



## Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

April 23, 2007

Mr. Lance Mezga, Chair  
Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board  
10909 Concord Woods Dr.  
Knoxville, TN 37922

Dear Mr. Mezga:

Thank you for your March 15, 2007, letter forwarding **Recommendation 154: Reaffirmation of DOE Secretarial Policy to Provide Stewardship at Ongoing Mission Sites with Residual Contamination**, from the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board. As you may know, since the memo you reference in your letter, "Long-Term Stewardship Responsibility" from Assistant Secretary Huntoon in January 2001 was distributed, the Department has created a new Office of Legacy Management (LM).

LM has the responsibility for Long-Term Stewardship (LTS) at sites that have been closed and have no ongoing mission. The key elements in the process of transferring LTS responsibilities from Environmental Management (EM) to LM are essentially the same as those discussed in Assistant Secretary Huntoon's January 2001 memorandum.

For those sites that have ongoing missions, the Program Secretarial Office (PSO) that is the landlord for the site assumes responsibility for LTS at that site. As with closure sites that are transferred to LM, the elements in the process of transferring LTS responsibilities to the landlord PSO are the same as when transferring responsibility to LM. These are enumerated in great detail in a Project Closeout and Transition Plan signed by both EM and the landlord PSO at the site receiving the completed project and its LTS responsibilities.

Concerning your suggestion that the Department assign a headquarters liaison person for LTS oversight and resource assistance as well as other issues, I have asked my Working Group on Roles, Responsibilities, Accountabilities, and Authorities to examine this question and report back to me. If you have any further questions, please contact me or Ms. Melissa Nielson, Director, Office of Public & Intergovernmental Accountability, at (202) 586-0356.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James A. Rispoli".

James A. Rispoli  
Assistant Secretary for  
Environmental Management



cc: Dave Adler, DOE-ORO  
Gerald Boyd, DOE-ORO  
Pat Halsey, DOE-ORO  
Ralph Skinner, DOE-ORO  
Steve McCracken, DOE-ORO  
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