

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

September 5, 2008

CHAIR:

Susan Leckband

Dave Brockman, Manager
U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations
P.O. Box 550 (A7-50)
Richland, WA 99352

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Rick Jansons

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Confederated Tribes of
the Umatilla
Washington State
Department of Health

Shirley Olinger, Manager
U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection
P.O. Box 450 (H6-60)
Richland, WA 99352

Re: HAB Charter Discussion

Dear Mr. Brockman and Ms. Olinger,

At the June 5-6, 2008 Hanford Advisory Board (Board) meeting, the board deliberated the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) proposal to replace the "Hanford Advisory Board Charter and Operating Ground Rules" with two separate documents, the first entitled "Memorandum of Understanding among the U.S. Department of Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Washington State Department of Ecology Regarding the Hanford Advisory Board" and the second entitled "Operating Ground Rules for the Hanford Advisory Board."

On Friday, June 6, the Board struggled to accept the DOE proposal, which included two changes agreed to by the DOE Designated Deputy Federal Official attending the meeting. With serious reservations the Board adopted the DOE proposal by majority vote. This process was not the norm for a Board that has dedicated itself to reaching decisions through a consensus process. The reservations expressed by Board members during the June meeting ranged from complete rejection of the DOE proposal to acceptance.

In order to convey the depth and breadth of the discussion and reservations the Board voiced regarding the DOE proposal, I have attached a summary of the conversations regarding the changes. Please carefully review the summary and keep our concerns in mind.

With this decision behind us, the Board looks forward to continuing its mission to engage in ongoing dialogue and provide advice to the Tri-Party Agencies regarding cleanup of the Hanford Site. We expect to continue our productive relationship with you in that effort.

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: Doug Shoop, Co-Deputy Designated Federal Official, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection
Nick Ceto, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Jane Hedges, Washington State Department of Ecology