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May 16, 1999

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

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DOE-RL/DIS**

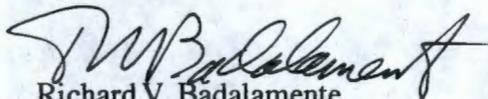
Dear Mr. Ferns;

I am writing to voice my support for DOE's preferred Alternative for the Hanford Reach, with the following amendments:

- designate all public lands on the Wahluke Slope, the Hanford reach, its islands, the McGee Ranch, and the Arid Lands Ecology Reserve as National Wildlife Refuge (176,000 total acres)
- oppose grazing on the Hanford Nuclear reservation
- restrict all mining operations to those essential to completion of clean-up and remediation on the Hanford Reservation
- issue a separate Record of decision (ROD) for all those 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.

Sincerely,



Richard V. Badalamente  
3904 S. Irby St.  
Kennewick, WA 99337