



[Advice # 92](#) From: Mike Wilson

Ms. Marilyn Reeves, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board
723 The Parkway, Suite 200
Richland, Washington 99352

April 29, 1999

Dear Ms. Reeves:

RE: Hanford Advisory Board Consensus Advice #92. The Department of Ecology appreciates the Hanford Advisory Board's dedication to this important issue.

We agree that the Board's recommendations are consistent with Tri-Party Agreement requirements. As outlined in the Tri-Party Agreement Community Relations Plan, Ecology continues to work toward improved communication with the other Tri-Party Agencies to "make sure the public understands how public input will influence decisions."

As outlined in points one and two, Ecology agrees that it is necessary to provide timely responses in clear, concise language, and to share details of how public comments influenced the decision-making process. Per the Tri-Party Agreement, we continue to "strive for improvements to the review process in order to ensure that information included in responses is clear and understandable.

Regarding points three and four, we agree to keep the public informed of the status of decision-making processes, including informing the media and posting information on the Agency's Internet site. The Nuclear Waste Program Web site will be accessible by the end of April and will include public involvement opportunities and additional information.

Points five, six and seven are all feasible, and in some instances, already in effect. Ecology does make contact information available, including a toll-free phone number. In addition, we would be willing to offer and use alternative methods of notification, as long as the number of comments allows for this process. We appreciate the Board's understanding that in the event of significant numbers of comments being received; Ecology may not have the resources to respond to each comment individually via phone or e-mail. We also agree that the phrase "Comment Noted" is not specific enough and should be omitted from response documents.

Again, thank you for your letter. Ecology appreciates the Board's efforts.

Sincerely,

/s/
Mike Wilson, Manager
Nuclear Waste Program

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*For questions or comments, please send [email](mailto:Hanford_Advisory_Board@rl.gov) to Hanford_Advisory_Board@rl.gov
Response to HAB Consensus Advice #92 (March 26, 1999)
Subject: HAB Consensus Advice on Tri-Parties Response to Public Comments
Letter from Mike Wilson, dated April 29, 1999
URL: <http://www.hanford.gov/boards/hab/response/092.htm>
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