

Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585 September 30, 31996596 RECEIVED OCT 1 5 1996

Ms. Merilyn B. Reeves Chair, Hanford Advisory Board 800 NW Sixth Avenue, Suite 342 Portland, Oregon 97209-3715

Dear Ms. Reeves:

Thank you for your continued interest in ensuring the quality of the Office of Environmental Management's budget formulation process. Specifically you were interested in our position with respect to the National Review Panel's "Review of Risk Data Sheet Information for Fiscal Year 1998," dated May 14, 1996.

We have made no formal, written response to the Consortium for Risk Evaluation with Stakeholder Participation (CRESP) concerning the National Review Panel's Final Report (Tier 2 Review). We have, however, been working closely with CRESP to see how we can use these recommendations in light of our efforts to revolutionize our program with the 10-year planning process. I support the comments and recommendations made in the Tier 2 and Tier 3 Reviews on how to improve the budget formulation process, especially the use of risk in the budget formulation process.

I agree with you that early stakeholder involvement is a crucial element of the risk management process. I know the Richland Operations Office is looking forward to working with the Hanford Advisory Board and its committees to ensure appropriate public involvement in not only the RDS process but in all of our budget processes.

The full set of the Richland Operations Office's responses to questions concerning the Hanford-site's Fiscal Year 1998 RDS process is enclosed (Enclosure 9 - RL Response to Comments Received on the FY 98 Integrated Priority List - 4-30-96). I hope this answers your questions for now. Please stay in touch and best wishes for the future.

Sincerely,

Alvin L. Alm

Assistant Secretary for

Environmental Management

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Bernard Goldstein, CRESP

Mr. John C. Wagoner, Manager, Richland Operations Office

Ms. Merilyn Reeves, Chair June 12, 1996 Page 4

As always, we will support the Board in any way that we can to assure that its participation in the USDOE budget prioritization and submission process is timely and effective and in accord with its values and desires. To achieve this, my staff is ready to respond to any request for information or support regarding USDOE's priorities and budget from Board committee members.

Sincerely,

Dan Silver, Assistant Director Waste Management Division

cc: Alvin Alm, Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management (EM-1)

Cynthia Kelly, Office of Accountability

Mike Grainey, Oregon Department of Energy

John Wagoner, Manager, Richland Operations Office

Ron Izatt, Deputy Manger, Richland Operations Office

Alice Q. Murphy, Chief Financial Officer, Richland Operations Office

Russell Jim, YIN

Bill Burke, CTUIR

Donna Powaukee, Nez Perce