT PLANS (PMP) TO THE STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY (ECOLOGY)

- References:
- 1) Letter from G. H. Sanders, RL, to M. Wilson, Ecology, "Same subject," 97-WDD-190. dated December 22, 1997.
 - 2) Letter from R. J. Julian, Ecology, to G. H. Sanders, RL, "Same subject," dated January 30, 1998.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Richland Operations Office (RL) has addressed the comments from Ecology (Reference 1) on the PMPs for interim storage and disposal of ILAW and interim storage of IHLW, respectively. These documents were submitted to Ecology by DOE-RL (Reference 2) in accordance with the subject M-90-01 milestone.

The comments from Ecology and the proposed changes to the documents as shown in the enclosure have been discussed by P. E. LaMont, DOE-RL, and R. J. Julian, Ecology. Mr. Julian indicated that the proposed changes appear to be satisfactory to Ecology. However, in view of the relatively minor extent of these changes, DOE is proposing to defer the expense of reissuing these PMP documents (HNF-1517 and HNF-1751) until DOE can incorporate the impact, if any, of decisions on the privatized treatment of tank waste and the results of detailed work planning for the next fiscal year. Specifically, DOE-RL recommends reissuing the PMPs in Fiscal Year 1999.



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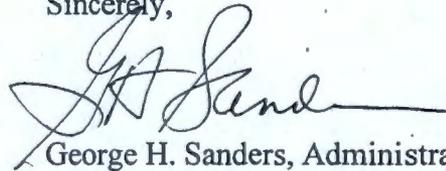
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MAR 13 1998

Since the PMPs are Tri-Party Agreement primary documents, they are subject to the provisions of the Tri-Party Agreement Action Plan Section 9.0, Documentation and Records. Therefore, we are requesting your approval of the proposed changes and our plan to revise and reissue the documents next fiscal year as described above. In the meantime, DOE-RL would appreciate receiving input on the need for additional changes, if any become apparent over the course of time.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me on (509) 376-6888 or P. E. LaMont on (509) 376-6117.

Sincerely,



George H. Sanders, Administrator
Hanford Tri-Party Agreement

WDD:WRW

Enclosure

cc w/encl:

S. L. Dahl, Ecology
R. Jim, YIN
R. J. Julian, Ecology
D. Powaukee, Nez Perce Tribe
D. R. Sherwood, EPA
J. R. Wilkinson, CTUIR

cc w/o encl:

L. D. Arnold, FDH
H. L. Boston, LHMC
R. J. Murkowski, LMHC
A. M. Umek, FDH

