



3 November 1998

Mr. Tom Perry

General Accounting Office
825 Jadwin, Room 232
Mailstop A1-80
Richland, WA 99352

Subject: Invitation to Hanford Advisory Board Meeting

Dear Mr. Perry:

Thank you for responding to our invitation to send a representative to the November 5-6, 1998, Hanford Advisory Board meeting. We look forward to Mr. Swick's presentation on the GAO's testimony at the October 8, 1998, hearing of the House Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations on the topic of Hanford's Tank Waste Remediation System. The Hanford Advisory Board is chartered to advise the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and Washington Department of Ecology on cleanup of the Hanford site. The Board has identified retrieval and vitrification of the tank wastes as one of the highest priorities at Hanford and we have urged getting treatment capability for these wastes.

With issuance of DOE's report to Congress and subsequent authorization to proceed to BNFL for Phase B1 work on additional design, the Board has begun framing the issues it wants to explore over the next 24 months. That list of issues is quite lengthy and includes a number of issues that are related to the findings and recommendations of GAO. It will be most helpful to hear firsthand what those findings and recommendations are and the rationale behind them.

We look forward to meeting Mr. Swick and appreciate your assistance in arranging for him to attend the meeting.

Very Truly Yours,

Merilyn B. Reeves, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board

cc: William Swick, GAO

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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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