Mr. Todd Martin, Chair  
Hanford Advisory board  
1933 Jadwin, Suite 135  
Richland, Washington 99352  

Dear Mr. Martin:

FY 2003 BUDGET

Thank you for the advice letter (Consensus Advice #126) dated February 8, 2002, same subject. We understand your concerns on the initial information regarding the RL FY 2003 budget. The recent announcements regarding the Hanford portion of the $800 million set-aside fund will add $433 million to the Administration’s request to Congress for Hanford funding. The additional funding from the set-aside fund was largely a result of joint commitments by DOE, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the State of Washington Department of Ecology to accelerate cleanup. Proposals for accelerated cleanup were developed from the efforts of the Cleanup Constraints and Challenges Team (C3T) in which three HAB members served as observers.

There is much work to be done, but the products of the C3T have enabled us to move to the front in our ability to identify cleanup goals that meet the Top-to-Bottom expectations provided by EM-1. I am confident that the base budget request plus the additional funding identified from the $800 million set-aside will be sufficient for us to meet our Tri-Party Agreement commitments for FY 2003. If you have any questions, you may call me, or your staff may call Rich Holten, Director, Mission Planning Division, on (509) 376-6559.

Sincerely,

W. Wade Ballard  
Deputy Designated Federal Officer

cc: K. S. Ballinger, Critique  
    H. L. Boston, ORP  
    M. S. Crosland, EM-11  
    T. C. Fitzsimmons, Ecology  
    M. F. Gearheard, EPA  

L. J. Iani, EPA  
R. E. Siguenza, EnviroIssues  
M. A. Wilson, Ecology  
Site Specific Advisory Boards  
The Oregon and Washington Congressional Delegations
Mr. Todd Martin  
02-MPD-0045

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Gordon H. Smith  
Ron Wyden

U.S. Senators (WA)  
Maria Cantwell  
Patty Murray

U.S. Representatives (OR)  
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Pat Hale  
Mike Hewitt

State Representatives (WA)  
Jerome Delvin  
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