

**Department of Energy**

Washington, DC 20585

January 27, 2010

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The Honorable John E. Mansfield  
Vice Chairman  
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board  
625 Indiana Avenue, N.W., Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20004-2901

Dear Mr. Vice Chairman:

This letter reports follow on actions the Office of Environmental Management (EM) is taking in addition to those described in the December 1, 2009, letter to you regarding changes to commitment dates for Recommendation 2000-1. We are taking these actions to provide schedule clarity for the removal and treatment of the sludge in the K-West Basin, as described in commitment 120W of our Implementation Plan (IP) for Recommendation 2000-1. The dates provided in December are based on our best estimate. These dates will be validated later this year.

The Richland Operations Office (RL) is currently developing their Project Execution Plan (PEP) for the K-Basin sludge treatment project. This plan is required to achieve Critical Decision 1 (CD-1) for the project as required by Department of Energy Order 413.3A. This plan, when approved, will provide additional detail and technical rationale for the schedule provided in the above mentioned letter and will be completed in May 2010. A CD-1 decision is expected in June 2010.

EM Headquarters and RL will continue dialog with your staff during development of the PEP. The approved plan will contain validated milestones and a schedule that can be used to revise our IP and the approved plan will be formally transmitted to you.

If you have any further questions on this matter, please contact me or Mr. David A. Brockman, Manager, DOE-RL at (509) 376-7395.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Inés R. Triay".

Inés R. Triay  
Assistant Secretary for  
Environmental Management

cc: D. Chung, EM-2  
F. Marcinowski, EM-3  
S. Krahn, EM-20  
D. Brockman, RL  
M. Whitaker, HS-1.1

