



## **Hanford Advisory Board Executive Summary December 4-5, 1997**

---

### **200 Area Soils Remediation Strategy**

The Board adopted advice on the proposed Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) change package for 200 Area Soils Remediation. The advice recommends to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) that the strategy appears to be a reasonable approach to streamline characterization needed prior to remedial decisions on 200 Area waste sites. However, the agencies should clarify that information will need to be collected on a site-specific basis to validate closure decisions. Also, stakeholders and tribal nations should be involved in development of the implementation plan to lay the foundation for further work. In the implementation plan, a clear process for making decisions on remedial actions should be identified.

### **Vadose Zone Characterization**

The Board adopted advice recommending that DOE drill a slant well at the SX Tank Farm in order to determine the distribution of cesium and other contaminants in the vadose zone beneath the tanks. The advice also recommended that a vadose zone characterization plan be developed and that Board members be involved in the development of that plan.

### **Timeline for Public Input to the FY 2000 Budget Prioritization (IPL) and 2006 Plan Processes for 1998**

The Board urged DOE to extend the deadline for input to the site's Integrated Priority List (IPL) for the FY2000 budget until after the April 4, 1998, Board meeting and consider advice on the 2006 Plan to be developed at that meeting. This will allow for integrated review and comment on both the 2006 Plan and the IPL, which are so interrelated that the Board and public must be provided the opportunity to review and comment on them simultaneously.

### **Maintaining Cleanup Progress**

The Board held a workshop on refocusing the issues to be covered by the Board in 1998. Questions asked during the workshop included "What progress has been made at Hanford to stabilize and clean up the site?", "What are the most important things that are left to be done to stabilize and clean up the Hanford site?", "What does it really mean to 'clean up' the site?" and "What is or could hold up progress on Hanford cleanup?" Board members also discussed what the Board can do to further cleanup progress. The Board agreed that Board would focus on the following urgent issues: (1) tank waste retrieval/vitrification, (2) removal of fuel, water, and sludge from K Basins, (3) protection of the River and groundwater, (4) clean up and transition of high-risk facilities, (5) management for results, (6) predictable and adequate cleanup budgets, (7) protection of worker safety, and (8) TPA compliance.

### **Possible Updates**

The FY'98 budget allocations were outlined for the Board, based on a meeting held with Al Alm before Thanksgiving. Hanford did not receive \$4 million of its budget request for FY'98, not including TWRS privatization and "national programs." Including TWRS privatization and "national" programs, Hanford's budget reduction was \$312 million. Charlie Hansen, DOE-RL, notified the Board that the

public comment period for the Solid Waste Environmental Impact Statement has been extended for an additional six weeks.

---

**Hanford Home Page** | [HAB](#) | [Summary List](#)

*For questions or comments, please send [email](mailto:Hanford_Advisory_Board@rl.gov) to the Hanford\_Advisory\_Board@rl.gov*

*URL: <http://www.hanford.gov/boards/hab/execsum/dec4-5-97.htm>*

*Last Updated: 01/26/2001 10:35:38*