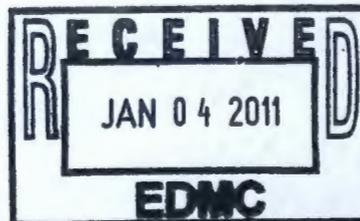


^Buildings and Debris Cleanup EECA

From: Pat Herbert [sequoia592000@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, February 19, 2010 3:23 PM
To: ^Buildings and Debris Cleanup EECA
Subject: General Hanford Site Decommissioning Activities EE/CA

Doug Chapin
 US Department of Energy
 Richland Operations Office
 PO Box 550, Mailstop A5-11
 Richland, WA 99352

February 19, 2010



Dear Mr. Doug Chapin:

Following is my comment for the General Hanford Site Decommissioning Activities EE/CA.

While the preferred alternative is Alternative 3, my choice is No Action. I have followed Hanford's cleanup process for years, well since it's inception. Currently I feel we should be doing only what is absolutely necessary for our safety and the safety of the area. I don't feel demolishing these buildings and cleaning up the area is especially important. I think of more importance is converting the site to a wind and solar farm and I feel we should use whatever amount of money it takes to build this renewable energy resource. We need to consider not only the building but also the maintaining until we want to replace it with some energy more productive, less costly to people, and with a better technology in renewable/sustainable energy for us all. We should also allow for research and development of renewable energy on the Hanford site. This idea needs to be developed now not in a few years or when we feel we will have enough money. We have enough money now if we would only choose to use it for this technology. We should not be pushing sustainable energy until it seems convenient. The time is now. And, this is why I think we should seriously consider these projects which seem important but really aren't in the cleanup process.

Is the cleanup, protection of the habitat, and restoring of the natural environment a reality? Hasn't the land been contaminated beyond recovery for years? Sure some of the most highly radioactive areas should be improved, the tanks made more safe and other cleanup activities continued but this one is not so important. People, animals, and plants are learning how to live on the land without having the radioactivity seriously affect their lives. They have adjusted. Some are probably slowly dying but their species will endure through the years of radioactive decay and we will have a damaged but improved area eventually.

Let's begin to restore our degraded moral system (which is not improving) we've lived with since Hanford's inception. Let's improve our mental and physical beings now. Let's give up the idea that we are God and begin to live closer to God by really improving our environment. Money and employment is just as available with renewable energy as with nuclear. There will still need to be people monitoring many of the cleanup and storing activities at the site. But why do we insist upon supporting such a destructive, wasteful, and costly process as nuclear facilities require?

This change will need to be supported not only by the Department of Energy but also by the President and Congress with initiatives which are far reaching and fully in support of life and the possibility of living on this planet for generations in peace and comfort. Try invisioning living in an area where the thought of annihilation

will never occur because people are getting with little sacrifice their needs met and are more capable of understanding each other.

Well, thank you for allowing me to comment. I know in some countries this option is not even available to the general public.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Herbert
PO Box 1874
Vashon, WA 98070