April 6, 2001

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

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment on Low-Level Burial Ground Trench Expansion

Dear Mr. Klein,

The Hanford Advisory Board (HAB) requests that Department of Energy-Richland Operations Office (DOE-RL) not take any action on its Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) until after the HAB has had a full opportunity to review the proposal and the basis for relying on an EA ahead of a scheduled full Environmental Impact Statement. Therefore, please extend the comment period until after the June HAB meeting, when the Board will consider advice on this topic.

Sincerely,

Todd Martin, Chair Hanford Advisory Board

cc: Harry Boston, Manager, Department of Energy, Office of River Protection 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

Enclosure: HAB Advice #98, #102 and #103

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