

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

June 5, 2009

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3100 Port of Benton Blvd.
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Tribal Government

Russell Jim
Gabriel Bohnee

Re: Fiscal Year 2010 Budget Request and Stimulus Funding

Public Health

Margery Swint

Dear Mr. Brockman, Ms. Olinger, Mr. Faulk and Ms. Hedges,

University

Doug Mercer
Gene Schreckhise

Background

Public-at-Large

Norma Jean Germond
Keith Smith
Bob Parazin
Bob Suyama

The Hanford Advisory Board (Board) has previously provided advice regarding current and out-year funding for Hanford Site Cleanup (Advice #210 and #213). The Board appreciates the Tri-Party Agencies' recent presentations to the Budgets and Contracts Committee on available funding, cleanup accomplishments, and existing funding limitations. Based on these presentations, it appears the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA or stimulus) funding provides significant cleanup opportunities through 2011.

Regional Environ-

ment/Citizen

Todd Martin
Greg deBruler
Paige Knight
Gerald Pollet
Susan Kreid

The following advice is focused on the Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 budget request, the stimulus funds, and ensuring commitments are met and momentum continues after the expenditure and accountability of stimulus funds.

State of Oregon

Barry Beyeler
Ken Niles

Ex-Officio

Confederated Tribes
of the Umatilla
Washington State
Department of Health

EnviroIssues

Hanford Project Office

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Advice to Department of Energy – Richland Operations (DOE-RL) and DOE-Office of River Protection (DOE-ORP)

- The Board reiterates its advice (Advice # 120, #205, and #210) that DOE identify and request adequate funding to meet Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) commitments.
- TPA milestones should not be delayed. DOE should use either ARRA funds (which includes an allocation of \$423 million for Central Plateau Decontamination and Decommissioning and Soil Remediation), or annual appropriations to meet existing milestones.
 - Milestones are important in, (1) maintaining cleanup momentum after stimulus funds have been spent, and, (2) securing cleanup funding. For example, the Board is concerned Central Plateau cleanup (remedial investigations scheduled for 2011) and transuranic waste retrieval could begin but fail to maintain progress without milestone drivers and sustained funding.
- The Board requests project funding allocations, Project Baseline Summary prioritization and cost estimates for both ARRA funds and annual appropriations. DOE should make this information transparent and publicly available soon to allow for meaningful Board input.
- While maintaining compliance with security requirements, DOE should analyze and implement measures to minimize expenditure of cleanup funds on security costs related to spent fuel storage, plutonium waste materials and the Plutonium Finishing Plant (PFP).
 - Even after plutonium is removed from PFP, DOE does not anticipate a reduction in site security costs of over \$80 million per year due to security for spent fuel (funded with DOE-Environmental Management cleanup dollars).

Advice to DOE-RL

- DOE-RL should establish a schedule and provide adequate funding for the processing and disposition of K Basin sludge consistent with the DOE-RL 2015 vision.

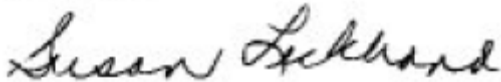
Advice to DOE-ORP

- DOE-ORP should provide additional funding to accelerate tank waste retrieval. The FY 2010 budget request would only support initiation of retrieval at one tank (no ARRA funding has been designated for tank retrieval).

DOE-ORP should analyze opportunities to accelerate tank waste retrieval , including additional technologies beyond those presently employed. FY 2010 funds should be reallocated to exploring these technologies.

- DOE-ORP should seek public input on priorities for FY 2010 research and development funding increase of \$50 million.
- DOE should identify out-year funding needs for comprehensive system planning studies for the retrieval, treatment and disposal of tank waste.
- DOE-ORP should continue to consider early startup (prior to 2019) of the Low Activity Waste plant.

Sincerely,



Susan Leckband, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board

This letter represents Board consensus for this specific topic. It should not be taken out of context to extrapolate Board agreement on other subject matters.

cc: Michelle Pirzadeh, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10
Jay Manning, Washington State Department of Ecology
Doug Shoop, Co-Deputy Designated Federal Official, U.S. Department of Energy,
Richland Operations Office
Steve Pfaff, Co-Deputy Designated Federal Official, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of
River Protection
Richard Campbell, Environmental Protection Agency
Catherine Brennan, U.S. Department of Energy Headquarters
The Oregon and Washington Congressional Delegations