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AN OPEN LETTER OF INVITATION



Department of Energy

Richland Operations Office
P.O. Box 550
Richland, Washington 99352

Dear Citizens of the Inland Empire:

Recently, Secretary of Energy James Watkins visited Hanford and made it very clear that the environmental restoration of Hanford was a top priority of his.

Secretary Watkins has backed his words through the issuance of the Department of Energy (DOE) Environmental Restoration and Waste Management Five-Year Plan. Its chief goal is the environmental restoration of DOE's nationwide nuclear complex, including Hanford, within 30 years.

It fully supports everything in the Tri-Party Agreement we signed in May with the State of Washington and the Environmental Protection Agency, and covers additional activities such as research and development, and ongoing waste management. He also made it very clear that without the advice and support of our state officials, the Indian Tribes who once lived off the land now called Hanford, and you, the citizens of the Northwest, this vital task could not be completed as expeditiously as it should be.

Now it's our job to make sure that the Secretary's Plan is carried out at Hanford. To do that, we're asking for your help.

On September 20 Hanford representatives will be at the Sheraton Spokane Hotel, N. 322 Spokane Falls Court. From p.m. to 3 p.m. they will conduct a workshop on the Five-Year Plan.

From 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., they will join with representatives of the Washington Department of Ecology and the Environmental Protection Agency to give you an update on work being conducted under the Tri-Party Agreement.

In the afternoon, they'll tell you about the national Five-Year Plan and how they are working with the states and Indian Tribes to develop our Hanford implementation plan. Then, they'll answer any questions you have and ask for your suggestions. If you can't make this workshop, there will be other opportunities for you to learn more about this program. If you want more information, call or write at the address given on this advertisement.

I hope you will attend. Though I can't promise we will adopt every one of your ideas, I can promise every one will be given serious consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Lawrence
Manager



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