

June 7, 1999

Keith Klein, Manager
U. S. Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office
MSIN A7-50
Richland, WA 99352

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Re: Comments on Draft Hanford Remedial Action EIS and Land Use Plan

Dear Mr. Klein:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Hanford Remedial Action EIS and Land Use Plan. The Benton County Public Utility District strongly supports the local governments' option described as Alternative 3 in DOE/EIS-0222D. The District also supports the DOE Preferred Alternative.

Of particular interest to the District is maintaining the availability of the area east of Route 240 to the Columbia River and north of the Energy Northwest (formally Supply System) site to the City of Richland's northern boundary for Research and Development and Industrial use. We agree that a reasonable buffer zone along the shoreline of the Columbia River for the protection of fish and wildlife critical habitat is appropriate.

Thank you for considering these comments.



James W. Sanders
General Manager

CC: Mr. Thomas W. Ferns/DOE-RL – MSIN HO-12
C. E. Revell/BPUD