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**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
REGION 10 HANFORD PROJECT OFFICE  
712 SWIFT BOULEVARD, SUITE 5  
RICHLAND, WASHINGTON 99352

November 17, 1998

J.R. Wilkinson  
Hanford Projects Coordinator  
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla  
Indian Reservation  
P.O. Box 638  
Pendleton, Oregon 97801

Re: EPA National Remedy Review Board for Hanford's K Basins:  
Invitation to Speak About Issues Important to the CTUIR



Dear Mr. Wilkinson:

The EPA's National Remedy Review Board (NRRB) is reviewing Hanford's Spent Nuclear Fuel K Basins project, and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) is invited to speak about issues important to the tribe. This letter provides some background on the NRRB and the opportunity for tribal input.

In October 1995, EPA's Administrator announced a collection of initiatives designed to help control remedy costs and to promote consistent and cost-effective CERCLA cleanup decisions. One of these initiatives is the NRRB which reviews proposed high cost cleanup decisions to assure that they are consistent with current law, regulations, and guidance. The NRRB is a peer-review group that understands both the regional and EPA Headquarters perspectives in the CERCLA remedy selection process.


The CTUIR's representative is invited to speak about issues important to the CTUIR for approximately 10 to 15 minutes. The representatives are invited to attend the information gathering phase and participate, as appropriate, in technical or clarifying discussions. The NRRB meeting date is tentatively set for January 12, 1999.

In addition to this invitation to the CTUIR, the State of Washington, the Nez Perce Tribe, and the Yakama Indian Nation have the same opportunity to speak about issues important to them. The tribes and state are also invited to attend the information gathering phase and participate, as appropriate, in technical or clarifying discussions. The Department of Energy has the opportunity to summarize in writing (less than ten pages) any technical issues they believe are pertinent to the cleanup decision. The Hanford Advisory Board also has the opportunity to

summarize in writing (less than ten pages) any concerns or issues that they believe are important to the NRRB's discussion of remedy selection issues.

If you have any questions regarding this process or this letter of invitation, please contact me at (509) 376-9529 or Larry Gadbois at (509) 376-9884.

Sincerely,

  
Douglas R. Sherwood  
Hanford Project Manager

cc: Administrative Record, 100-KR-2