

Tentative Agreement
HFFACO Milestones (M-45-00C, M-62-08 and M-62-11)
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The U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection (ORP), and the State of Washington Department of Ecology have reached a Tentative Agreement regarding the extension of the due dates for HFFACO milestones M-45-00C, M-62-08, and M-62-11.

Milestone M-62-08 calls for the submittal of a Hanford tank waste supplemental treatment technologies report, a draft Hanford tank waste treatment baseline, and a draft negotiations agreement in principle (AIP) by January 30, 2005. Milestone M-62-11 calls for the submittal of a final Hanford tank waste treatment baseline by January 30, 2006. The parties agree that an extension of these due dates to June 30, 2006 and June 30, 2007 respectively, is needed to gain sufficient information from the Research, Development, and Demonstration (RDD) activities to be conducted on supplemental treatment technologies. This extension will also allow for data from the Tank Closure Environmental Impact Statement analysis to be made available to and considered by the negotiators.

Milestone M-45-00C requires the initiation of negotiation of SST waste retrieval and closure activities and associated schedules (for the period September 2006 through September 2008) by June 30, 2005. All parties agree that an extension of the due date for these negotiations to September 30, 2006, will allow for sufficient information to be gained from the performance of the activities to be conducted which in turn will provide input as to when substantial DST space would be available for additional retrievals. This extension will also allow for data from the Tank Closure Environmental Impact Statement analysis to be made available to and considered by the negotiators.

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It is the parties' intent to submit the Tentative Agreement for a 45-day public comment period to run from approximately December 27, 2004 to February 10, 2005. Following the public comment period, the parties will jointly prepare responses to the public comments that have been received. Final approval by the parties is subject to public comment and appropriate change request modifications, if necessary. The parties also agree that to minimize additional delay, and if the parties are not able to resolve all issues with regard to comments, any unresolved matters shall be referred back to dispute resolution under the Tri-Party Agreement, Article VIII. However, any dispute resulting from these negotiations shall be initiated at the Inter-Agency Management Team level as described in the Tri-Party Agreement. The parties are expected to approve the changes to the Agreement by February 28, 2005.

(Original Signed By)

H. B. Gnann	Date
U.S. Department of Energy	
Office of River Protection	

(Original Signed By)

L. J. Cusack	Date
State of Washington	
Department of Ecology	

(Original Signed By)

N. Ceto	Date
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	
Region 10	

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M. N. Jaraysi	Date
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