

Portland, Oregon State of the Site Meeting
Tuesday, December 11, 2007

**These are the comments the Tri-Party Agreement agency
decision makers heard in Portland**

1. Protect the Columbia River, cleanup groundwater, prevent no further harm, and move as quickly as possible.
2. Hard to give meaningful feedback (on Hanford issues) when no information is provided prior to the meeting.
3. The proposed Tri-Party Agreement delays are not justified.
4. USDOE will always propose adding more waste to Hanford no matter how slow cleanup is going. The USDOE wants to use Hanford as a waste dump. The State of Washington says we have authority to say no. The (State) needs to use that (authority) while supporting Initiative 297.
5. Hanford cleanup is complicated and unfortunately Hanford cleanup is not as popular as it once was. Hanford contains two-thirds of the nation's waste that poses a serious threat.
6. Cleanup is in mortal peril. Need to cleanup Hanford for our children. Need to focus more on groundwater cleanup.
7. Everyone attending the State of the Site meeting need to share what they learn tonight with ten people and write to elected officials. Those attending need to come back to more meetings and stay involved. Cleanup at Hanford is not a single event and there is not a single environmental issue more important than Hanford.
8. The main mission at Hanford needs to be cleanup not waste storage. Hanford needs to be a non-active site.
9. Don't believe the State of Washington is representing our interest with Hanford cleanup.
10. Considering going to Oregon officials to get Oregon to be an official party to the Hanford Tri-Party Agreement.
11. Fighting battle every year to get Hanford cleaned. The State of Washington is not representing Oregon interests.
12. Thank you to the workers.
13. Money and budget should not be the constraint; we need to put the priority on Health and Safety.
14. Need to stop building dams and take out the existing dams.
15. Why hasn't USDOE asked Congress for the money to do what is needed to get cleanup done at Hanford?
16. The Congressional staff needs to work harder to get more money.
17. How can we (the public) trust the upcoming Tank Closure and Waste Management (TC&WM) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)? There are so many plans and proposed changes, more delays coming and more waste being shipped to Hanford and some new treatment facilities. If DOE brings Greater Than Class C (GTCC) waste to Hanford to be buried, that will impede tank retrieval.

18. Not sure I understand the order of cleanup. Cleaning along the river now. But the tank farms will continue to leak and the leaks will continue to contaminate the groundwater and get to the river.
19. K Basin cleanup was an exceptional effort.
20. Plutonium Finishing Plant tremendous work done.
21. Need to get done and going with tank farms.
22. Delays of over 45 years unacceptable.
23. There does need to be values that are based on balancing quality of work with the speed of getting the work done.
24. Need to do a comprehensive assessment of the risks
25. Everyone here tonight needs to get involved and get our voices heard. We need to talk to families in other states and educate them on Hanford cleanup.
26. Public involvement is key - thousands need to be involved.
27. The DOE needs to draw on the outrage of the citizens. They need to find a better location to hold their meeting. They need to advertise better.
28. Need more media attention.
29. The Tri-Party Agencies deserve to get beat up coming to Portland.
30. Need a Manhattan Project for cleanup.
31. Can't keep accepting waste, need to clean it up now. Believe there is technology to do it now.
32. Concerned with transportation of waste through Portland.
33. Ten fatal cancers just from exposure to waste traveling on the interstate.
34. Upset with public involvement. Didn't hear about Hanford until went to work for stakeholder group. Special Interest groups shouldn't be the only one doing the outreach.
35. What is the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP) component? What kind of pressure is being put on Hanford? Is GNEP taking away cleanup funding? Is Hanford a likely selected location?
36. Why do we need more nuclear weapons?
37. How come we gave the British money to build the Waste Treatment Plant?
38. How do you build the Waste Treatment Plant when you don't even have the design done?
39. Delays are not acceptable and USDOE needs to address the delays on their flyers
40. The local DOE offices are the boss of Hanford cleanup. Why can't you tell DOE-Headquarters no more waste can come to Hanford?
41. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is in a tough spot. Groundwater is going to continue to be contaminated. Where are deep vadose zone milestones? Where are the transuranic (TRU) waste milestones?
42. DOE-Headquarters thinks Hanford is a desert and the waste can just stay in the ground. They seem to think that they don't have to worry and don't want to talk about cleaning it up.
43. Need to create more focus at Hanford. Cleanup is the focus. U.S. EPA needs to lead the cleanup effort.
44. Streamline efficiency. Don't study contaminations forever; could have already cleaned up the site.
45. Hear excuses every year.

