

0051094

068952

May 13, 1999

Thomas Ferns
U. S. Dept. of Energy
Richland Operations Office
P.O. Box 550, MSIN HO-12
Richland, WA 99352

Dear Mr. Ferns:

I am in strong support of the DOE's Hanford Remedial Action EIS and Comprehensive Land Use Plan. I have lived in the Tri-Cities for 20 years, but currently live in Seattle. I feel that preservation of the precious Reach/Wahluke Slope and ALE reserve are highly important. Since I live in Seattle, I cannot make it to a public hearing. However, please note my concerns and opinions below:

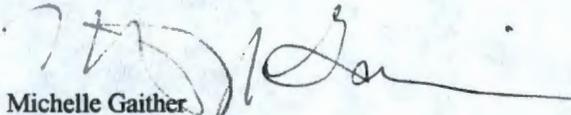
All public lands on the Wahluke Slope, the Hanford Reach, the McGee Ranch, and the Arid Lands Ecology Reserve should be designated as National Wildlife Refuge.

ALL Grazing on the Hanford Nuclear reservation should be prohibited due to the extensive damage overgrazing causes to rangeland.

ALL mining operations should be restricted ONLY to those essential to completing clean-up and remediation on the Hanford Reservation.

I strongly support a separate Record of Decision (ROD) for all the areas mentioned above. These areas are prime fish and wildlife habitat, uncontaminated by Hanford operations, and should not have to wait for protection until the complex decisions involving clean-up in the central Hanford area are made. In addition, many of these areas should be protected under the ESA listing of salmon in Washington state.

Sincerely,



Michelle Gaither
7226 Ledroit Ct SW
Seattle Washington 98136

206.935.4588



RECEIVED

MAY 17 1999
DOE-RL/DIS