

Department of Energy

2011-046

Washington, DC 20585

October 4, 2010

Ms. Susan Leckband, Chair Hanford Advisory Board 713 Jadwin Avenue, Suite 2 Richland, WA 99352

Dear Ms. Leckband:

Assistant Secretary Triay has asked me to thank you for your statement during the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB) Chairs' meeting and to thank the Hanford Advisory Board (HAB) for its advice #235 dated September 10, 2010, requesting that DOE open Environmental Management Advisory Board (EMAB) Subcommittee meetings to the public.

As you are aware, over the years the Office of Environmental Management (EM) has endeavored to conduct its activities in an open and transparent manner. The Tank Waste Subcommittee meetings are not required to be open to the public because the subcommittee reports to the EMAB during the open meetings. However, the EMAB is exploring ways to provide additional opportunities for public input as it relates to its subcommittees meetings, and we will inform you of opportunities that become available.

Thank you again for your contributions to the EM program in your role as the Chair of the HAB. I appreciate your thoughts and concerns.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ms. Terri Lamb, EMAB Designated Federal Officer, at 202-586-9007.

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Deputy Assistant Secretary for **Technical and Regulatory Support**

cc: James Ajello, EMAB Chair Terri Lamb, EMAB DFO Catherine Brennan, EM SSAB DFO