



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

July 18, 2018

Mark A. Gilbertson
Associate Principle Deputy
Assistant Secretary EM-4
Department of Energy
Room 5B-014#10
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585

SUBJECT: UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION STAFF
ACCEPTANCE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY DRAFT WASTE
INCIDENTAL TO REPROCESSING EVALUATION FOR CLOSURE OF WASTE
MANAGEMENT AREA C AT THE HANFORD SITE FOR DETAILED
TECHNICAL REVIEW

Dear Mr. Gilbertson:

By letter dated June 4, 2018 (U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) Agencywide Documents Access and Management System Accession No. ML18156A447), the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) submitted to the NRC a request to conduct a consultative review of the Draft Waste Incidental to Reprocessing Evaluation for Closure of Waste Management Area (WMA) C at the Hanford Site (Draft WIR Evaluation).

The purpose of the Draft WIR Evaluation and its supporting documents is to show that the grouted tanks, residual waste, and ancillary structures at the closure of WMA C will satisfy the criteria in DOE 435.1-1, Radioactive Waste Management Manual for determining waste incidental to the reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel, are not high-level radioactive waste, and may be managed as low-level waste.

The NRC staff has completed its administrative completeness review of the Draft WIR Evaluation. Although NRC staff finds that the submittal is acceptable for detailed technical review, NRC staff has identified potential errors and omissions. Therefore, NRC staff is requesting a teleconference with DOE to discuss the submittal. It is also NRC staff's intent to request clarification teleconferences with DOE throughout its review, as needed.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* Section 2.390, "Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of ADAMS. ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 301-415-5969 or by e-mail,
Lloyd.Desotell@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

/RA/

Lloyd Desotell, Project Manager
Low-Level Waste Branch
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery
and Waste Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

Docket No.: PROJ0736

cc: S. Ross, DOE
B. Vance, DOE
J. Bovier, DOE

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DISTRIBUTION:

M. Heath, NRC

D. Esh, NRC

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*** via email**

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NAME	L. Desotell	CHolston	HArt	RChang	L. Desotell	
DATE	7/17/18	7/18/18	7/18/18	7/18/18	7/18/18	

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