



U.S. Department of Energy
Office of River Protection

P.O. Box 450, MSIN H6-60
Richland, Washington 99352

2007I-081

06-TF-018

DEC 08 2006

Mr. Todd Martin, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board
713 Jadwin Avenue, Suite 4
Richland, Washington 99352

Dear Mr. Martin:

HANFORD ADVISORY BOARD (HAB) CONSENSUS ADVICE #192 ON TANK WASTE PROGRAM PATH FORWARD

Reference: HAB letter from T. Martin to R. Schepens, ORP, and J. Manning, Ecology, "Tank Waste Program Path Forward," dated September 8, 2006.


This letter is in response to the Reference letter on Tank Waste Program Path Forward. In this advice you stated a need for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to conduct a new integrated assessment of the tank waste treatment program with the intent of establishing an updated clearly understandable path forward for the project.

We agree it is timely to conduct such an effort and believe it will best be done in a collaborative process. We propose a systems engineering approach that incorporates the steps to completion and the effect of future decisions. The attached material including a project functional logic diagram was discussed at the December 6, 2006, Tank Waste Committee meeting. It was agreed in the meeting that the logic diagram would be a starting point for a collaborative approach. The Tank Waste Committee selected issue managers to work with DOE staff in the process.

We will plan an initial discussion meeting with the issue managers during the week of December 11, 2006.

If you have any questions, please call T. Erik Olds, DOE Office of River Protection, (509) 372-8656.

Sincerely,


Roy J. Schepens, Manager
Office of River Protection

TPD:SAW

Attachment

cc: See page 2

Mr. Todd Martin
06-TF-018

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cc w/attach:

J. A. Hedges, Ecology

T. Holm, EnviroIssues

L. Lefkoff, EnviroIssues

M. Bogert, EPA

N. Ceto, EPA

D. Frost, HQ

D. Brockman, RL

K. A. Klein, RL

K. Lutz, RL

The Oregon and Washington Congressional Delegations

DRAFT

Tank Waste Program Path Forward

Purpose:

Provide the logic and rationale for how Tank Farm cleanup should proceed and complete its mission. The material must be defensible and understood by a broad audience.

Approach:

1. Develop logic diagrams:
 - Develop expanded logic diagram with decision points;
 - Describe logic and decision point boxes; and
 - Expanded logic/alternatives charts for key issues (i.e. accelerating single-shell tank retrieval).
2. Develop decisions and potential outcomes table to compare the difference in outcomes that could occur if decisions are different than baseline.
3. Budget and Schedule:
 - Provide mission schedule based on budget and plant capacity assumptions; and
 - Discuss impact of restricted budget on Logic.
4. Programmatic Risks:
 - Summarize major risks.
5. Environmental and safety risks:
 - Summarize major risks.
6. Workforce:
 - Discuss workforce needs, experience, and training over extended mission.
7. Conclusions:
 - Develop brief list of key conclusions and messages the U.S. Department of Energy, Washington State Department of Ecology, Hanford Advisory Board and the Northwest public can support and continually emphasize to increase confidence in River Protection Project.