

## **ADVOCATES FOR THE OAK RIDGE RESERVATION**

<http://www.kornet.org/aforr/>

December 20, 2000  
112 Newcrest Lane  
Oak Ridge, Tn 37830

President William Clinton  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Clinton:

Advocates for the Oak Ridge Reservation (AFORR) commends your important actions to preserve lands. We hope that you will include valuable lands of East Tennessee in this class of protected lands by setting aside the proposed Oak Ridge National Monument in the remaining days of your administration. Proposals for industrial and commercial development of portions of the Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR) are putting these Department of Energy lands at risk; yet the ORR contains species richness that rivals the Great Smoky Mountains and supports science, recreation and historic values. Protecting this land today would be at no cost to the public and would preserve these lands for our children's children.

In July of this year you recommended to an AFORR representative that the most appropriate course to preserve the unique value of the ORR would be its designation as a national monument. Following years of discussion, AFORR formally requested that the Council on Environmental Quality and the Interior Department designate this area as a national monument.

We hope that you will be able to act on our request to establish the Oak Ridge National Monument. We are especially concerned about this land because pressures to develop it are so intense. If we wait another 4 or 8 years, much of the critical values of these lands may be lost. The people of Tennessee and America deserve more than just another strip mall or industrial development site. Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,



Dev Joslin

Chair, Advocates for the Oak Ridge Reservation

cc: Vice President Al Gore  
Bruce Babbitt, Secretary of Interior  
Bill Richardson, Secretary of Energy  
Donald Berry, Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks  
Linda Lance, Council on Environmental Quality  
Rosina Bierbaum, Office of Science and Technology Policy

Attachment: Background information on the proposed Oak Ridge National Monument