46. We need to create a commission with one focus – to do one thing and that is to get Hanford Cleaned up!
47. Scared about the future of Hanford. Don't see the light anymore, it's been 18 years.
48. 18-22 year delays are unacceptable. There is no more time. The tanks are going to rot and we will have a worse problem. Please get on with cleanup. You have too many focuses. Need to clearly define mission or we'll lose the river.
49. The citizens are under attack. We have waste pooling at Hanford.
50. We keep hearing about budget constraints; how many constraints have I seen in my lifetime? We continue to have contractors milk the cleanup at Hanford. I get so angry when I hear there isn't enough money.
51. We have all been exposed to radiation, more than just background radiation. We do not know the long-range effects to ourselves or our children.
52. When we built the bomb we went around the world to get the best scientists to get it done. I just get frustrated. They were able to build the bomb in a very short time. Why can't they clean up Hanford?
53. Bombs and nuclear weapons are immoral. Has to stop. Tanks are rotting and failing. Want cleanup at Hanford, not a waste storage site. Need to work on initiative.
54. The State of Oregon needs to clean up its own waste and each state needs to clean up their own waste (don't ship to other states).
55. One in every two men will have cancer, and one in every three women will have cancer. Don't bring in any more waste.
56. Tell Governor Gregoire to use Washington authority to demand cleanup and no more waste.
57. Ask the Governor to sit down with Gerry Pollet and Greg deBruler to discuss other cleanup alternatives.
58. It sounds like it's all about money. Who is monitoring costs and ensuring it gets done? Is there a way to think like other businesses and generate more focus on Capitol Hill through Lobbyists?
59. It seems to me that we need more money to get this done and we need to take responsibility. I would like to see State and Federal employees give the information needed to help.
60. Need sustainable funding – get to Senators to get that plan.
61. It is difficult to come to these meetings. I don't believe this. There should be 1,000's of people here. We've been saying not to bring new waste here. This is what we keep saying.
62. Bechtel came here and promised all this cleanup – where are they now? It's all about the money. The longer it takes. The more money they will get.
63. Are the Tri-Party Agencies in favor of a Hanford Cleanup Commission?
64. Want Hanford cleaned up quickly, wisely and safely to protect the river, workers and the environment.
65. I don't want to bring new waste to Hanford but I Believe Hanford will be accepting more waste (from CTCC and GNEP).
66. Tri-City folks want more nuclear energy industry, but they need to also think about safety.

67. Know you are thinking of serious delays with the Tri-Party Agreement milestones. Twenty-two additional years is serious (2040). The year 2052 to close tanks is unacceptable and one or two tanks retrieved each year is not a fair trade-off.
68. I would like to see USDOE share more information with the public so the public can help lobby for more money.
69. The Hanford Advisory Board has encouraged a Life-Cycle Cost report by September 2009. Believe that will help and would help in negotiations of Tri-Party Agreement milestones.
70. Pre-1970 TRU in trenches should NOT be capped, need to be cleaned out. Unless you want the central plateau to produce tank merlot, need to get busy.
71. We face babies being deformed because of radiation at Hanford. Put waste into river and smoke stakes and it breaks the circle, destroying the earth. Don't add any more waste to Hanford and get on with cleanup. Break the circle and everyone dies.
72. All I see is death and taxes from this administration. The Government doesn't respect us and the media lies. Seems federal government can just renege on the money and we are stuck with the mess left behind.
73. In 20 years are we going to have the resources to cleanup Hanford?
74. Need to get our priorities straight. Short sighted attention span.
75. Support the Public Review Board Commission.
76. Know there is \$9M in subsidies to support nuclear industry. We are shipping waste overseas and killing people. We need to cleanup our own backyard. Nuclear is not a green action and we need to be concerned with global warming.
77. What are the risks now from Hanford? What about risks from earthquakes? Risks need to be more clearly stated and publicized.
78. Have no confidence that DOE can manage funds. Believe DOE works on managing public opinion. Don't say what proposed risks are about. Budget is more managing pieces of the pie. Time to call for Oregonian oversight and replacement of DOE on Hanford cleanup.
79. Tribes would disagree with water quality in river especially with the salmon. Excessive risks, looking at DNA and genetic problems. Chromium used in experiments with micros and it affected kidneys in the micros.
80. Pacific Northwest National Laboratory refuses to measure the duckweed every 14 days. Duckweed gives all contaminants in the river. Class A has nothing to do with water quality.
81. Have trouble marketing the fishing industry because of the superfund site. People ask if the salmon is safe to eat. Sister-in-law has breast cancer and wondered if her eating the salmon caused the cancer.
82. What is the reality of keeping cleanup on schedule?
83. The DOE is not taking care of the down winders. Don't just dump the waste on the banks (of the Columbia River).
84. Every time we change leadership or contractors at Hanford we loose three or more years in cleanup.
85. Need to stop making mistakes in cleanup. Delays do not help cleanup at Hanford. We were promised that as other sites were closed more resources would come to fund Hanford cleanup.

