

HANFORD ADVISORY BOARD

A Site Specific Advisory Board, Chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act

Advising:

US Dept of Energy
US Environmental
Protection Agency

Washington State Dept
of Ecology

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VICE CHAIR:

Susan Leckband

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Susan Kreid

State of Oregon

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Ken Niles

Ex-Officio

Confederated Tribes of

the Umatilla

Washington State

Department of Health

September 8, 2006

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 (H6-60)

Richland, WA 99352

Ron Kreizenbeck, Acting Regional Administrator

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10

1200 Sixth Avenue

Seattle, WA 98101

Jay Manning, Director

Washington State Department of Ecology

P.O. Box 47600

Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Re: Hanford Advisory Board Budget

Dear Messrs. Klein, Schepens, Kreizenbeck, and Manning,

Attached is a discussion paper prepared at the Board's September meeting. The paper focuses on the budgetary issues the Board has experienced recently as well as a forecast for the Board's budget needs in FY 2007.

Also attached is the substantive basis for the Board's FY 2007 budget—the Board's priority list, the agencies' input for Board priorities and the Board's meeting schedule.

The Board intends this paper to be used as input to the budget process and for continued discussions with the agencies.

Hanford Advisory Board

Subject: HAB Budget

2006O-04

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Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd Martin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

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: Shirley Olinger, Co-Deputy Designated Federal Official, U.S Department of Energy, Office of River Protection
Dave Brockman, Co-Deputy Designated Federal Official, U.S Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office
Nick Ceto, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Jane Hedges, Washington State Department of Ecology
Doug Frost, U.S. Department of Energy Headquarters
Site Specific Advisory Boards
The Oregon and Washington Congressional Delegations

Hanford Advisory Board Budget Discussion Paper

The Hanford Advisory Board has proven its value over the years, yet the budget of the Board has been dramatically reduced since the Board's inception in 1994:

- Board budget in Fiscal Years 1994-1995: \$1,078,000
- Board budget in Fiscal Year 1997: \$616,096
- Board budget in Fiscal Year 2002: \$607,000
- Board budget in Fiscal Year 2003: \$583,000
- Board budget in Fiscal Year 2004: \$471,000
- Board budget in Fiscal Year 2005: \$471,000
- Board budget in Fiscal Year 2006: \$471,000

The Board has curtailed and managed its activities accordingly based on the reduced budgets. However, the flat budget level of \$471,000 for three consecutive years has made completing the Board's work effectively and efficiently untenable, for example:

- The Board is occasionally unable to respond in a timely manner to agency requests for input due to the reduced budget.
- Operating under a reduced budget is worsened by inflation. The cuts and inflation reduce the buying power of the FY 2006 budget to nearly 40% less than the buying power of the FY 2002 budget.
- Traditionally, the Board has received additional budget from Department of Energy (DOE) Headquarters to support travel and expenses associated with the Site Specific Advisory Board Chairs activities. For the past several years, this funding has not been provided, forcing the Board to pay for these activities directly.
- In FY 2006, despite some carryover from FY 2005, the Board was forced to curtail facilitation and meeting activities.

The Board has continued to pursue efficiency measures to make the most of its budget:

- The Board holds Committee Weeks that minimize costs by co-locating meetings in Richland.
- The Board has reduced the number of Board meetings per year to five or six. Historically, the Board met twelve times per year.
- The Board is actively attempting to minimize travel costs.
- The Board conducts most of its meetings in Richland to minimize travel costs.

The Board's budget difficulties are made more difficult by cost growth. Facilitation costs have grown with inflation as well as under a new facilitation contract issued in FY 2006. Additionally, travel costs have increased dramatically.

Lastly, the Board's workload remains high due to cleanup challenges at Hanford. Foremost are the schedule delays and cost growth associated with the Waste Treatment Plant. The Board's

workplan for the FY 2007 focuses primarily on helping the agencies restore credibility and accountability to the Waste Treatment Plant effort. Further, the Board plans to assist the agencies in the development of a comprehensive, credible plan for retrieval, treatment and disposal of all Hanford tank wastes.

The Board has made good faith efforts for many years to 'do more with less.' However, the current level of funding has reached a crisis stage and will likely render the Board inefficient and ineffective. In FY 2007, the Board will require additional funds as presented in the following chart to accomplish its workplan.

Budget Category	FY 2006	FY 2007
Labor: Facilitation/administrative support and technical assistance	\$370,360 budgeted for old contract (\$400,202 forecast based on new contract issued December 8 th)	\$425,000 + amount to be determined based on technical assistance needs.
Chair Stipend	Not part of FY06 HAB budget	TBD based on discussions between next chair and agencies.
Non-Labor: Travel, Audio-Visual, copier, room rental, etc.	\$120,250	\$149,500
Total	\$490,610*	\$574,500 +TBD

Based on the above and the Board's discussion at its September meeting, the Board's budget should be increased to adequately support its work plan needs; the Board's leadership should play an active role in management of the Board budget; and Ecology should mandate DOE fund the Board over the long-term.

*\$490,610 includes over \$20,000 carryover from FY 2005.