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LPDR-Wm-10(2)

*R. Brown*  
*Call Cook*

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*Aug. 3, 1987*  
~~July 16, 1987~~

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WM Project: WM-10  
PDR wa/encl  
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Mr. John Anttonen, Assistant Manager  
Commercial Nuclear Waste  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Basalt Waste Isolation Project  
Post Office Box 550  
Richland, Washington 99152

WM Record File  
101

WM Project 10  
Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_  
PDR   
LPDR  (B)

Distribution:  
REB MJB Linehan  
JOB Shill  
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Dear Mr. Anttonen:

This letter is a response to the "BHTG Hydrology Task Group Principles for States and Tribes Participation."

We are very encouraged by the willingness of the U.S. Department of Energy to incorporate the technical personnel of the State and Tribal programs in predecisional discussions. We believe that this is consistent with commitments made during BWIP quarterly status meetings and the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982.

It has been and continues to be our intention to interact on a technical level in a meaningful way. We hope that this type of interaction will be solicited by the DOE management in other technical areas relating to site characterization.

In order to participate meaningfully in this Task Group, we are suggesting an approach consistent with that outlined in the position paper on QA Program participation on behalf of the Umatilla and Nez Perce Tribes. In general, that position paper identifies activities thought to be necessary for affective participation.

The suggested guidelines of participation in the BHTG follow:

1. Once active in the Task Group, participants will attend all meetings of the group.
2. A representative of each tribe and state will be necessary. This will eliminate the problem of multi-party representation. At this time we would prefer to be non-voting members of the Task Group.
3. The pre-meeting materials and an agenda for the upcoming meeting should be received by the State and Tribal Task Group

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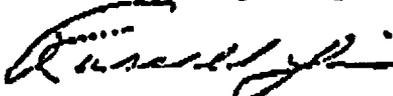
R. Downing

Mr. John Anttonen  
July 16, 1987  
Page 2

members at least three weeks prior to the meeting date. This applies most to the initial meeting of the group. It is understood that if after the group has begun its work, meetings will occur less frequently than one every three weeks. The material from these meetings will be distributed in the most timely manner possible.

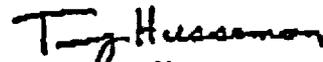
4. The Tribal/State Technical Representatives should be given the same opportunity as other members to comment on the deliberations, analyses and recommendations of the Group. If the presence of the State or Tribal participant is to be justified and if there is to be a meaningful exchange of ideas and insight, then the opportunities for that exchange can not be administratively limited.
5. All Tribal and State participants' technical comments on the final recommendation of the Task Group should be made a part of the record.

We understand that this level of technical involvement in the DOE program is unprecedented and is in some ways experimental. We hope that the Task Group, and the quality of the decision it is charged with making, will be enhanced by the presence of highly qualified scientists from the Tribal and State programs. We look forward to your prompt reply.

  
Russell Jim, Manager  
Yakima Indian Nation  
Nuclear Waste Program

  
Ron Halfmoon, Manager  
Nez Perce Tribe  
Nuclear Waste Policy Act Program

  
David Stuart-Smith  
State of Oregon  
Department of Energy

  
Terry Hussaman, Director  
State Of Washington  
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Nuclear Waste Study

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DATE: JULY 29 1987

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TO: John J. Linehan / R. BROWNING  
(Print)

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Telephone

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