

April 4, 2003

Keith Klein, Manager  
U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations  
P.O. Box 550 (A7-50)  
Richland, WA 99352

Roy Schepens, Manager  
U. S Department of Energy, Office of River Protection  
P.O. Box 450  
Richland, WA 99352

John Iani, Regional Administrator  
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10  
1200 Sixth Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98101

Tom Fitzsimmons, Director  
Washington State Department of Ecology  
P.O. Box 47600  
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Re: State of the Site

Dear Messrs. Klein, Schepens, Iani, and Fitzsimmons,

The Hanford Advisory Board would like to thank the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) agencies for holding the second annual State of the Site meetings throughout the region. The meetings were productive and effective, providing access by citizens to the TPA decision-makers. The public appreciates meeting with the decision-makers in this yearly forum to learn more about the cleanup progress at Hanford. It was apparent that your agencies used lessons learned from last year's meeting to tighten the presentation times in order to spend more time in dialogue with the public. We felt there was ample opportunity for questions and answers, good visuals, and a better level of information presented for a general public audience. In particular, we appreciated the allowance this year for "alternative" views from local stakeholders, and again, the attempts made to adhere closely to time allotments.

The meeting facilitator was sensitive to the public's needs, adjusting to the needs of each community. Excellent staff work really showed in the design and

implementation of the meetings. You all heard and responded well to questions from the attendees.

There are several areas where your agencies could improve these meetings for the following year. If you choose to use visuals again, please keep the same quality, but provide more detailed explanations of what the visuals depict. Also, try to keep presentations by TPA decision-makers as short and to the point as possible. One way to cut down on presentation time would be to allow a Board representative to provide a Hanford “primer” at the beginning of the meeting instead of having an agency representative cover that material.

We encourage you to continue these annual meetings with the public as a means of keeping the public interested and supportive of Hanford cleanup.

Sincerely,

Todd Martin, Chair  
Hanford Advisory Board

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*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, Assistant Secretary of Energy, U.S. Department of Energy Headquarters  
Marla Marvin, Deputy Designated Federal Official, U.S Department of Energy  
Michael Gearheard, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Michael Wilson, Washington State Department of Ecology  
Sandra Waisley, U.S. Department of Energy Headquarters  
Joy Turner, Washington State Department of Ecology  
Mary Anne Wuennecke, Washington State Department of Ecology  
Dennis Faulk, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Erik Olds, Department of Energy-Office of River Protection  
Yvonne Sherman, Department of Energy-Richland Operations Office  
The Oregon and Washington Congressional Delegations

U.S. Senators (OR)  
Gordon H Smith

Ron Wyden

U.S. Senators (WA)

Maria Cantwell

Patty Murray

U.S. Representatives (OR)

Earl Blumenauer

Peter DeFazio

Darlene Hooley

Greg Walden

David Wu

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