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

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DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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 Environmental Cleanup Office

98-EAP-114

Mr. Tom Fitzsimmons, Director
 State of Washington
 Department of Ecology
 P. O. Box 47600
 Olympia, Washington 98504-7600

Mr. Chuck Clarke
 Regional Administrator
 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
 Region 10
 1200 Sixth Avenue
 Seattle, Washington 98101



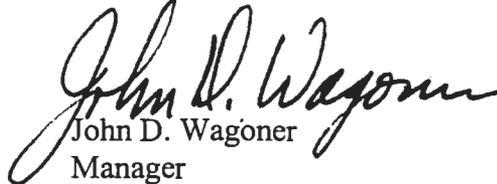
Dear Messrs. Fitzsimmons and Clarke:

APPROVAL OF HANFORD FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT AND CONSENT ORDER (TRI-PARTY AGREEMENT) COMMITMENTS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION'S 200 AREA SOIL REMEDIATION STRATEGY (M-13-00) AND (M-20-00)

Enclosed for signature by the State of Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), are the Tri-Party Agreement change requests reflecting the outcome of the completed negotiations. The public comment period for new commitments that resulted from completion of negotiations for Major Milestones M-13-00 and M-20-00 closed on January 27, 1998. A joint response has been developed between the staff of EPA, Ecology, and the U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office for the one public comment received. The comment dealt primarily with Tri-Party Agreement process issues.

The change request and response to comment letter are being provided to Ecology for signature. The package should then be forwarded to EPA for signature. If you have any questions, please contact me or your staff may contact James E. Rasmussen, Director, Environmental Assurance, Permits, and Policy Division on (509) 376-5441.

Sincerely,


John D. Wagener
Manager

EAP:FRM

Enclosures (3)

1. Correspondence to H. J. Hotarek
2. Change Control Form M-13-97-01
3. Change Control Form M-20-97-01

cc w/encls:

L. D. Arnold, FDH
M. L. Blazek, OOE
J. W. Donnelly, Ecology
R. Jim, YIN
D. Powauke, Nez Perce Tribe
M. Reeves, HAB
D. R. Sherwood, USEPA
R. F. Stanley, Ecology
J. R. Wilkinson, CTUIR