

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

April 4, 2008

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Susan Leckband

VICE CHAIR:

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Dave Brockman, Manager
U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations
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the Umatilla
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Department of Health

Re: Remedial Action Plan for the Operable Unit 200-ZP-1

Dear Mr. Brockman,

The Hanford Advisory Board (Board) has been concerned for many years about the carbon tetrachloride plume located near the Plutonium Finishing Plant. This area is referred to as Operable Unit 200-ZP-1. The Board is encouraged to learn that four new groundwater extraction wells and additional pumping capacity will be added to the existing twelve extraction wells currently online before the end of Fiscal Year 2008. The Board is aware that a feasibility study and a proposed plan have been prepared to support the selection of a final cleanup remedy and that these documents will be released for public comment this spring.

The Board was pleased to learn that the first remedial action objective of the plan will be to prevent or mitigate risk to human health and ecological receptors by remediating the plume and returning the groundwater to drinking water standards. Activities that focus on preventing the migration of contaminants and reducing the contaminant mass available for migration are actions the Board has supported for years. The Board strongly supports the commitment that the Department of Energy-Richland Operations Office (DOE-RL) has made to provide for appropriate treatment and monitoring of the plume, moving from a strategy of containment to one of expanded characterization and treatment.

Expanding the groundwater pump and treat system to deal with all contaminants in the groundwater, including technetium-99, in the vicinity of the T, TX and TY tank farms, is something that we have hoped for over the years. Capturing this plume and remediating it in the Central Plateau before the contaminants in the plume move farther will provide significant protection to the Columbia River in years to come.

The Board recognizes that this pump and treat system will need to operate for many years and will require a significant investment of cleanup dollars. We appreciate the

planning that has gone into this program which reflects a significant effort on the part of the DOE-RL, its contractors, regulators and stakeholders.

Sincerely,



Susan Leckband, 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: James Rispoli, U.S Department of Energy, Headquarters
Shirley Olinger, Manager, U.S Department of Energy, Office of River Protection
Doug Shoop, Co-Deputy Designated Federal Official, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection
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The Oregon and Washington Congressional Delegations