UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10
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OFFICE OF THE
REGIONAL
ADMINISTRATOR

MAR 19 2012

Ms. Christine S. Lehnertz
Regional Director, Pacific West Region
National Park Service
1111 Jackson Street, Suite 700
Oakland, California 94607-4807

Dear Ms. Lehnertz:

Thank you for your letter of February 28, 2012, in which you request establishing an annual federal family meeting to discuss federal coordination of activities related to the Upper Columbia River site. In consideration of this request, especially in light of your proposed agenda topics, I have asked Dan Opalski, the Director of our Office of Environmental Cleanup, to meet with you initially. I believe Dan's involvement and responsibilities related to our work at the site position him well for the discussions you propose.

Your letter explained the roles of the six Department of Interior bureaus that are closely involved with the EPA's ongoing remedial investigation and feasibility study. On behalf of the Environmental Protection Agency's project team, I want to thank you for your leadership in coordinating the input of the bureaus. Because the bureaus have such varied and diverse responsibilities, it would be challenging for us to work with each of them separately. I recognize the additional burden that the coordination role places on the National Park Service.

I will follow up with Dan after this spring's meeting and look forward to recommendations for next steps in our coordination, including ideas related to my involvement. We highly value our work with the Department of Interior and welcome the opportunity to strengthen our relationship.

Sincerely,

Dennis J. McLerran
Regional Administrator