



5 November 1999

Ms. Colette E. Brown
Office of Nuclear Energy,
Science and Technology
U.S. Department of Energy
19901 Germantown Road
Germantown, MD 20874

Subject: HAB Sounding Board on Nuclear Infrastructure Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Ms. Brown:

Thank you for your participation in the Hanford Advisory Board discussion of the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) for Accomplishing Expanded Civilian Nuclear Energy Research and Development and Isotope Productions Missions in the United States on November 5, 1999. The Board is particularly interested in this PEIS because one of the alternatives under consideration is the restart of the Fast Flux Test Facility at Hanford. The Hanford Advisory Board was formed as a site-specific advisory board to advise the U.S. Department of Energy's Environmental Management program, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Washington Department of Ecology on waste management and environmental restoration at the Hanford Site. Part of the Board's charter includes advice on policy issues relating to the maintenance, restart, or decommissioning and decontamination of contaminated facilities. The Board consists of 31 members representing local government; local business; Hanford work force; local environmental interests; regional citizen, environmental and public interest organizations; local and regional public health interests; tribal governments; the State of Oregon; universities; and the public-at-large.

The November 4-5 meeting of the Board was the first time the Board has met since the September 15, 1999, notice of intent to prepare the PEIS. Hence, the Board was unable to submit comments during the public comment period for PEIS scoping. However, the Board did take up this subject at its November meeting in hopes that comments from that meeting would be given consideration to the extent possible in preparing the draft PEIS.

The Board conducted a Sounding Board, in which each seat on the Board was given three minutes to present the views of the organization or interest represented by that seat. The purpose of a Sounding Board is to identify the full spectrum of viewpoints on a topic, recognizing that there may or may not be consensus on these views. Board members were asked to focus their remarks on the overall question "What are the key issues and questions you want to see addressed in the PEIS on Nuclear Infrastructure?" Specific sub-questions included "Are there other alternatives that should be evaluated?" and "What additional topics should be analyzed?" The views expressed by individual members during the Sounding Board were compiled in the enclosed summary, which was structured to follow the format of an EIS. Upon reviewing this compilation, the Board requested that it be transmitted to you without any effort to edit it. This listing should be treated as a simple compilation of views and not Board consensus or endorsement of any of the views in the list.

We would appreciate your consideration of these views in preparing the draft PEIS.

Very truly yours,

Merilyn B. Reeves, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board

cc: Keith Klein, DOE-RL
Chuck Clarke, EPA
Tom Fitzsimmons, Ecology
Pete Knollmeyer, DOE-RL
Doug Sherwood, EPA
Dan Silver, Ecology
The Washington and Oregon Congressional Delegations

Hanford Home Page | [HAB](#) | [Correspondence Index](#)

For questions or comments, please send [email](mailto:Hanford_Advisory_Board@rl.gov) to Hanford_Advisory_Board@rl.gov

URL: <http://www.hanford.gov/boards/hab/letters/99-017.html>

Last Updated: 01/26/2001 10:38:55