



Thomas Grumbly
Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management
Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue SW
Washington D.C. 20585

November 3, 1995

Re: Waste Management PEIS and Public Involvement, HAB Consensus Advice #34

Dear Mr.Grumbly:

At its November 2-3 meeting, the Hanford Advisory Board adopted the following advice relating to the Waste Management PEIS and public involvement.

Advice

The Hanford Advisory Board is concerned by USDOE Headquarters' inadequate planning and decisions for public involvement and information for the Waste Management PEIS. Publicity to promote public involvement has not met the standard expected. There is a need for timely and meaningful disclosure to the public in the Northwest of all relevant waste and nuclear materials movement actions, impacts and alternatives for the Waste Management Programmatic EIS.

This Board expressed strong reservations about USDOE's plans to hold one single multisite videoteleconference hearing for public comment from 6 cities. Those concerns were not heeded nor mitigated.

The Board is upset that DOE-HQ refused to place any notice advertising in major newspapers for 5 of the 6 cities where the hearing will be held, other than in the legal notices.

Northwest stakeholders and the Hanford Advisory Board have urged USDOE to disclose, and integrate impact and alternative analyses into one public document and process, all wastes and nuclear materials which USDOE is considering treating, storing and disposing at Hanford and throughout the complex. You personally committed at the Plutonium Roundtable in Seattle to such integration and disclosure. We remain concerned that such an integrated approach disclosing all interrelated and cumulative impacts should be available in time for public input to this major WM Programmatic EIS.

Therefore, the HAB urges USDOE to utilize an independently facilitated inter-site stakeholder planning process to: cooperatively develop a meaningful integrated public participation process on the Department's proposed actions to ship for storage, treatment or disposal of DOE's nuclear and hazardous wastes and nuclear materials. The HAB requests DOE to keep the WMPEIS comment period open to implement any process resulting from the November 29th intersite meeting.

The Board looks forward to your written response, as called for in our charter.

Very truly yours,

Merilyn B. Reeves, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board

cc: Chuck Clarke, EPA
Mary Riveland, Ecology
John D. Wagoner, Manager
Cindy Kelly, Designated Federal Official
Linda Lingle, Site Representative
The Oregon and Washington Congressional Delegations

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For questions or comments, please send [email](mailto:Hanford_Advisory_Board@rl.gov) to Hanford_Advisory_Board@rl.gov
HAB Consensus Advice #34
Subject: Waste Management PEIS and Public Involvement
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