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January 5, 1996

Mr. John Wagoner, Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
Mail Stop A7-50
P.O. Box 550
Richland, Washington 99352



Dear Mr. Wagoner:

At recent meetings, the Hanford Natural Resource Trustee Council has discussed the scope of Council activities. At issue is whether Council activities should be limited to the impacts to natural resources from actions taken under the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) or whether the Council's scope more broadly encompasses impacts to natural resources from all Hanford activities. A majority of the Trustees believe that the Council is not limited to CERCLA impacts.

All participants in the Trustee Council have responsibilities for Hanford's natural resources, derived from state and federal laws and treaties, which extend beyond CERCLA. We believe that the Council is an appropriate forum to discuss and develop advice on any issues of shared responsibility. The Council's core values (attached) reflect the breadth of responsibilities the Trustees share.

Clearly, the impacts of CERCLA actions are a priority for all Trustees. However, the Trustees' responsibilities also extend to other areas such as actions taken under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and site-wide planning. Indeed, some of the Council's most constructive work has been with NEPA mitigation and site-wide resource management initiatives.

How the Council chooses to approach and prioritize CERCLA and other impacts should be at the discretion and consensus agreement of all participants. Constraints on the scope of the Council limit the exchange of information and ideas, limit the ability of the Trustees to fulfill their responsibilities, lead to inconsistent and incomplete discussions and recommendations, and are contrary to a holistic understanding of natural resources.

We hope that you agree that the Council's scope should not be limited only to CERCLA impacts to natural resources. We believe we can quickly reach consensus on a broader scope and continue our productive dialogue on Hanford Site natural resources.

We would like to meet with you to discuss this and several other issues related to the role of the Trustee Council. We will be contacting you to schedule such a meeting through your representative, Mr. Jamie Zeisloft. Similarly, please direct any comments or questions to us through Mr Zeisloft.

HANFORD NATURAL RESOURCE TRUSTEE COUNCIL

CORE VALUES

Who we are:

We represent governments entrusted with the stewardship of natural resources on, or affected by, Hanford. We have legal and ethical obligations to manage these resources responsibly. From government to government, our jurisdictions differ as do our interests and responsibilities. Together, however, we share responsibility for all natural resources at Hanford.

What are natural resources:

Natural resources are the elements of the environment of use, importance, or value to our constituencies. Examples of natural resources are: plants, animals, land, air, and water. Natural resources provide physical and biological services to humans and other animals and plants, and to the ecosystem as a whole. Natural resources have value derived from their use, potential use, or by virtue of their existence.

Why a council:

The Council is intended to facilitate the coordination and cooperation of the trustees in their efforts to minimize impacts to, and restore, natural resources. Cooperation among our governments is the most efficient way to meet our stewardship responsibilities and is of the greatest benefit to the natural resources.

Our Values:

The shared values of the Trustees include:

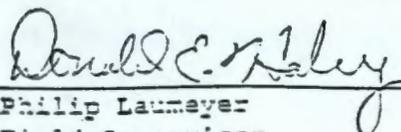
- Natural resources on, or affected by, Hanford are unique and of extraordinary value;
- It is a legal and ethical obligation to manage responsibly the natural resources on, or affected by, the Hanford site;
- Natural resources are best managed holistically;
- It is most efficient to integrate natural resource management into Hanford planning and cleanup;
- The degradation and destruction of natural resources and their services should be avoided or minimized;
- Hanford planning and cleanup should lead to a general improvement in natural resource conditions; and
- There is a connection between natural resources, the services they provide, and the health and quality of life of our constituencies.

