

# HANFORD ADVISORY BOARD

*A Site Specific Advisory Board, Chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act*

September 6, 1996

**Advising:**

US Dept of Energy  
US Environmental  
Protection Agency  
Washington Dept of  
Ecology

John Wagoner  
Department of Energy, Richland Operations  
PO Box 550 (A7-50)  
Richland, WA 99352

**CHAIR**

Merilyn Reeves

RE: Cesium Contamination in the Vadose Zone Under Tanks

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Frank Ochoa

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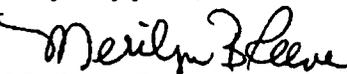
*State of Oregon*  
Shelley Cimon  
Michael Grainey

*Ex-Officio*  
Confederated Tribes of  
the Umatilla  
Washington Health  
Department

Dear Mr. Wagoner:

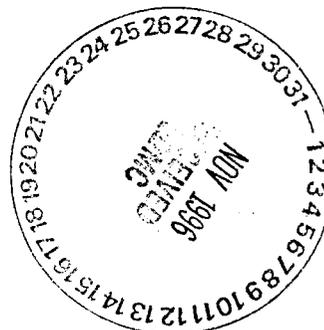
The Hanford Advisory Board (HAB) acknowledges the responsiveness of the Tank Waste Remediation Program (TWRS) to its concerns about the Cesium contamination in the vadose zone under the tanks. The HAB has been and still is concerned about the risk of this contaminant and other chemical and radionuclide contaminants reaching the groundwater. We are very pleased with how the TWRS program formed an independent panel to review these issues and advise USDOE on a path forward. The HAB expresses its appreciation in particular to Jackson Kinzer and Casey Ruud for addressing the problem and getting us what data they can as quickly as they can. We encourage moving forward in a timely manner in accordance with the recommendations of the review panel.

Very truly yours,



Merilyn B. Reeves, Chair  
Hanford Advisory Board

cc: Chuck Clarke, EPA  
Mary Riveland, Ecology



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