

# Diana Gordon

HOLISTIC AGREEMENT ON CLEANUP OF HANFORD TANK WASTE due 9/1/24

RE: Leaking Tanks

We live downstream from Hanford and have a major concern about tanks that are leaking radioactive liquid into the soil which is then moving toward the Columbia River in the groundwater.

In Washougal, people fish, canoe, kayak, paddle board, swim and picnic at the lovely Clark Park Beach and engage in countless other activities in and near the Columbia. We even have a marina with a restaurant located on a pier. No one wants to have the worry of tanks leaking radioactive chemicals into 'our' stretch of the River.

Tank T-111 is leaking and so is Tank B-109. These are not new leaks. Now the Tri-City Herald reports a possible leak in T-101. As I understand it, we have the technology to remove the liquid from these tanks. We can do it with existing technology using the 'In-Tank Pretreatment System' combined with salt-well pumping. We can move the waste nearby to be treated as soon as possible. Both Federal and State law support and indeed require the expedient removal of leaking waste as soon as practicable. We should do that and get started ASAP.

Possibly, if we study this problem to death, we could come up with something cheaper or easier. But this is an urgent problem to us. It can affect the health and well-being of the nearby tribes, communities both nearby and downstream, river users, wildlife and flora, and the environment. It is not as though anyone asked us if putting this off indefinitely is all right with us - this agreement was finalized without the involvement of any of those parties. It can have an impact on us eventually, and we feel an urgency to get it done. It is especially egregious for the tribes and communities near Hanford who have had to tolerate the terrifying pollution and attendant problems for over 80 years.

It is time to get this done.

Diana and Tom Gordon