STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
3100 Port of Benton Blvd • Richland, WA 99352 • (509) 372-7950

April 28, 2006

Mr. Roy J. Schepens, Manager
Office of River Protection
United States Department of Energy
P.O. Box 450, MSIN: H6-60
Richland, Washington 99352-1670

Mr. Mark S. Spears
President and Chief Executive Officer
CH2M HILL Hanford Group, Inc.
P.O. Box 1500, MSIN: H6-08
Richland, Washington 99352-1670

Re: Letter from Mr. Roy Schepens, Office of River Protection, to Ms. Jane Hedges, Ecology, "Final Dangerous and Mixed Waste Research and Development and Demonstration Permit for Demonstration Bulk Vitrification Facility Required Submittal for the Dried Waste Handling System, 06-ED-023," dated March 22, 2006

Dear Mr. Schepens and Mr. Spears:

The Department of Ecology has completed review of the Demonstration Bulk Vitrification System (DBVS) engineering design and supporting information for the Dried Waste Handling System, and the accompanying Independent Qualified Registered Professional Engineer certified report. These materials were submitted by the United States Department of Energy - Office of River Protection in accordance with the Dangerous Waste Research, Development, and Demonstration Facility (RD&D) Permit for the DBVS Permit WA 7890008967. Based on the information submitted pursuant to Permit Conditions IV.A.8.b., IV.A.8.c., IV.A.8.e.i., V.I.2., and V.I.3., Ecology approves construction of the dried waste transfer system, the ancillary waste transfer enclosure, and the melt area support structure subject to the implementation of Enclosure 1 to this letter, the Record of Comment Resolution.

This approval does not constitute Ecology approval of information unrelated to the Dried Waste Handling System or approval of operating procedures with respect to Permit Conditions II.A.5. and II.C.6., or approval of information related to emergency bypass conditions with respect to Permit Conditions V.I.4.b.,V.I.4.j., and V.I.4.k.

A copy of the pages to be inserted into the DBVS Facility Permit, WA 7890008967, a revised List of Attachments to the Permit, and instructions for posting these pages to the permit are included as Enclosure 2 of this letter. These enclosed pages hereby become official parts of the RD&D Permit for the DBVS Facility and are to be inserted into the Permit.

If there are any questions regarding this action, call Kathy Conaway at 509-372-7890 or Suzanne Dahl at 509-372-7892.

Sincerely,

Jane A. Hedges
Program Manager
Nuclear Waste Program

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Enclosures (2)

cc w/enc: Gil Ramin, USDOE
Woody Russell, USDOE
John Guberski, CH2M
Felix Miera, CH2M
Administrative Record

cc w/o enc: Billie Mauss, USDOE
Peter Brockman, CH2M
Joel Eacker, CH2M
John Van Beek, CH2M
Moses Jaraysi, CH2M
Chris Kemp, CH2M
Dave Shuford, CH2M
Stuart Harris, CTUIR
Gabriel Bohnee, NPT
Russell Jim, YN
Todd Martin, HAB
Ken Niles, ODOE
Environmental Portal

Mr. Schepens and Mr. Spears
April 28, 2006

bcc/electronic:
Robbie Biyani, Ecology
Doug Hendrickson, Ecology
Nancy Uziemblo, Ecology

bcc/enc:
Kathy Conaway, Ecology
NWP Central File: DBVS

bcc: NWP Reader File