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*Nez Perce*

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ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION & WASTE MANAGEMENT  
P.O. BOX 365 • LAPWAI, IDAHO 83540-0365 • (208) 843-7375 / FAX: 843-7378

April 10, 1998

Mr. Tom Ferns  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Richland Operations Office  
PO Box 550, MS H0-12  
Richland, Washington 99352



RE: Inclusion of the BC Cribs' Radiological Control Area in the HRA-EIS

Dear Mr. Ferns:

The Nez Perce Tribe Department of Environmental Restoration and Waste Management (ERWM) appreciates being invited to participate in the development of the Final Hanford Remedial Action Environmental Impact Statement and Comprehensive Land Use Plan (HRA-EIS). Tribal consultation, on future Hanford Site land use directly impacts our most important resource, the Columbia River. Our rights to the Mid-Columbia were retained in the Treaty of 1855 and were affirmed through a series of federal and state actions.

ERWM formally requests inclusion of the BC Cribs' Radiological Control Area in the HRA-EIS document. The BC Cribs' Radiological Control Area should be shown and described in the section of Chapter 3 containing the No Action Alternative. Alternatively, the BC Cribs' Radiological Control Area can be shown and described in section 4.11 of Chapter 4 which describes Hanford Site contamination. The BC Cribs' Radiological Control Area encompasses more surface area than any other Hanford waste site. Failing to fully disclose the nature and extent of the contamination associated with the BC Cribs in the HRA-EIS will undermine the creditability of the document and the Department of Energy.

If you wish to discuss this request further, please contact Dr. Stanley M. Sobczyk at (208) 843-7375 or (208) 843-7378 (fax).

Sincerely,

Donna L. Powaukee  
Nez Perce Tribe  
ERWM Manager

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APR 16 1998  
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**RL COMMITMENT  
CONTROL**

APR 13 1998  
RICHLAND  
OPERATIONS OFFICE

cc: John Wagoner, DOE-RL, Site Manager  
Kevin Clarke, DOE-RL, Indian Programs Manager  
Lloyd Piper, DOE-RL

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