May 1, 2008

Shirley Olinger
Manager, Office of River Protection
U.S. Department of Energy
2440 Stevens Center Place
P.O. Box 450, H6-60
Richland, WA 99352

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY REVIEW FOR FACTUAL ACCURACY OF NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION REPORT TO CONGRESS

Dear Ms. Olinger:

As you know, the U.S. Congress requested the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) to review the regulatory processes of the Department of Energy (DOE) for the Hanford Waste Treatment Plant (WTP) in cooperation with the DOE. On April 23, 2008, the NRC staff sent a draft of portions of the report to the DOE and requested a factual accuracy review to ensure that programs and practices have been properly characterized in the report. We made the same request of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB). The draft portions of the report omitted the conclusions and recommendations based on review.

Based on a request from your office, the NRC has scheduled a category 1 public meeting for May 6, 2008, with DOE to discuss the comments received from the factual accuracy review. We understand the DOE has also invited the DNFSB representatives to this meeting.

The NRC's goal is to provide an accurate assessment of the DOE regulatory processes that is responsive to the Congressional request The NRC's final report to Congress and to the Secretary of Energy will include conclusions and recommendations from the assessment.

If you have any questions, please have your staff contact Patti Silva at 301-492-3114. Thank you for your continued cooperation in fulfilling this Congressional request.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Michael Weber, Director
Office of Nuclear Material
Safety and Safeguards

cc: See Next Page

cc:

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Date	5/01/2008	5/01/2008	5/01/2008

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