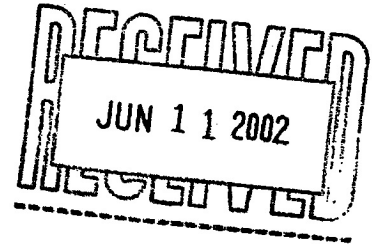




U.S. Department of Energy
Hanford Site

JUN 06 2002



02-AMI-0026

Mr. Todd Martin, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board
1933 Jadwin Avenue, Suite 135
Richland, Washington 99352

Dear Mr. Martin

TOP-TO-BOTTOM REVIEW

Thank you for your comments on the Top-To-Bottom Review. We will ensure your concerns are forwarded to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management for consideration.

The fundamental theme of your comments is the lack of specificity of how risk evaluations will be performed in implementing Top-to-Bottom recommendations and what criteria and processes will be used. Specifically, to respond to your comments:

1. All decisions to accelerate cleanup and reduce costs will be supported by credible risk assessments. This commitment is consistent with the Top-to-Bottom Review as well as being a regulatory requirement.
2. Discussions of risk will continue to be included in environmental review documents for cleanup activities whether prepared under the National Environmental Policy Act, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, or the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act.
3. Risk assessments will consider hazardous waste risks as well as radiological risks.

We encourage the Hanford Advisory Board to review our May 1, 2002, draft Performance Management Plan (PMP) for the Accelerated Cleanup of the Hanford Site. That draft plan was prepared in response to the Letter of Intent to fulfill the requirement for a Hanford work plan. A fundamental tenet of the initiatives proposed in the PMP is risk reduction. We believe you will find that the PMP is consistent with your concerns as well as being responsive to the thrust of the Top-to-Bottom Review. If you have any questions, please contact us, or you may contact W. Wade Ballard, Assistant Manager for Planning and Integration, on (509) 376-6657.

Keith A. Klein, Manager
Richland Operations Office

Harry L. Boston, Manager
Office of River Protection

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cc: See page 2

Mr. Todd Martin
02-AMI-00

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cc:

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L. J. Iani, EPA
L. E. Gadbois, EPA
M. F. Gearheard, EPA
P. Mabie, EnviroIssues
M. A. Wilson, Ecology
Oregon and Washington Congressional Delegations

U.S. Senators (OR)

Gordon H. Smith
Ron Wyden

U.S. Senators (WA)

Maria Cantwell
Patty Murray

U.S. Representatives (OR)

Earl Blumenauer
Peter DeFazio
Darlene Hooley
Greg Walden

U.S. Representatives (WA)

Norm Dicks
Jennifer Dunn
Richard Hastings
George Nethercutt

State Senators (WA)

Pat Hale
Mike Hewitt

State Representatives (WA)

Jerome Delvin
Shirley Hankins