

Tri-Party Agreement

03-HAB-0001

OCT 22 2002

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

Dear Mr. Martin:

HANFORD ADVISORY BOARD (HAB) CONSENSUS ADVICE #135: EXPOSURE SCENARIOS TASK FORCE ON THE RIVER CORRIDOR

This is in response to HAB advice #135 dated September 6, 2002, regarding River Corridor risk assessment and exposure scenario development.

The three agencies appreciate the effort the Board has undertaken to provide us with advice as we enter this critical phase of remediation and closure of Hanford's River Corridor. Your advice, combined with the input we received from Tribal Nations and interested citizens, provided us with the guidance we need to develop a credible exposure scenario for the River Corridor. The three agencies will also review in depth the final task force report when it becomes available.

We believe that the approach being developed for the River Corridor risk assessment and associated exposure scenarios adheres closely to your advice. The 100 B/C pilot project will evaluate Tribal use, recreational and rural-residential scenarios. This effort will in turn provide the template for assessing risk at other River Corridor locations. For purposes of risk assessment, the 100 B/C shoreline will include the riverbank, riparian zone, seeps and the riverbed out to a water depth of 1.5 meters.

We intend to protect the Columbia River and restore groundwater to its highest beneficial use to the extent practicable following the appropriate regulatory process. Points of compliance and remedial objectives will be established in accordance with regulations. Remediation will consider the possibility of preferred pathways and take into account potential impacts from Central Plateau contaminants. The accelerated cleanup of groundwater is a priority with the three agencies and the accelerated initiative will begin in fiscal year 2003.

We agree with the Board that public involvement activities should be conducted throughout the duration of this pilot project. The three agencies have developed a draft public involvement plan which incorporates many of the suggestions brought forward at the Exposure Scenario Task Force meetings, and are currently working with the Board's Public Involvement and Communication Committee to further develop the concepts discussed in this draft.

Mr. Todd Martin
03-HAB-0001

-2-


If you need further information or assistance, please contact the U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office, Public Involvement Manager, Yvonne Sherman on (509) 376-6216.



W. Wade Ballard, Assistant Manager
for Planning and Integration
U.S. Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office



Nicholas Ceto
Hanford Project Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



Michael A. Wilson, Program Manager
State of Washington Department of Ecology

IPI:YS

cc: see page 2

Mr. Todd Martin
03-HAB-0001

-3-

cc:

P. Mabie, EnviroIssues
M. Crosland, EM-11

U.S. Senators (OR)

Gordon H. Smith
Ron Wyden

U.S. Senator (WA)

Maria Cantwell
Patty Murray

U.S. Representative (OR)

Earl Blumenauer
Peter DeFazio
Darlene Hooley
Greg Walden

U.S. Representative (WA)

Norm Dicks
Jennifer Dunn
Richard Hastings
George Nethercutt

State Senators (WA)

Pat Hale
Mike Hewitt