



Release date: December 16, 2002

**For more information contact:
Colleen Clark, (509) 373-5985
Tom Welch, (202) 586-5806**

Department of Energy, State of Washington Reach Agreement on Management of Waste at Hanford Site

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Officials of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the State of Washington have reached agreement on a plan for discussing new requirements for the retrieval and characterization of certain waste that is suspected of being mixed waste and for the appropriate management of waste determined to be mixed waste. This will facilitate the expedited cleanup of the Hanford Site.

During their December 13, 2002 meeting officials also discussed shipments of small quantities of transuranic (TRU) waste from two sites in California and Ohio to the Hanford Site for temporary storage until the waste is sent to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, near Carlsbad New Mexico, for disposal.

"DOE appreciates the State of Washington's decision not to challenge DOE's planned shipments of TRU waste from the two sites in Ohio and California," Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management Jessie Roberson said. "As DOE has stated previously, these shipments, and the resulting temporary storage at Hanford, will comply fully with all applicable laws and regulations. In addition, I appreciate all members of Washington's congressional delegation, especially Hanford Congressman Doc Hastings, for their support in helping us reach this agreement. DOE, the State, and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) share an interest in establishing appropriate requirements for the management of mixed waste at Hanford."

The parties agreed that their negotiations would work towards the inclusion of appropriate new milestones and modification of existing milestones in the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA). Discussions would be completed by March 1, 2003 and would be incorporated in the form of a tentative agreement and proposed TPA change package. Public review and appropriate approvals of agreed upon TPA

changes would be completed by April 30, 2003.

[Governor Locke Letter, Documenting Agreements Reached Between the Department of Energy and the State of Washington](#)

###

RL 02-263

[\[Hanford Home Page\]](#) [\[Press Index\]](#)

For questions or comments about this page, please send email to manny_van_pelt@rl.gov

