



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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May 5, 1995

Ms. Marilyn Reeves, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board
22250 Boulder Crest Lane
Amity, OR 97101

Dear Ms. Reeves:

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) agrees with the Board's Consensus Advice #20, dealing with Tank 241-C-106. The Board has recognized some long-standing fundamental problems in managing Hanford's tank wastes. The Board has also supported a sound strategy for correcting those problems, based on openness and accountability.

Since the mid 1980's, Ecology has recognized and documented serious deficiencies in the U.S. Department of Energy's ability to detect waste tank leaks, and in the conduct of tank farm operations generally. I am glad that Ecology's report on Tank C-106 proved useful to the Board's Health, Safety, and Waste Management Committee.

Ecology considers the proper and responsible management of Hanford's tank farms a top priority. Ecology has recommended actions to improve the conduct of operations and enhance Energy's ability to detect leaks at the tanks. We have pledged to work cooperatively with Energy to achieve better, safer and more responsible management of Hanford's tank waste. This effort is strengthened by the Board's advice and involved citizens.

Many challenges lie ahead for Hanford's tank waste. These challenges will require the Board to provide advice to the decision makers to help define and shape our decisions at Hanford.

Sincerely,

Mary Riveland
Director

MR:cs

Response to HAB Consensus Advice #20 (April 7, 1995)
Building Partnerships and the Tank 241-C-106 Experience
Letter from M. Riveland, Ecology, May 5, 1995