86. There is talk about delaying the retrieval of single-shell tanks until 2040. Currently the deadline is 2018, why the delay?
87. There is a proposal for single-shell tank retrieval, emptying one-two per year until 2019. Then the Department of Energy (DOE) Office of River Protection (ORP) proposes speeding up tank retrieval over the next five years, but they won't say how many they plan to retrieve.
88. But there are problems. There is the spill at the S Tank Farm and even worse is shut down of single-shell tank retrieval. There is a serious failure of ORP not asking for enough funding for tank farm operation and retrieval. The public is hoping the new ORP Manager will ask for the necessary funding.
89. The DOE should build more double-shell tanks, but DOE will not ask for the necessary funding.
90. Stretching out final cleanup of tank farms until 2052 is unacceptable and there is no justification.
91. The public is still waiting for a decision from DOE on whether or not they plan to move forward with supplemental treatment.
92. Believe starting the Low Activity Waste facility sooner is the better solution than another supplemental treatment.
93. Need to look at waste in 177 tanks. Every tank will leak as long as waste is stored inside them.
94. Believe that we need more double-shell tanks to protect the Columbia River and the environment.
95. The TC&WM EIS needs to explain all health risks due to transportation of waste.
96. Tank retrieval delays – need to build more double-shell tanks to put the waste in from single-shell tanks. But need more funding!
97. Need to add more melters to the Waste Treatment Plant. Would accelerate cleanup. Need the third low-activity waste melter.
98. Double-shell tanks not leaking – yet! But the 149 single-shell tanks are very old. Need more double-shell tank space. Agreed to add more waste to DSTs, I hope you can do that safely. Very concern we are using up the emergency space.
99. Need to really consider new double-shell tanks. There is an urgency. Congress isn't stupid and can understand the urgency.
100. The Life-Cycle Cost Report needs to be done prior to any changes to the Tri-Party Agreement. The DOE needs to ask for all of the necessary funding.
101. Money is being taken from cleanup and given to the Nuclear Production side of USDOE - \$600M to weapon production budget.
102. Need to pull troops to get the necessary funding to cleanup Hanford.
103. Why hasn't the DOE asked for the funding? Wasn't the funding already provided?
104. The TPA legally requires the cleanup, but if the President says we spend the money on weapons, are we just out of luck? Why can't you (DOE) fight for more funding? What is Congress's role in budget development?
105. The DOE has not always requested enough funding.
106. Economy is not bad, now is the time to get cleanup done at Hanford.
107. Hanford is life or death. We can't accept not enough funding. You are the experts. You need to set the stage for landfills. I can't believe you got busted? (Refers to the fine DOE-Richland received on Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility.)

108. How can you (DOE) play these shell games? Can't keep playing money games. Need to understand construction.
109. Not a politician that doesn't have their finger in the money pot.
110. Money efforts are a joke.
111. The reason there is no money is because DOE keeps talking about doing something else. Need to have one primary focus, which is cleanup at Hanford.
112. Believe funding was a waste on the Fast Flux Test Facility.
113. Believe there is money available to ship waste to Hanford, use it towards cleanup instead. Believe we should not send plutonium to Savannah River Site.
114. Who is monitoring costs and keeping safety in mind?
115. Is there a way to think about other industry to get better profit? Need to get more focus from Congress. Can you lobby?
116. What would a .01¢ tax on kilowatt hour on all nuclear generated electricity get us towards cleanup? Need to find sustainable source of funding and not beg for it each year. Funding needs to be dedicated and not go through the White House.
117. Don't believe you have asked for enough funding. Need to share the information with the public and they can affect Congress.
118. Need to give the workers credit. Hanford cleanup is dangerous and they have removed liquid waste, retrieved Spent Nuclear Fuel from the K Basins, and removed sludge from one of the basins. DOE has moved four metric tons of soil from the river and solved problems at the Waste Treatment Plant to restart construction.
119. Health and safety needs to be the focus. We are sacrificing brothers and sisters to Hanford contamination.