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Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

PORTLAND BRANCH
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November 12, 1998

To: Larry Gadbois
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
712 Swift Boulevard, Suite 5
Richland, Washington

Re: Changes Proposed to Hanford's Tri-Party Agreement

WILPF welcomes a schedule for the clean-up of the Hanford K-Basins . . . the sooner and better, the better. We are dismayed that the process has been delayed so long and that solutions that should have been developed long ago appear to be just now possible.

We urge the Hanford contractors responsible for this project to maintain total open communication among individuals, departments and agencies of the overall plan and of their part in it. We expect frequent and honest reports to the public about the progress of this clean-up.

That there is worry about the cost of K-Basin clean-up is distressing. The DOE is obligated to resolve this problem expeditiously. Cost was not the problem when Hanford was producing bombs . . . nor was the problem of disposing of waste. Whatever cost is necessary for a speedy, efficient, effective clean-up must be permitted . . . especially in light of a budget that doesn't question \$8 billion for the Pentagon, \$1 billion for that boondogle, Star Wars, \$44.4 billion for B-2 bombers the Pentagon doesn't want and millions for pet projects in various states designed to prop up the status of members of Congress.

Money spent to insure the well-being of citizens and the environment they share with all living things should not be questioned. It is imperative that those who manage the Hanford clean-up become advocates for funding that task adequately. They must communicate with the public the importance of each citizen's obligation to share the responsibility for demanding as complete and thorough clean-up as possible. They must insist on monitoring the Hanford situation into perpetuity.

WILPF urges prompt action on this important matter.

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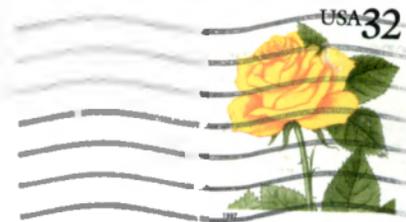
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HANFORD PROJECT OFFICE
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