

May 15, 2001

Keith Klein, Manager
U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations
P.O. Box 550 (A7-50)
Richland, WA 99352

Harry Boston, Manager
U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection
2440 Stevens Center
Richland, WA 99352

Subject: Non-Union, Non-Management Employee Members

Dear Messrs. Klein and Boston,

I am writing to ask your help in ensuring continued participation by non-union, non-management employee members in the Hanford Advisory Board. I encourage you to request Hanford contractor continued support of employees who are selected to serve on the Board. Such services should be recognized, in terms of released time, just as other community-oriented activities.

With the issuance of new contracts, as well as turnover in contractor management, it is important to reinforce the importance of employee participation in the Hanford Advisory Board. The Hanford Advisory Board highly values and needs these employee members to speak from their profound knowledge, and that of their colleagues, on Hanford site issues. We do not expect or want them to be "company" spokespeople. Their independence is key to our success.

The contractors should understand the background as to how and why we consider these employee members so important. Over the Board's six year history, these members and alternates have done what we all hoped they would do-they have made our deliberations more real, more practical, and better informed. They have been instrumental in building bridges between the workforce and outside interests who have often been perceived as unsympathetic to the workers.

Please recognize how important these employee Board positions are to all of us. We request that you forward this letter to the contractors and ask for their cooperation with the HAB process. If you or they have any questions or concerns about these arrangements

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and how we got to where we are, please feel free to contact me, any Board member, or representatives of any of the Tri-Party agencies.

Sincerely,

Todd Martin, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board

cc: Tom Fitzsimmons, Director, Washington State Department of Ecology
Wade Ballard, Deputy Designated Federal Officer
Chuck Findley, Acting Regional Manager, U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency, Region 10
Michael Gearheard, Environmental Protection Agency