



**Department of Energy**  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550  
Richland, Washington 99352

APR 13 2009

09-AMCP-0110

Mr. Stuart Harris, Director  
Department of Science and Engineering  
Confederated Tribes of the  
Umatilla Indian Reservation  
P.O. Box 638  
Pendleton, Oregon 97801

**RECEIVED**  
APR 16 2009  
**EDMC**

Dear Mr. Harris:

**PROPOSAL FOR GROUNDWATER PREFERRED PATHWAY INVESTIGATION IN THE HORN AREA BETWEEN THE 100 D AND H AREAS**

This letter responds to your March 24, 2009, proposal for conducting a groundwater preferred pathway investigation in the Horn Area between the 100 D and H Areas using the Aquatrack system.

The U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office (RL) has reviewed your proposal. The use of the Aquatrack system as outlined in your letter and other geophysical methods can help improve delineation of preferential flow paths in shallow aquifers as demonstrated from previous work conducted by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) at the 100 N Area on the Hanford Site. However, the use of geophysical methods to further characterize the groundwater flow paths for the 100 D and H Horn Area is not currently planned. As the upgrades to the Interim Remedial Actions and Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study investigations in the area proceed, the use of geophysical and other techniques to facilitate characterization and cleanup efforts will be considered. If it is decided to proceed with additional geophysical surveys (such as the use of Aquatrack), the CTUIR will be afforded every opportunity to propose and bid on any request for proposal by the RL site contractor.

As discussed in your letter, the CTUIR successfully bid on and won the contract to conduct a seismic survey in the 200 East Area of the Hanford Site. This work is ongoing and will provide valuable site characterization data and support the Hanford Site cleanup efforts. RL is very supportive regarding ongoing and potential future characterization activities by the CTUIR to support the cleanup mission at the Hanford Site. RL will set up a meeting with the CTUIR Department of Science and Engineering to discuss the use of Aquatrack and other geophysical methods to further characterization efforts at the Hanford Site.

Mr. Stuart Harris  
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If you have any questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact Briant Charboneau, of my staff, on (509) 373-6137.

Sincerely,



Matthew S. McCormick, Assistant Manager  
for the Central Plateau

AMCP:JGM

cc: V. Adams, EM-22  
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