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February 9, 2015

WRPS-1500142

Mr. K. W. Smith, Manager  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Office of River Protection  
Post Office Box 850  
Richland, Washington 99352-0450

Dear Mr. Smith:

**CONTRACT NUMBER DE-AC27-08RV14800 – WASHINGTON RIVER PROTECTION SOLUTIONS LLC SUBMITS IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR HANFORD TANK VAPOR ASSESSMENT REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

Enclosed is the Implementation Plan that Washington River Protection Solutions LLC (WRPS) has prepared in response to SRNL-RP-2014-00791, "Hanford Tank Vapor Assessment Report," released October 30, 2014. The plan was developed in response to the recommendations contained in the Assessment Report and proposes actions to further protect tank farm workers from potential exposure to chemical vapors. These proposed actions will be implemented over several years, in two phases. Phase 1 actions will reduce the potential for chemical vapor exposures in the near-term, while specific Phase 2 actions will be determined following review of actions taken and research performed as part of Phase 1.

A number of actions proposed in the Assessment Report and outlined in the Implementation Plan have already been implemented, and several others are underway. Planned actions include improving sampling and detection technology, performing additional sampling and characterization of the chemicals contained in the waste, and increasing real-time monitoring. The Implementation Plan outlines a proposed strategy to take advantage of emerging technology that may further enhance worker protection.

WRPS is confident this proposed strategy will reduce reliance on administrative controls and personal protective equipment and increase use of technologies and engineering controls, thus moving us toward the tank farms of the future where potential exposure to chemical vapors is further reduced.

The Implementation Plan also recognizes that additional actions to address vapors will likely be required beyond Phase 1, and includes discussion of certain potential future actions. However, WRPS recognizes that the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection (ORP) will

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select the specific future Phase 2 actions following analysis of the actions taken and research performed during Phase 1.

WRPS is committed to the implementation of actions to reduce the potential for worker exposures to chemical vapors in the tank farms to as low as reasonably achievable, and we look forward to working with ORP and the expert panel throughout the implementation process.

You may contact me at 372-9974 with any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

 R. Skwarek for L.D. Olson

L. David Olson  
President and Project Manager

RTR:LRV

Enclosure: Implementation Plan for Hanford Tank Vapor Assessment Report Recommendations  
(58 Pages)

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