



Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office
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97-BUD-136

Ms. Marilyn Reeves, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board
c/o Technical Resources International, Inc.
723 The Parkway, Suite 200
Richland, Washington 99352

Dear Ms. Reeves:

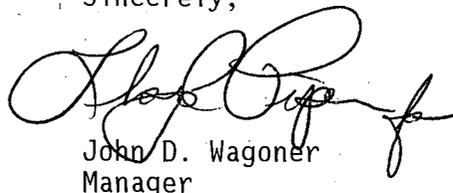
HANFORD ADVISORY BOARD'S (HAB) CONSENSUS ADVICE NO. 70 RE: FY 1999 U.S.
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, RICHLAND OPERATIONS OFFICE (RL) BUDGET

This letter is an initial response to the HAB's letter dated April 4, 1997, concerning the above subject. We are following the below described process for handling comments received concerning RL's draft FY 1999 budget:

1. We are forwarding to the RL Assistant Managers, the following: the April 4, 1997, HAB advice letter, other written comments and public comments received during the recently completed series of three public meetings and one-day workshop, for their consideration as the FY 1999 budget continues to be developed.
2. Any subsequent written comments received prior to the close of the public comment period (now estimated to be May 30, 1997) concerning the FY 1999 budget will also be forwarded to these same individuals for their consideration.
3. After all advice has been considered and the RL draft FY 1999 budget has been re-worked, we will commence development of a comment response document. This comment response document will attempt to respond to all comments received concerning RL's FY 1999 budget. Copies of the comment response document will be mailed to all individuals or organizations who made comments. Copies will also be sent to DOE HQ and the Congressional delegation.

This process is essentially the same process that was used last year during the development of the FY 1998 budget and has been discussed with the HAB Dollars and Sense Committee. Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please feel free to contact me or Jim Peterson of the Budget Division on (509) 376-6731.

Sincerely,



John D. Wagoner
Manager

BUD:JMP

cc: A. L. Alm, DOE-HQ
Response to HAB Advice #70 (April 3-4, 1997)
HAB Consensus Advice on FY 1999 Budget
Letter from John Wagoner, Department of Energy, dated April 22, 1997