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June 8, 1999

U.S. Dept of Energy
Tom Ferns
Richland Operations
PO Box 550
Richland, Wa 99352

RECEIVED
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DOE-RL/DIS

Dear Tom Ferns:

I just read this evening re the meeting June 3 @ the Ridpath Hotel re Hanford.

I went to Walla Walla College & graduated from nursing school from WWCC. I moved near Spokane & went to EWU in 1988, after living in Walla Walla.

I just had to have 1/2 my thyroid removed.

When I went to Walla Walla in 1979, my friend

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Worked drilling at Hanford. He told me that the men used Geiger counters to measure rabbit feces, sagebrush & more & that it sent the Geiger counter alarms off.

I've never heard much about how severe the problem really is at Hanford.

In nursing school, we were told Tri-Cities has the 2nd highest rate of multiple sclerosis in the world.

I know in 10 years, the radiation isn't retrievable, it is already in the water ground & out in the ocean.

Please do what you can to protect the people & wild-life by acknowledging there

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is a problem so we can get it "Cleaned-up" as much as possible.

Agriculture should not be pursued there at this time.

Also, I beg you to protect the salmon. I know the salmon are suffering in the Columbia River from chemical pollution in Canada, & pollution in the U.S. I have heard an adult should not eat more than 3 fish out of the river, per year, & none for children.

Our eagles & other animals suffer too. Please listen!

Sincerely, Thank-you

Cheryl A Blakely
PO Box 484
Kettle Falls, Wa 99141