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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

Mike Wilson, Program Manager
Nuclear Waste Program
Washington State Department of Ecology
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, Washington 98504-7600



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

Dear Mr. Wilson:

The EPA's National Remedy Review Board (NRRB) is reviewing Hanford's Spent Nuclear Fuel K Basins project, and the Department of Ecology for the State of Washington is invited to speak about issues important to the State. This letter provides some background on the NRRB and the opportunity for Ecology's input.

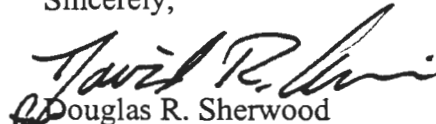
In October 1995, EPA's Administrator announced a collection of initiatives designed to help control remedy costs and to promote consistent and cost-effective CERCLA cleanup decisions. One of these initiatives is the NRRB which reviews proposed high cost cleanup decisions to assure that they are consistent 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 State's representative is invited to speak about issues important to the State for approximately 10 to 15 minutes. The representative is 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 Ecology, the three tribes have the same opportunity to speak about issues important to them. The tribes 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 10 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
Roger Stanley, Ecology