HANFORD NATURAL RESOURCE TRUSTEE
SIGNATURE PAGE

Signature indicates concurrence with the following:

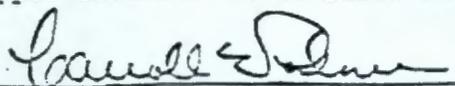
Date: January 5, 1995
 To: John Wagoner, Manager
 Richland Operations Office
 U.S. Department of Energy
 From: The Hanford Natural Resource Trustees
 Subject: Attached letter which:

- Clarifies Trustees' position that the Council is not limited to CERCLA actions,
- References Core Values statement, and
- Requests a meeting with Wagoner



Philip Laumeyer
 Field Supervisor
 Upper Columbia River Basin Field Office

11/19/96
 Date



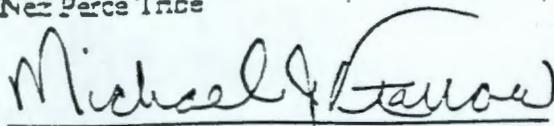
Carroll Palmer, Deputy Director
 Department of Natural Resources
 Yakama Indian Nation

1-24-96
 Date



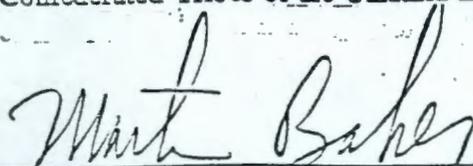
Donna L. Powauke
 ERWM Manager
 Nez Perce Tribe

1/2/96
 Date



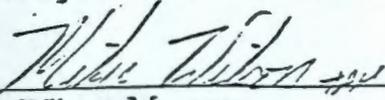
Michael J. Farrow, Director
 Department of Natural Resources
 Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

January 5, 1996
 Date



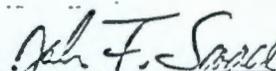
Martin Baker, Assistant Director
 Habitat Management Program
 Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

1/3/96
 Date



Mike Wilson, Manager
 Nuclear Waste Program
 Washington State Department of Ecology

1-17-96
 Date



John F. Savage, Director
 Oregon Department of Energy

1/17/96

c:

U.S. Department of Interior, Portland (Preston Sleeper)
 U.S. Department of Interior, Portland (Barry Stein)
 U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Spokane (Joe Buesing)
 U.S. Bureau of Land Management, Spokane (Jake Jakabosky)
 U.S. Department of Energy, Washington D.C. (John Bascietto)
 U.S. Department of Energy, Richland (Jamie Zeisloft)
 U.S. Department of Energy, Richland (Paul Kruger)
 U.S. Department of Energy, Richland (Lloyd Piper)
 U.S. Department of Energy, Richland (Linda McClain)
 U.S. Department of Energy, Richland (Ron Izatt)
 U.S. Department of Energy, Richland (Jim Rasmussen)
 U.S. Department of Energy, Richland (C.A. Hansen)
 U.S. Department of Energy, Richland (R.M. Rosselli)
 U.S. Department of Energy, Richland (J.E. Kinser)
 U.S. Department of Energy, Richland (S.R. Brechbill)
 U.S. Department of Energy, Richland (Paul Dunnigan)
 U.S. Department of Energy, Richland (Debbie Isom)
 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Seattle (Randall Smith)
 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Richland (Larry Gadbois)
 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Richland (Doug Sherwood)
 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Moses Lake (Liz Block)
 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Othello (Dave Goeke)
 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Portland (Bill Shake)
 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Spokane (Phil Laumeyer)
 Oregon Department of Energy, Salem (John Savage)
 Oregon Department of Energy, Salem (Michael Graine)
 Oregon Department of Energy, Salem (Susan Hughs)
 WA Department of Ecology, Olympia (Geoff Tallent)
 WA Department of Ecology, Olympia (Dan Silver)
 WA Department of Ecology, Olympia (Mary Riveland)
 WA Department of Fish and Wildlife, Kennewick (Jay McConnaughey)
 WA Department of Fish and Wildlife, Olympia (John Carleton)
 WA Department of Fish and Wildlife, Olympia (Martin Baker)
 WA Department of Fish and Wildlife, Yakima (Ted Clausing)
 Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Pendleton (Chris Burford)
 Nez Perce Tribe, Lapwai (Dan Landeen)
 Yakama Indian Nation, Toppenish (Deborah Borrero)
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 Battelle Pacific Northwest Laboratory, Richland (Charlie Brandt)
 Hanford Advisory Board, Portland (Merilyn Reeves)