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A Site Specific Advisory Board. Chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act

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US Environmental
Protection Agency
Washington State Dept
of Ecology

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February 8, 2008

James Rispoli
Assistant Secretary of Environmental Management
EM-1/Forestal Building
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20585

Re: Hanford Cleanup Baselines and Lifecycle Cost and Schedule Report

Dear Mr. Rispoli,

The Hanford Advisory Board (Board or HAB) was pleased to read the letter to the *Tri-City Herald* (January 4, 2008) from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) reaffirming its continued commitment to Hanford cleanup. DOE's focus on project management rigor and discipline is also noteworthy. We support DOE's approach to develop a collaborative, shared vision and welcome opportunities for the Board to be a part of that process.

We look forward to receiving the validated and certified Hanford cleanup baselines in the near future and to engage in a dialogue on those baselines with DOE, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Washington State Department of Ecology. Since its creation, the Board has regularly provided DOE with insightful budget and baseline feedback and policy advice. The Board is eager to continue that tradition with the validated baselines.

We believe the next step is to develop the lifecycle cost and schedule report that is being discussed in the current Tri Party Agreement negotiations. The Board agrees with DOE that an accurate lifecycle report containing complete cost and schedule information for the reasonable range of alternatives to accomplish Hanford cleanup work on schedule or as close to schedule as feasible would be immeasurably helpful – especially in the collaborative development of cleanup priorities. Such a credible report will enable the Hanford regulators, tribal nations, HAB, and public to make informed decisions, effective commentary, and to provide useful advice as we work together toward a shared cleanup goal.

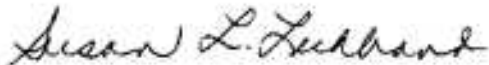
We are concerned that Hanford will face significant compliance gaps and further cleanup delays in the President's proposed fiscal year (FY) 2009 budget recently announced. We expect to send you detailed advice on the FY09 and FY10 budget following our April Board meeting.

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Thank you again for your continued dedication and commitment to Hanford cleanup.

Sincerely,



Susan Leckband, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board

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

cc: Shirley Olinger, Manager, U.S Department of Energy, Office of River Protection
Dave Brockman, Manager, U.S Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office
Doug Shoop, Co-Deputy Designated Federal Official, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection
Steve Wiegman, Co-Deputy Designated Federal Official, U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office
Nick Ceto, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Jane Hedges, Washington State Department of Ecology
Doug Frost, U.S. Department of Energy Headquarters
Site Specific Advisory Boards
The Oregon and Washington Congressional Delegations