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United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Pacific Northwest Region
909 First Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98104-1060

IN REPLY REFER TO:

L7619(CCCSSO-RP)
Hanford Reach, WA-W&S

DEC 7 1995

Carolyn Haass
TWRS NEPA Document Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
Post Office Box 550
MSIN S7-51
Richland, Washington 99352-0550



Dear Ms. Haass:

Thank you for the opportunity to identify issues to be addressed in the environmental impact statement (EIS) being prepared for the planned Tank Waste Remediation System. Without a more complete description of the proposed project, we cannot provide anything more than a general overview of issues to be addressed. Our concerns center around potential impacts to the proposed wild and scenic river and national wildlife refuge. The EIS must address any impacts – real and potential – to the resources that make the river eligible for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System and the upland eligible for the National Wildlife Refuge System. A complete description of these values – including a free-flowing river and “outstandingly remarkable” resources – can be found in the *Final Hanford Reach of the Columbia River Comprehensive River Conservation Study and Environmental Impact Statement* prepared by the National Park Service with the assistance of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. If you do not already have a copy of this document, please let us know, and we would be happy to provide you with a copy. Due to an extremely limited supply, we would not be able to supply copies to your entire study team.

Once again, thank you for an early identification of issues that might impact the interests of the National Park Service. If you have any questions with regard to this letter or the potential river designations, please do not hesitate to contact Dan Haas at (206) 220-4120.

Sincerely,

Rory D. Westberg, Superintendent
Columbia Cascades System Support Office

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