

June 21, 2016

WRPS-1602874

Mr. D. E. Molnaa, President
Hanford Atomic Metal Trades Council
1305 Knight Street
Richland, Washington 99352

WASHINGTON RIVER PROTECTION SOLUTIONS' RESPONSE TO HANFORD ATOMIC
METAL TRADES COUNCIL LETTER REGARDING TANK FARM VAPORS AND
WORKER SAFETY

Reference : Letter, D. E. Molnaa, HAMTC, to M. D. Lindholm, WRPS, and K. Smith, ORP,
"Tank Farm Vapors and Worker Safety," 1602400, dated June 20, 2016.

Dear Mr. Molnaa:

Thank you for your letter of June 20, 2016, regarding chemical vapor management at the Hanford Tank Farms. Washington River Protection Solutions (WRPS) respects that HAMTC has and continues to take actions to represent its members. We recognize that, despite our implementation of increasingly more aggressive improvements in engineering controls, administrative controls, enhanced monitoring and personnel protective equipment, some workers continue to express concerns associated with odors.

As the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) contractor for safe retrieval, storage, treatment and disposal of tank farms waste, WRPS considers the health, safety and welfare of our workforce to be of highest importance in executing our mission. This commitment is demonstrated through our actions. WRPS is nationally recognized as a Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) STAR site. We maintain one of the best Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) injury/illness case rates in the DOE complex, currently standing at #2 in the complex, and 2nd only to Washington Closure Hanford.

Throughout the WRPS contract period, we have ensured that personnel are protected. With our robust controls, we have consistently maintained safe worker breathing zones well below industry accepted limits, such as the Occupational Exposure Limits (OELs) utilized in the nuclear and petro-chemical industry. Our industrial hygiene and monitoring programs are fully compliant and state-of-the-art, setting new standards for our industry.

We continue to seek additional ways to improve working conditions that exceed requirements and expectations of industry and regulations. Our commitment to continuous improvement is demonstrated by our commissioning of the expert, independent Hanford Tank Vapor Assessment Team (TVAT), which took a broader look at the vapor challenges and offered independent

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analysis and recommendations. After collaboration and discussion with HAMTC, DOE and our employees, WRPS has been actively working on the TVAT Phase-1 recommendations for the last 18 months. Progress to date includes:

- Partnering with Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, resulting in development and application of leading edge monitoring technology including the mobile laboratory;
- State-of-the-art modeling capability for predicting environmental conditions, source conditions and chemical concentrations to aid in the development of work plans with the highest level of worker protection;
- Upgrading the industrial hygiene program to more closely resemble the overall structure, rigor and stature comparable to our world class radiological controls program; and
- Improved procedures, protocols and methods, including vapor control/reduction zones

By the end of this fiscal year, with fieldwork continuing as planned, we will be in position to implement a comprehensive TVAT Phase-2 vapor control strategy that takes monitoring to a level where tank odor events can be defined at the constituency level to provide our workers additional assurance of health and safety.

WRPS remains committed to maintaining the strong HAMTC working partnership which has resulted in the achievement of significant risk reduction and cleanup activities over the past eight years, including:

- C-Tank Farm waste retrievals, with 15 of 16 tanks now complete;
- Recovery of waste from tank AY-102, preventing release of material to the environment.
- Six evaporator campaigns in the past 2 years, gaining more than 2 million gallons of tank space to support continued single shell tank retrievals;
- Effluent Treatment Facility restart after more than 2 years of inactivity, to remove radioactive and hazardous contaminants from waste water generated by cleanup activities; and
- Numerous critical infrastructure upgrades such as ventilation system upgrades, 242-A Evaporator, 274-AW Consolidated Control Room, 222-S Laboratory and wireless infrastructure.

Through these achievements, HAMTC and WRPS have gained the trust and confidence of the DOE and the public. This is evidenced by the continued and increased funding provided by the U. S. Government to execute our cleanup work.

We believe that implementing the TVAT Phase-2 Plan represents the most meaningful and aggressive steps that can be taken to demonstrate and ensure the continued protection of HAMTC and all workers. I appreciated the opportunity to meet with you this morning to obtain clarification on the demands and recommendations from your letter. Together we can continue to improve working conditions even beyond what is required or expected by industry and our regulators. We will consider in good faith the implementation actions proposed in your letter,

Mr. D. E. Molnaa

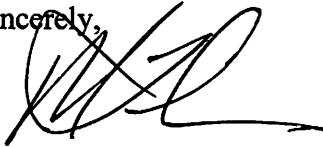
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recognizing that WRPS is accountable and responsible to execute the DOE tank waste cleanup mission safely. Therefore, in evaluating this input, any changes in approach must be implementable, such that work can continue in a manner that makes a positive difference in worker health and safety.

If you have any questions please contact me at (509) 376-3492.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. A. Lindholm', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

M. A. Lindholm
President & Project Manager

TZS:TLF