

Department of Energy

Oak Ridge Operations Office P.O. Box 2001 Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831—

October 16, 2002

Mr. David Mosby, ChairOak Ridge Site Specific AdvisoryBoard, EM-90P.O. Box 2001Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831

Dear Mr. Mosby:

Thank you for sharing with me the concerns of the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board (ORSSAB) regarding the manager's position at the Oak Ridge Operations Office (ORO). I appreciate the ORSSAB taking the time to review the ORO Alternative Management Model Initiative (AMMI) Report. In response to concerns like yours we recently completed an additional study of a management model used at ORO from 1983 to 1999. This study will be available in the near future.

I want to immediately address your concern by assuring you that we have no intention of eliminating the ORO manager. We also recognize the important role the manager must continue to play in resolving cross-cutting program and reservation issues and representing the Department of Energy to stakeholders. I would also like to take this opportunity to update you on our restructuring efforts at ORO and across the entire Office of Science organization.

The AMMI provided ORO an opportunity to develop a conceptual design for the organization that will allow the Department to best deliver its missions on the Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR). As you may be aware, the President's Management Reform Agenda is driving all federal agencies to reduce layers of management, clarify roles, responsibilities, authorities and accountabilities, simplify requirements, and streamline management processes. As part of the Department's efforts to meet the President's Agenda, the Office of Science initiated in July a restructuring project for its headquarters and field organizations. The ORO AMMI conceptual design is a part of this project.

The Science restructuring project is now conducting the needed detailed design work for ORO, and its other field and headquarters organizations. This requires the full understanding of ORO's roles, responsibilities, authorities and accountabilities before a final design for the organization is completed. As we continue to develop the final design

for the ORO, it is clear that effective coordination of the programs on the Reservation, including the Environmental Management Program, is necessary. It is also clear that a manager responsible for dealing with cross-cutting program issues, and for representing the Department to stakeholders, is necessary. As we continue to refine the final design, these important aspects of the management of the Oak Ridge Operations Office are being considered.

We will strive to keep the ORSSAB informed as we continue to develop the detailed plans for the restructuring of ORO and the Office of Science. In the future, if you would like a briefing provided for the ORSSAB please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Holland Acting Manager

cc (w/incoming):
The Honorable Zach Wamp
The Honorable Spencer Abraham
Connie Jones, EPA, Region IV
John Owsley, TDEC
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