

STATE OF ALASKA

**DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
DIVISION OF AIR AND WATER QUALITY
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE**

RECEIVED JUN 1

FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR

555 Cordova Street
Anchorage, AK 99501-261
PHONE: (907) 269-7634
FAX: (907) 269-3098
<http://www.state.ak.us/dec/>

June 25, 2003

Runore Wycoff, Director
Environmental Restoration
U.S. Department Of Energy
232 Energy Way
North Las Vegas, NV 89030

Bob Patrick
Aleutian/Pribilof Island Association
201 E. 3rd Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501

Ann Morkill, Deputy Refuge Manager
Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge
2355 Kachemak Bay Dr., Suite 101
Homer, AK 99603

Dear Ms. Wycoff, Mr. Patrick and Ms. Morkill:


On behalf of the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation and pursuant to the Letter of Intent (LOI) between ADEC and DOE, we are pleased to agree to, accept and approve the Amchitka Independent Scientific Assessment Plan dated May 28 developed by the Consortium for Risk Evaluation with Stakeholder Participation (CRESP).

If competently carried out, we believe the Plan will meet the objectives of the Letter Of Intent by establishing a framework for a scientific assessment that will provide the basis for the long-term stewardship associated with the substructure and its relationship to the surrounding marine environment at Amchitka Island.

We feel strongly that the Science Plan should be fully implemented prior to completion of the stewardship plan. Each task is critical to achieving a comprehensive understanding of potential risks and impacts. However, given current funding limitations this acceptance and approval also includes the budget for tasks that are projected to cost approximately \$3.1 million to be supported under the DOE Cleanup Reform Initiative (see Table 9).

Even if no other funds were forthcoming to support the Science Plan, this work should be carried out by CRESP as soon as possible. Completion of these tasks will provide important information that would, among other goals, help reduce risk uncertainties. This information will be very useful for the development of a long-term stewardship plan.

Clean Air, Clean Water

 Printed on recycled paper

Runore Wycoff
Bob Patrick
Anne Morekill

-2-

June 25, 2003

Of course, if significant radiation leakage is found we reserve the right to withdraw our approval of the Plan and reconsider the task list and budget.

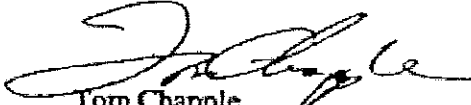
We'd like to make a few additional comments for the record:

Y900 As we have said before, we believe this is a federal obligation and DOE is responsible for funding the complete science plan as proposed by our independent Science Advisor in accordance with the Letter Of Intent. We encourage the Department to request additional funds.

- We agree with DOE that there should be a procedural mechanism for discussion and evaluation of proposed changes to the approved plan. We must remain flexible to adjust to new information or changing circumstances. Details should be finalized by the policy team following Plan approval.
- We should strive to achieve completion deadlines as described in DOE's approval letter but ADEC reserves the right to propose an extension of those deadlines, as necessary and appropriate.
- Finally, we would like to underscore the importance of stakeholder involvement throughout the implementation process.

This is a good plan that has been built through a good process. We truly appreciate your collective efforts and those of CRESPI/ UAF to bring us to this point. We have come far and look forward to getting underway as soon as possible. It's time to act.

Sincerely,


Tom Chapple
Director

cc: Charles Powers, Principal Investigator
Consortium for Risk Evaluation with Stakeholder Participation II
An Organization of the Institution for Responsible Management
317 George Street, Suite 202
New Brunswick, NJ 08901