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Department of Energy
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Mr. J. R. Wilkinson
Confederated Tribes
of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
P.O. Box 638
Pendleton, Oregon 97801

IN SITU REDOX MANIPULATION (ISRM) TECHNOLOGY DEPLOYMENT INITIATIVES (TDI) PROPOSAL

This letter addresses concerns presented to the U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (RL), by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR), during the Site Technology Coordination Group (STCG) Subcon Subgroup Meeting on April 23, 1997, on the subject TDI Proposal. The CTUIR agreed to support submitting the ISRM TDI Proposal to the STCG Counsel for endorsement provided RL address these concerns:

1. Long-term Monitoring: The monitoring associated with the ISRM Treatability Study and the Deployment Initiative will be incorporated into the Hanford Groundwater Monitoring Plan to assume continued long-term monitoring after completion of the study. Monitoring will continue until downgradient wells achieve 90 percent reoxygenation as compared to upgradient wells. Monitoring will include analyses for uranium and total chromium.

2. Long-term Mitigation: In the event that the anoxic treatment zone associated with ISRM Study poses an environmental risk to the Columbia River hypoheric environment, RL will ensure that appropriate action is taken to mitigate the impacted area. Potential actions include incorporation of the zone into the pump-and-treat capture zone or other means of reoxygenation.

3. Address Peer Review Recommendations: Additional funding has been provided by EM-50 to support responding to the recommendations of the American Society for Mechanical Engineers Peer Review Panel. This information will be provided to you under separate cover.

4. Characterization to Address the Test Plan and Deployment: RL has agreed to fund, and initiate this fiscal year, additional characterization of the 100-D Area Hot Spot. This characterization program is intended to provide the information necessary to define the magnitude and extent of the area containing high chromium concentrations.

Comments on the Draft Treatability Test Plan for In Situ Redox Manipulation in the 100-HR-3 Operable Unit D-Area, were received in letter dated March 20, 1997, from the Nez Perce Tribe. Responses to these comments are in preparation and will be provided under separate cover.

Technical issues relative to mobilization of uranium and reoxygenation will be addressed in the ongoing treatability test and in the development of the TDI Work Plan.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. A. C. Tortoso at 373-9631.

Sincerely,

K. M. Thompson, Senior Project Manager
Groundwater Project

GWP:ACT

cc: S. Harris, CTUIR
R. Jim, YIN
D. Powaukee, NPT