

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 10 HANFORD PROJECT OFFICE

712 Swift Boulevard, Suite 5 Richland, Washington 99352

August 20, 2003

Todd Martin, Chair Hanford Advisory Board 1933 Jadwin, Suite 133 Richland, WA 99352

Re:

Response to Hanford Advisory Board Consensus Advice #148 on Revised Draft Hanford

Solid Waste Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Mr. Martin:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed your advice on the revised Solid Waste Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). EPA shared our comments with the Board previously, and we believe many of the points in your advice are consistent with our views.

One point we do differ on is whether this is the appropriate vehicle to conduct a site-wide analysis of cumulative impacts. It is our belief that this task cannot be accomplished until the Superfund and RCRA facility investigations are complete. These are expected to be done by 2008.

We believe that if the U.S. Department of Energy incorporates the changes included in our comments, they will have produced an EIS that is sufficient for its intended purpose.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Ceto, Program Manager

Hanford Project Office

cc:

Marla Marvin, DOE Mike Wilson, Ecology