



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

January 7, 2025

Mr. Raymond M. Geimer
General Manager
Hanford Laboratory Management and Integration, LLC
Post Office Box 1796
MSIN C2-01
Richland, Washington 99352

Dear Mr. Geimer:

This letter serves as notification of the Office of Enforcement's decision to conduct an investigation into the facts and circumstances associated with the December 7, 2023, discovery of excess sediment in the Building 222-S fire suppression system piping and the resulting emergency impairment of the building's fire suppression system at the Hanford site.

The Office of Enforcement will conduct this investigation pursuant to the authority set forth in 10 Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) § 820.21, *Investigations*, and in 10 C.F.R. § 851.40(a), *Investigations and inspections*. Although investigating the inoperable fire suppression system will be the general purpose of this investigation, additional issues relating to the scope, nature, and extent of compliance by Hanford Laboratory Management and Integration, LLC with DOE's nuclear safety requirements specified in 10 C.F.R. Part 820, *Procedural Rules for DOE Nuclear Activities*, and with DOE's worker safety and health requirements specified in 10 C.F.R. Part 851, *Worker Safety and Health Program*, may be pursued as issues arise during the investigation. The investigation will include an onsite visit and interviews with contractor personnel.

Any requests for documents to support this investigation will be provided separately via one or more e-mails. Your cooperation to ensure timely submission of all documents by the requested date is appreciated.

For covered contracts according to 41 United States Code (U.S.C.) § 4301 and under the Major Fraud Act (MFA), as amended (41 U.S.C. § 4310), this investigation may be a proceeding commenced by the United States that relates to a violation of, or the failure to comply with, a federal regulation. Costs incurred in connection with such a proceeding are subject to the reimbursement restrictions of the MFA implemented at 48 C.F.R. § 31.205-47. As a result, any costs incurred that are directly attributable to supporting DOE's investigation should be tracked, subsequent to receipt of this letter, and segregated from other potentially allowable costs.

If you have any questions concerning this letter, please contact me or your staff may contact Mr. Jacob M. Miller, Director, Office of Nuclear Safety Enforcement, at (301) 903-7707.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anthony C. Pierpoint', with a large, stylized initial 'A' and a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end.

Anthony C. Pierpoint
Director
Office of Enforcement
Office of Enterprise Assessments

cc: Jeanette Ardiente, Hanford Laboratory Management and Integration
Brian Vance, HFO