July 18, 2011

Inés Triay  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20585

Re: Appreciation

Dear Dr. Triay,

The Hanford Advisory Board (HAB) expresses its thanks and deep appreciation for all the positive actions you have taken during your tenure as Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management. Some of those actions that are closest to our hearts include: Increased attention to worker safety more specifically regarding the Beryllium program enhancements; the deep understanding of cleanup issues demonstrated during your frequent visits to Hanford; your personal attendance and updates at the Site Specific Advisory Board’s semi-annual meetings; providing the HAB leadership with opportunities to have candid, two-way conversations with you and your bias for action when responding to requests or advice from the HAB.

Under your watch, much progress has been made in cleaning up the legacy from the Manhattan project and the cold war here at Hanford and across the DOE EM complex. While Hanford cleanup extends far into the future, we are grateful for the concentrated cleanup efforts along the Columbia River in recent years. Protection of the Columbia River is one of the basic values of the Hanford Advisory Board and we are pleased that you shared in that value.

Your hands-on management made a positive difference. The HAB appreciates your personal commitment to transparency and public involvement in cleanup decisions that will affect us, our children, grandchildren and many future generations. This commitment was demonstrated time and again and resulted in the advancement of respect and trust between us. We hope your legacy as EM leader is a continuation of the “open and transparent” posture that you embraced. We will miss you and wish you the very best of everything as you move forward.

Sincerely,

Susan Leckband, Chair  
Hanford Advisory Board

This letter represents Board consensus for this specific topic. It should not be taken out of context to extrapolate Board agreement on other subject matters.
cc: Matthew McCormick, Manager, U. S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations
Scott Samuelson, Manager, U. S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection
Stacy Charboneau, Co-Deputy Designated Official, U.S. Department of Energy,
Office of River Protection
Dennis Faulk, U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
Jane Hedges, Washington State Department of Ecology
Catherine Brennan, U.S. Department of Energy, Headquarters