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To: Dennis Faulk/R10/USEPA/US@EPA

cc:

Subject: B Reactor Preservation

Dennis:

I'm a part-time tours and events specialist with Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. I've been fortunate during the past 2 1/2 years to have been asked to escort at least a dozen tour groups to B Reactor for a tour through that facility.

The ages of the tour participants have varied from community college students to retirees in their 60s and older. It's been fascinating for me to observe that no matter what their age, the tour participants are keenly interested in learning as much as they can about this unique facility during their visit. This is evident from how they pay close attention to the tour guides, particularly those B Reactor Museum Assn guides who once worked at B Reactor, and ask numerous questions. It's the same sort of desire to absorb and understand the history of a place that I've seen in persons touring through coastal forts on the East Coast of the United States. The difference, in my view, is that there are a number of coastal forts, but just one B Reactor.

I support the concept of fixing up B Reactor and turning it into a museum that eventually would be open to the general public. The part that B Reactor played in ushering in the atomic age makes a fascinating story that is significant not only for those of us who were alive at the time, but for newer generations that are inheriting the world shaped by the results of the work begun here.

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