

DOC HASTINGS

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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

July 29, 2008

The Honorable Dirk Kempthorne
Secretary
United States Department of Interior
1849 C Street, NW, Room 7256
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Kempthorne:

I write to share my strong support for designating Hanford's historic B Reactor as a National Historic Landmark. On July 22nd, the full National Park System Advisory Board unanimously recommended granting National Historic Landmark status for B Reactor and I urge you to approve this important designation.

I appreciate your positive response to my previous requests for a Landmarks Committee meeting, and later a full Advisory Board meeting to consider National Historic Landmark status for B Reactor.

I've toured B Reactor many times and, if properly preserved, I am confident that it will be an irreplaceable teaching tool for future generations. Not only is it an engineering landmark, but it helps tell the story of Hanford's role in ending World War II and providing nuclear deterrence during the Cold War. This is a part of our nation's history that should not be forgotten.

Attached is the testimony I submitted to the Advisory Board, which will provide more details about my support for the proposal. I have also enclosed an editorial from the Tri-City Herald that is further evidence of the local support and interest in preserving B Reactor.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and I look forward to your decision.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Doc Hastings".

Doc Hastings
Member of Congress