

STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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February 20, 1996

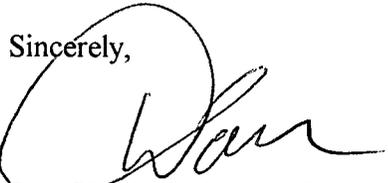
Ms. Marilyn Reeves, Chair  
Hanford Advisory Board  
800 N.W. Sixth Avenue, Suite 342  
Portland, OR 97209-3715

Dear Ms. Reeves:

Director Mary Riveland has asked me to acknowledge receipt of Hanford Advisory Board advice #37, dealing with formation of an "Openness Panel." Ecology supports Secretary O'Leary's initiatives to improve public access to the Department of Energy's records, and to make her agency more accountable. Stakeholder and public involvement must play an important role in prioritizing limited resources available to make historic documents available to the public.

We understand the Department of Energy's position is that they cannot charter an Openness Panel separate from the Hanford Advisory Board. Ecology will be happy to assist the Board and interested stakeholders in developing some mechanism to achieve the desired result--stakeholder-driven approaches to declassifying and releasing historic documents. Please call on me, or on Max Power, our Board liaison, if we can help this activity move ahead.

Sincerely,

  
Dan Silver, Assistant Director  
Waste Management Division

Response to HAB Advice #37 (December 7-8, 1995)  
Formation of an Openness Panel  
Letter from Dan Silver, Ecology, dated February 20, 1996

