

Tri-Party Agreement

September 4, 1996

Merilyn B. Reeves, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board
22250 Boulder Crest Lane
Amity, Oregon 97101

Re: Response to Comments on the Community Relations Plan, Board
Advice #50

Dear Ms. Reeves:

Thank you and the Board for providing advice on the draft Community Relations Plan. Below are our responses and how the Boards comments influenced the revised plan.

A comment is made that the Community Relations Plan should recognize the Boards involvement in the budget development process. We agree and this information will be added to the semi-annual budget meeting section. In addition, Appendix A will be revised to reflect Board meetings and if possible anticipated topics for the meeting. The Boards fiscal year 97 work plan will be helpful in developing this information.

The agencies agree with your comment regarding the need to make the fall budget meeting optional. The plan will be changed to reflect that the fall budget meeting will be optional instead of a mandatory requirement. However, the three agencies do believe there is important information to convey to the public in the fall and anticipate that we will be having meetings. We will work closely with the Board on this issue.

In addition to the comments on the budget process the Board also conveyed three principals that should be followed on all public involvement. The first principal is to schedule formal public meetings only when the public can influence a decision or when public interest indicates a need. We agree and will be working with the various interests in developing effective public involvement on specific Hanford topics.

The second principal is to provide understandable and relevant presentations and information to the public as well as make information available. This is always our intention and the plan reflects this commitment.

Merilyn B. Reeves

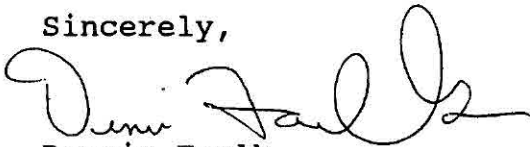
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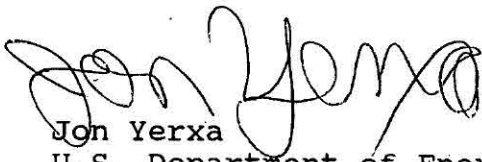
The third principal is to commit to sponsoring meetings jointly with local, state, tribal, and stakeholders. We agree and past experience has shown that co-sponsored events are very successful. The plan has been updated to reflect this principal.

Again we want to take this opportunity to thank the Board for its comments on the Community Relations Plan. We look forward to working with you to implement effective public involvement in the coming year.

Sincerely,



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