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To: <andrewt@dnfsb.gov>
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Subject: Comment on WTP safety culture

Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board
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Dear Board,

I am a faculty member at the University of Washington, and have followed Hanford issues for at three or four decades. I have been appalled over the years at the attitudes toward public safety and worker safety at the site, originally in the context of the Cold War but surprisingly unchanged into more recent years. Wrapping the disaster of Hanford in a flag has gotten us no where. We should start by acknowledging the tragedy and irresponsibility of Hanford's original mission.

My public health graduate students work on a Hanford "case study" each fall, and I am always surprised at how many of them have never heard of Hanford when we begin. By the time they are finished, they are just shaking their heads in dismay. It's time to clean up the site. Perhaps the DOE should consider eliminating the contractor middle man, who only adds cost to the project.

I appreciate and applaud the work of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board at Hanford and throughout the DOE complex. The Board is the only entity that is conducting independent oversight on nuclear safety matters and is a much-needed voice.

Good wishes,
Amy

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