



September 6, 1996

Al Alm, Assistant Secretary
Office of Environmental Management
US Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue S.W.
Suite 5A-014/FORS
Washington DC 20585

John Wagoner
Department of Energy, Richland Operations
PO Box 550 (A7-50)
Richland, WA 99352

RE: A Public Involvement Process for the 10-Year Plan

Dear Messrs. Alm and Wagoner:

Public involvement is essential to the success of the 10-year Plan. The Hanford stakeholders, Tribes, general public and the Hanford Advisory Board (HAB) have already made a significant investment in providing advice to DOE. We must see those values reflected in both the development and implementation of the 10-Year Plan. We recognize and appreciate USDOE's formal commitment to public involvement as an integral part of the 10-year planning process.

We are concerned that the draft site plan and the Integrated 10-Year Plan will rely upon major new assumptions (e.g. changed cleanup standards, restricted land use, offsite waste import). The HAB and regional stakeholders have already expressed objection to the incorporation of these assumptions in both budget and strategic plan proposals without thorough public involvement. Full analysis of the impacts from the use of new assumptions in the Integrated 10-Year Plan must be presented and discussed in a full public involvement process. That public process should be done in conjunction with the 1999 budget process and should include DOE response to the HAB budget advice.

The HAB will then respond to specific issues in the 10-Year Plan in future consensus advice.

Issues specific to Hanford must be aired before not only the HAB but in a full public process. Cross-DOE complex issues such as the transfer of waste between sites must be included in the National Equity Dialogue.

The Board looks forward to your written response, as called for in our charter.

Very truly yours,

Merilyn B. Reeves, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board

cc: Chuck Clarke, EPA
Mary Riveland, Ecology
Cindy Kelly, Designated Federal Official
Linda Lingle, Site Representative
The Oregon and Washington Congressional Delegations

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For questions or comments, please send [email](mailto:Hanford_Advisory_Board@rl.gov) to Hanford_Advisory_Board@rl.gov
HAB Consensus Advice #51
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