

Thomas & Diana Gordon

A report titled, "Radiation Flowed 200 Miles to Sea, Study Finds", in The New York Times, July 17, 1992, included:

A Government contractor's preliminary study of radiation released over the years from the Hanford Nuclear Reservation into the Columbia River has found that the radiation reached the Pacific Ocean 200 miles away, contaminating fish and drinking water along the river and exposing as many as 2,000 people to potentially dangerous doses.

Also in the report:

The laboratory's study said radiation levels in the Columbia River rose above currently acceptable levels from the mid-1950's to the late 1960's. Most of the radiation came from water that was used to cool the reactors and then dumped back into the river. Other radiation resulted from accidents.

The Holistic Agreement does not adequately address the current leaking tanks and the previous leaks, including the millions of gallons of waste under the Columbia Generating Station. This radioactive waste and chemicals is moving nearer to the Columbia River now.

More pumping of waste from underground, with proper treatment in new facilities needs to be done now. Instead of cutting the operating budget, more needs to be spent or much more will be needed to be spent later when the problem becomes bigger.