Environmental Management Site Specific Advisory Board

Hanford **Nevada** **Oak Ridge** **Savannah River**
Idaho **Northern New Mexico** **Paducah**

August 13, 2008

Assistant Secretary James A. Rispoli
EM-1/DOE-HQ Forrestal Building
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Mr. Rispoli:

SUBJECT: To Support the Establishment and Continuation of the Office of Communication

The Environmental Management (EM) Site Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) commends the establishment of the Office of Communication as presented by you at the April 23, 2008, EM SSAB meeting.

The EM SSAB members look forward to working with you and the Office of Communication to proactively enhance opportunities to improve methods for communications with the general public and young people who are our future. We recognize the difficulty in developing dialogue concerning environmental management and nuclear waste issues, where the risks may be amplified by fear; the knowledge base limited; and the learning curve steep. The Chairs anticipate working with you and providing real-world feedback so these issues can best be communicated to improve the quality of dialogue.

The EM SSAB Chairs invite the Director of the Office of Communications to participate in our fall 2008 meeting in Washington, D.C., and present his plans for the new office.

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Hanford Advisory Board

David Hermann, Chair
Community Advisory Board for
Nevada Test Site Programs

J. D. Campbell, Chair
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