

## U.S. Department of Energy

## Office of River Protection

P.O. Box 450 Richland, Washington 99352

03-ORP-019

MAR 1 2 2003

Mr. Todd Martin, Chair Hanford Advisory Board 1933 Jadwin Avenue, Suite 135 Richland, Washington 99352

Dear Mr. Martin:

HANFORD ADVISORY BOARD (HAB) CONSENSUS ADVICE #144: TANK WASTE RETRIEVAL AND CLOSURE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS) SCOPING

Reference: HAB letter from T. Martin to M. E. Burandt, ORP, "Tank Waste Retrieval and Closure EIS Scoping," dated February 7, 2003.

Thank you for the formal comments (Reference) on the proposed scope of the EIS for Retrieval, Treatment, and Disposal of Tank Waste and Closure of the Single-Shell Tanks at the Hanford Site. We recently completed public scoping meetings in Richland and Seattle, Washington, and Hood River and Portland, Oregon, and are reviewing the scoping comments received during the scoping period.

The next step is development of the draft EIS. In chapter 1 of the draft EIS, the HAB, stakeholders, Tribal Nations and the public will be able to see how scoping comments were addressed. I also committed to provide periodic updates to the HAB on major activities through the Tank Waste Subcommittee as we develop the draft EIS.

I have enclosed a copy of the presentation used at the public scoping meetings in Hood River, Portland, and Seattle.

I appreciate the time the HAB has taken throughout the EIS process to date, during internal and formal scooping, to provide feedback during this process. I am looking forward to continued dialog on these important issues.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at (509) 373-9160, or Erik Olds, Office of Communications, (509) 372-8656.

Sincerely,

Mary Bith Burandt

**ORP:MEB** 

Enclosure

cc w/encl:

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