Advice # 100 From: Tom Fitzsimmons

Ms. Merilyn Reeves, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board
723 The Parkway
Suite 200
Richland, Washington 99352

September 27, 1999

Dear Merilyn:

Perhaps it is appropriate that Hanford Advisory Board Advice #100 is, in large measure, a reaffirmation of the understanding we, the other Tri-Party Agencies and the Board members reached nearly six years ago. With all the changes we have seen surrounding Hanford cleanup, a reaffirmation of our working relationship is welcome.

When the Board addresses consensus advice to Ecology, we try to be responsive in the ways described in Advice #100. We have procedures in place that (a) rely on the staff member most directly involved in the issue addressed to generate a fact-based, knowledgeable response, and (b) require review by someone who was present at the development of the advice and who understands, if you will the Board's "language." If the Board finds our responses are not adequate, we want to know about it.

I have asked Mike Wilson and Max Power of the Nuclear Waste Program to review our standing procedures to be sure they incorporate the points made in Advice #100. We will include a specific provision that the Board will be notified if our written response will be delayed.

Ecology welcomes the Board's intent to engage in dialogue concerning the agencies' responses to advice. We believe such dialogue will be productive.

Sincerely,

/s/
Tom Fitzsimmons, Director
Department of Ecology