



U.S. Department of Energy

Office of River Protection

P.O. Box 450
Richland, Washington 99352

JUL 08 2004

04-ORP-046

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

Dear Mr. Martin:

HANFORD ADVISORY BOARD (HAB) ADVICE #164 – TANK CLOSURE EIS ALTERNATIVES

Reference: HAB letter from T. Martin to R. Schepens, ORP and L. Hoffman, Ecology, "Tank Closure EIS Alternatives," dated June 4, 2004.

In response to HAB Consensus Advice #164, the Council on Environmental Quality regulations requires agencies such as the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection (ORP) to analyze a full range of alternative actions in each EIS, including the no action alternative, and the potential impacts associated with those alternatives. ORP believes that alternatives currently under development in the draft EIS are consistent with tank waste treatment commitments under the Tri Party Agreement.

Public discussion during the scoping phase of the Tank Closure EIS focused on inclusion of an all Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant (WTP) vitrification alternative and general timeframes for completion of the various alternatives to be evaluated. The EIS currently focuses on two aspects relative to treatment, an all glass WTP vitrification alternative and an all glass WTP with supplemental treatment vitrification alternative. Both alternatives are consistent with the Tri Party Agreement commitments for treatment of tank waste.

The draft EIS also evaluates a range of completion dates for the alternatives to examine the short-term and long-term impacts. These timeframes include dates for completion of waste treatment in 2024, 2030, 2034, 2083, or 2153, depending on the assumptions for the particular alternative. In the preliminary evaluation, slight shifts in timeframes (between two and five years) between the start and completion of the longer operational cycles have minimal impacts. The 2028 timeframe is incorporated in the range of treatment dates analyzed, specifically the 2024-2034 periods, and is consistent with TPA commitments for completion of tank waste treatment.

As ORP has briefed the HAB on several occasions, the River Protection Project baseline achieves the completion of tank waste treatment in 2028 - a TPA commitment ORP intends to meet or exceed. We look forward to further discussions with the HAB regarding the draft Tank Closure EIS and to the HAB's advice once the draft is released for public review in the fall.

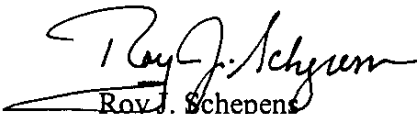
Mr. Todd Martin
04-ORP-046

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JUL 08 2004

If you have any further questions please contact me, or you may contact Mary Beth Burandt, ORP,
(509) 373-9160.

Sincerely,


Roy J. Schepens
Manager

ORP:TEO

cc: S. L. Waisley, EM-33
M. Wilson, Ecology
M. Gearheard, EPA
J. Iani, EPA
K. A. Klein, RL
The Oregon and Washington
Congressional Delegations

U.S. Representatives (WA)

Brian Baird	Rick Larsen
Norm Dicks	Jim McDermott
Jennifer Dunn	George Nethercutt
Richard Hastings	Adam Smith

U.S. Senators (OR)

Gordon H. Smith
Ron Wyden

State Senators (WA)

Jerome Delvin
Mike Hewitt

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Patty Murray

State Representatives (WA)

Shirley Hankins
Sean McGrath

U.S. Representatives (OR)

Earl Blumenauer
Peter DeFazio
Darlene Hooley
Greg Walden
David Wu

E-STARS™ Report
 Task Detail Report
 07/08/2004 0112

TASK INFORMATION			
Task#	ORP-MGR-2004-0007		
Subject	04-ORP-046 - Response to HAB Advice 164 - Tank Closure EIS Alternatives		
Parent Task#		Status	CLOSED
Reference	04-ORP-046	Due	
Originator	Brazil, Kelly	Priority	None
Originator Phone	(509) 376-9318	Category	None
Origination Date	06/24/2004 1222	Generic1	
Remote Task#		Generic2	
Deliverable	None	Generic3	
Class	None	View Permissions	Normal
Instructions	This Letter/Memo is being routed hard copy. Please review and approve or disapprove and route to the next person on the list. bcc: ORP OFF File ORP MGR Rdg File HAB Rdg File		
ROUTING LISTS			
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burandt, Mary E - Review - Concur - 06/25/2004 0731 • Gnann, Howard B - Review - Concur - 07/08/2004 1303 • Schepens, Roy J - Assign - Completed - 07/08/2004 1217 		
ATTACHMENTS			
<i>No Attachments</i>			
COMMENTS			
Poster	Brazil, Kelly (Brazil, Kelly) - 07/08/2004 0107		
	CLOSED		
	Roy signed out letter on July 8, 2004		
TASK DUE DATE HISTORY			
<i>No Due Date History</i>			
SUB TASK HISTORY			
<i>No Subtasks</i>			

-- end of report --

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E-STARS™ Report
 Task Detail Report
 06/24/2004 1225

TASK INFORMATION			
Task#	ORP-MGR-2004-0007		
Subject	04-ORP-046 - Response to HAB Advice 164 - Tank Closure EIS Alternatives		
Parent Task#		Status	Open
Reference	04-ORP-046	Due	
Originator	Brazil, Kelly	Priority	None
Originator Phone	(509) 376-9318	Category	None
Origination Date	06/24/2004 1222	Generic1	
Remote Task#		Generic2	
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1	Route List		Active
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Burandt, Mary E - Review - Awaiting Response 	<i>SHW 7/5/04</i> <i>MEB 6/24/04</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gnann, Howard B - Review - Awaiting Response 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schepens, Roy J - Assign - Awaiting Response 		
ATTACHMENTS			
No Attachments			
COMMENTS			
No Comments			
TASK DUE DATE HISTORY			
No Due Date History			
SUB TASK HISTORY			
No Subtasks			

-- end of report --

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