



July 11, 1997

Chuck Clarke, Regional Administrator
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Seattle, WA 98101

Tom Fitzsimmons, Director
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Lloyd Piper, Acting Manager
U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations
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Richland, WA 99352

Subject: TPA Change Package for Reactors on the River

Dear Messrs. Clarke, Fitzsimmons and Piper:

The Hanford Advisory Board has advised the Tri-Party agencies on interim safe storage and ultimate disposition of the reactors along the River in Consensus Advice #58. The Board offers the following additional advice with respect to the proposed Tri-Party Agreement change package that sets forth scope and schedules for interim safe storage and calls for a 2002 reevaluation of plans for interim and ultimate disposition of the reactors in 2002, and beginning in 2003 to negotiate ultimate disposition of the reactors:

1. The Board applauds the Tri-Party agencies for a reasonable, achievable, and sensible milestone package, and recommends no changes to the change package, as written.
2. The Board endorses proceeding with interim safe storage of C Reactor, as recommended in its Consensus Advice #58, and also F Reactor, as proposed in the TPA change package.
3. The HAB expects that full funding will be provided to meet TPA compliance for these activities.
4. The Board endorses the proposed competitive procurement initiative that will reassess (a) interim safe storage in light of experience gained from the first two reactors and (b) ultimate disposition of the reactors, considering new technologies, environmental risks, costs, and benefits.
5. The Board commends the Tri-Party agencies for the approach taken to addressing preservation of the B Reactor and makes the following comments and recommendations:
 - o The approach for integrating the cleanup and historic preservation decision processes in the

B Reactor milestones will ensure these decision processes complement each other and create a win-win for stakeholders and taxpayers.

- The agencies are commended for involving interested stakeholders, including those not formally a part of this Board, throughout the negotiation process for the B Reactor milestones.
- USDOE should determine how the recommendations in the historic preservation treatment report will be integrated into Hanfords planning and budgets.
- Because the estimates in the preliminary report suggest that the preservation of B Reactor could save several million dollars in cleanup money compared with the costs of demolition, the Board will eagerly follow the progress of the B Reactor Phase II feasibility study.

We look forward to your response and to periodic progress updates on this matter.

Very truly yours,

Merilyn B. Reeves, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board

cc: Al Alm, DOE-HQ
Alice Murphy, Designated Federal Official
The Oregon and Washington Congressional Delegations
Randy Smith, Environmental Protection Agency
Dan Silver, Washington Department of Ecology

This advice represents HAB consensus for this specific topic. It should not be taken out of context to extrapolate Board agreement on other subject matters.

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*For questions or comments, please send [email](mailto:Hanford_Advisory_Board@rl.gov) to Hanford_Advisory_Board@rl.gov
HAB Consensus Advice #73
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