

September 7, 2001

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Harry Boston, Manager
U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection
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Chuck Findley, Acting Regional Administrator
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Tom Fitzsimmons, Director
Washington Department of Ecology
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Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Subject: C3T Process

Dear Messrs. Klein, Boston, Findley, and Fitzsimmons,

Thank you for your participation in the Hanford Advisory Board (HAB) meeting on September 6, 2001. The Board appreciates your sharing your thoughts on cleanup progress and the Cleanup, Constraints, and Challenges Team (C3T) activities. The Board has urged such communication and collaboration between the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) agencies and is pleased that such dialogue is happening in the C3T planning.

The HAB would like to continue to receive information on the activities and progress of the C3T effort and looks forward to working with the TPA agencies in providing input into ways in which Hanford cleanup can be better accomplished.

As your C3T program objectives become more clearly defined, we look forward to working more closely with you. Successful achievement of our mutual objectives is dependent on effective and timely two-way communication.

However, the Board has concerns regarding the lack of early and substantive public involvement in the C3T planning. The timeline for the activities indicates the need for Board input in November 2001. The public involvement and

logistical challenges facing the C3T teams are much too great to produce significant public input by November.

The HAB still does not have a clear understanding of the key questions the C3T planning will be addressing, how the four workgroups will be proceeding with their activities, or the processes to be followed in the development of cleanup objectives.

The HAB would like to make it clear that participation of individual members on these C3T task groups does not imply HAB endorsement of the processes or products of these groups. Specifically, the HAB requests that the affiliation of "HAB" for those Board members participating in C3T activities be removed. The Board encourages continued work and communication among the agencies and supports efforts to identify ways to improve cleanup. However, it is reluctant to have its name used in ways that could inadvertently imply Board support for recommendations and activities that have not been thoroughly debated and formally endorsed by the full Board. Still, the Board wishes to be apprised of ongoing C3T work via appropriate issue managers. The Board will also do its best within its processes to provide input into C3T on substantive public involvement issues.

In the near future, the Board intends to continue and expand its work identifying and discussing member values regarding end states for Hanford cleanup in response to TPA agency requests for this work. In particular, our committees will be working on issues related to the Central Plateau at meetings in September and October in preparation for full HAB work on this topic at the November Board meeting.

Very Truly Yours,

Todd Martin, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board.

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

Cc: Jessie Roberson, U.S. Department of Energy Headquarters
Wade Ballard, Deputy Designated Federal Official
Michael Gearheard, U.S Environmental Protection Agency
Doug Sherwood, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Mike Wilson, Washington State Department of Ecology

Steve Wiegman, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection
Martha Crosland, U.S. Department of Energy Headquarters
The Oregon and Washington Congressional Delegations (listed below)

U.S. Senators (OR)

Gordon H Smith
Ron Wyden

U.S. Senators (WA)

Maria Cantwell
Patty Murray

U.S. Representatives (OR)

Earl Brumenauer
Peter DeFazio
Darlene Hooley
Greg Walden

U.S. Representatives (WA)

Norm Dicks
Jennifer Dunn
Richard Hastings
George Nethercutt

State Senators (WA)

Pat Hale
Mike Hewitt

State Representatives (WA)

Jerome Delvin
Shirley Hankins