December 20, 1991

Freedom of Information Officer
US Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20585

Dear FOI Officer,

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C., Section 552), this letter requests a copy of a document relating to the operations of the Department of Energy's Hanford facility near Richland, Washington.

The Hanford Education Action League (HEAL) is actively involved in the collection and dissemination of information relative to the safety, health and environmental aspects of the Hanford facility. HEAL therefore respectfully requests the following:

- Please provide all records concerning the following categories of information:
  1. Any records (including, but not limited to, transcripts, agendas and minutes of meetings, letters, reports, memos, notebooks) concerning any actions of government and/or contractor personnel with regard to the operation of the T, B, and Redox plants at Hanford from December 1944 to December 1954.

  2. Any records (including, but not limited to, transcripts, agendas and minutes of meetings, letters, reports, memos, notebooks) concerning any actions of government and/or contractor personnel with regard to rules, guidelines, standards, or regulations pertaining to human exposure to radioactive iodine, ruthenium, and/or plutonium at Hanford from December 1944 to December 1954.

Records searched in response to this request should include, but not be limited to, records of the AEC Secretariat, AEC commissioners, Division of Biology and Medicine, Advisory Committee for Biology and Medicine, Division of Production and Separation, General Manager, General Advisory Council, Military Liaison Committee, Joint Atomic Energy Commission-National Military Establishment, and the Stack Gas Working Group.

HEAL also requests the following specific categories of reports:

3 - All General Manager's Reports from 1946 to 1954.
4 - All indexes or other guides to reports of the General Manager, 1946-1954.
5 - All minutes of the meetings of the AEC, 1946 to 1954.
6 - All indexes of the AEC meetings, 1946 to 1954.
7 - All indexes for the meetings of the Advisory Committee for Biology and Medicine, 1946-1954.
8 - All indexes of the AEC information memos, 1946-1954.
9 - All Status Reports of AEC Decisions and their Implementation and Biweekly Supplementary Reports, 1946-1954.

If any part of this request is denied, please list the specific exemptions which are claimed for withholding information along with an identification of the documents being withheld. The Freedom of Information Act also provides that if only portions of a file are exempted from release, the remainder must be released. HEAL therefore requests that it be provided with all nonexempt portions which are reasonably segregable. HEAL of course reserves the right to appeal the withholding or deletion of any information.

HEAL requests a waiver of all fees for this request. Disclosure of the requested information to HEAL is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government. Through various publications and public meetings, HEAL has demonstrated our ability to convey the requested information to other interested members of the public.

Thank you for your cooperation. As provided in the Freedom of Information Act, HEAL will expect a reply to this request within ten (10) working days. If HEAL does not receive a response within this time, HEAL will treat this request as denied and will pursue the necessary appeal.

HEAL will be pleased to work with you and your staff to explain or reformulate this request as necessary to comply with its terms.

Sincerely,

James P. Thomas
Research Director