



August 27, 1997

The Honorable Federico Peña  
Secretary of Energy  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue SW  
Washington, DC 20585

**Subject: Invitation for Discussion with the Hanford Advisory Board**

Dear Secretary Peña:

The Hanford Advisory Board (HAB) is most anxious to meet and discuss a variety of Hanford issues with you. We had an excellent, productive, and frank relationship with your predecessor Hazel O'Leary and hope to enjoy a similar relationship with you. Unfortunately, the HAB did not have an opportunity to meet with you during your first visit to Hanford, and therefore we extend this invitation to meet with the HAB in the near future.

The 30 members of the HAB represent diverse, and sometimes competing Northwest interests, but these stakeholders are strongly unified in support of expedited cleanup of Hanford to protect the public, the workers, and the environment. The HAB advice generated over the past four years has helped DOE save millions of dollars and get on with cleanup. We appreciate that Al Alm, Assistant Secretary of Energy, and John Wagoner of the Richland Operations Office, have taken the time to seek out the Board's advice. Such direct dialogue is of great value in implementing reasonable decisions that meet HAB values and principles.

We urge you to meet with the HAB this fall to engage in a dialogue on the complex and challenging issues at Hanford. We have meetings scheduled in Portland, Oregon, on November 6-7 and in Richland, Washington, on December 4-5. With sufficient notice we could also convene a special meeting to accommodate your busy schedule.

We look forward to a favorable response and the opportunity to meet with you in the near future. Please contact DOE-Richland to make arrangements to meet with us.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Merilyn B. Reeves, Chair  
Hanford Advisory Board

cc: Al Alm, DOE-HQ  
John Wagoner, DOE-RL  
Chuck Clarke, Environmental Protection Agency

Tom Fitzsimmons, Washington Department of Ecology  
Alice Murphy, Designated Federal Official  
The Oregon and Washington Congressional Delegations  
Randy Smith, Environmental Protection Agency  
Dan Silver, Washington Department of Ecology

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*For questions or comments, please send [email](mailto:Hanford_Advisory_Board@rl.gov) to Hanford\_Advisory\_Board@rl.gov*

*URL: <http://www.hanford.gov/boards/hab/letters/97-020.htm>*

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