

U.S. Department of Energy Hanford Site

DEC 28 2004

04-ORP-078

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

Dear Mr. Martin:

HANFORD ADVISORY BOARD (HAB) CONSENSUS ADVICE #167 – STOP WORK AUTHORITY

Reference: HAB letter from T. Martin to P. Golan and J. Shaw, DOE-HQ;

K. Klein, RL; R. Schepens, ORP; L. Hoffman, Ecology; and R. Kreizeneeck, EPA, "Stop Work Authority," dated November 5,

2004.

This letter responds to HAB Consensus Advice #167 (Reference), which provides recommendations to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) regarding site stop work policies.

DOE O 440.1A, "Worker Protection Management for DOE Federal and Contractor Employees," which is contained in our prime contracts, establishes requirements that "allow workers, through their supervisors, to stop work when they discover employee exposures to imminent danger conditions or other serious hazards." DOE agrees with the subject advice and feels that the implementation of this important health and safety requirement could be strengthened via a "Hanford Site Right to Stop Work Policy." Accordingly, DOE will establish a "Hanford Site Stop Work Policy" which considers input from our Hanford contractors and labor personnel.

We agree that all safety policies should be uniform for all worker categories, including all subcontractor groups. Our Integrated Safety Management Systems (ISMS) do not differentiate between worker groups. In addition to assessing implementation of ISMS principles, implementation of this policy will be assessed day-to-day in the field by our Facility Representatives as work is performed. Additionally, the Richland Operations Office and the Office of River Protection safety organizations will independently assess the effectiveness of the implementation of this policy along with the other recommendations in the Reference through our contractors and their subcontractors by September 2005 as part of the annual ISMS validation process.

Mr. Todd Martin 04-ORP-078

-2-

DEC 28 2004

We appreciate the HAB's interest in the health and safety of the Hanford workforce. If you need further information or assistance, please contact Shirley J. Olinger, DOE Office of River Protection, (509) 372-3062.

for

Roy J. Sobepens, Manager Office of River Protection

Keith A. Klein, Manager Richland Operations Office

cc:

M. Keizer, CWBCTC

L. Hoffman, Ecology

M. Wilson, Ecology

R. Kreizeneeck, EPA

D. Opalski, EPA

J. Bateman, HAMTC

P. Golan, HQ

J. Shaw, HQ

S. Waisley, HQ

P. Kruger, PNSO

K. Klein, RL

D. Shoop, RL

U.S. Senators (OR)

R. Murray

G. H. Smith

U.S. Senators (WA)

M. Cantwell

P. Murray

U.S. Representatives (OR)

E. Blumenauer

P. DeFazio

D. Hooley

G. Walden

D. Wu

U.S. Representatives (WA)

B. Baird

N. Dicks

J. Dunn

R. Hastings

J. Inslee

J. McDermott

G. Nethercutt

A. Smith

U.S. Senators (WA)

P. Hale

M. Hewitt

State Representative (WA)

J. Delvin

S. Hankins