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July 10, 2001

Mr. Dennis Faulk
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
712 Swift Boulevard, Suite 5
Richland, WA 99352

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EDMC

Dear Mr. Faulk:

Subject: **Proposed Cleanup Plan for Hanford's B Reactor Facility**

I support the recommended interim action Alternative Three as described in DOE/RL-2001-09. I would further like to see the B Reactor eventually become a museum accessible to the general public, children and foreign visitors by a road from State Highway 24 near the Vernita Bridge. This is based on having toured B Reactor and its Fuel Storage Basin in the 1970s with one of the control room operators while B Reactor was at full power, and twice in the 1990s. In addition, I have the following suggestions:

- The current tour route should remain available (but with more frequent escorted trips) as shown in Figure 4-1 of DOE/RL-2001-09. In addition, the toilets should be added as Current Public Access.
- The current tour route should be expanded as cleanup funding becomes available. This might include (in any order) rooms 228b Electrical Equipment Storage, 228c Electrical Equipment, 228d Change, 229a Northeast Instrument, 229b Storage, 225a Office, and 224 Instrument Repair Shop.
- The tour route should be expanded to permit a walk around the outside of the B Reactor and Fuel Storage Basin, perhaps on a paved path that would allow handicapped accessibility.
- The Fuel Storage Basin could become available for public viewing by access to windows in room the Basin Viewing Room 414. Additional viewing could be accomplished by installing a viewing window in the east side looking into both the Fuel Storage Basin and the room 413 Transfer Bay.
- The current tour route might be expanded to include the 210a Lunch Room and the series of rooms north of the currently available Corridor 3.
- The 113a West Reactor Experimental Area might be made available for public access by a rigid plastic tunnel part way into the room. This might also permit a view into the front face of the reactor from the south.
- I am not sure that eventual opening of any areas other than the ground floor would be worthwhile because of handicapped accessibility. It might be best to clean up or seal in contamination and hazardous materials in other areas of the facility and keep them under a surveillance and maintenance program so that they cannot transfer to areas open for public access.

Sincerely,

Les Davenport

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