



May 1, 1998

Mr. Robert Alvarez
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Office of Policy and International Affairs
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, D.C. 20585

Subject: Meeting with Under Secretary on CRCIA

Dear Mr. Alvarez:

In response to your request of April 27, 1998, we have arranged for Greg deBruler to attend the May 5 meeting with Under Secretary Moniz on the Columbia River Comprehensive Impact Assessment (CRCIA). Mr. deBruler represents the Hanford Advisory Board on the CRCIA Team. Your letter indicates that the meeting will consider the relationship of the CRCIA effort to vadose zone characterization work at Hanford. The Hanford Advisory Board has identified DOE's efforts to integrate vadose zone and groundwater work as one of the key areas on which we are focusing this year. The Board's Environmental Restoration Committee and a number of Board members, including Mr. deBruler, are actively involved in examining vadose zone issues and a specific issue manager for this topic has not been designated by the Board.

The Hanford Advisory Board has had a number of briefings and discussions on both CRCIA and vadose zone issues at Hanford over the past two years. The Board has also provided advice on these topics to the Tri-Party Agreement agencies, DOE, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Washington Department of Ecology. Enclosed are copies of the consensus advice from the Board on CRCIA and the vadose zone. I hope these will be helpful in understanding the perspective of Northwest stakeholders on the Board at the meeting next week.

Please call if you have any questions about this advice or would like additional information on the views of the Hanford Advisory Board.

Very Truly Yours,

Merilyn B. Reeves, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board

cc: Greg deBruler
Madeleine Brown, Chair, Environmental Restoration Committee

Enclosures:

1. Consensus Advice #54, FY1997 Budget Allocation, November 8, 1996
2. Consensus Advice #61, Columbia River Comprehensive Impact Assessment, December 5, 1996
3. Consensus Advice #65, Unacceptable Program Impacts under FY97 Budget, February 8, 1997
4. Consensus Advice #67, TWRS Vadose Zone Characterization, April 4, 1997
5. Consensus Advice #83, TWRS Vadose Zone Characterization, December 5, 1997
6. Consensus Advice #84, FY2000 Budget, April 10, 1998

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

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