

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 3, 2011

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VICE CHAIR:

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Jane Hedges, Program Manager
Washington State Department of Ecology
3100 Port of Benton Blvd.
Richland, WA 99354

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EnviroIssues

Hanford Project Office
713 Jadwin, Suite 3
Richland, WA 99352
Phone: (509) 942-1906
Fax: (509) 942-1926

Re: Request to Review Draft Washington State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) documents

Dear Ms. Hedges,

The Hanford Advisory Board (Board) extends its appreciation to the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) for continuing the dialogue on the draft Hanford Site-wide Permit (Permit).

The Board requests an early review and comment opportunity on draft SEPA documents related to the draft Permit. The Board is interested in seeing these materials prior to the public review period for the draft Permit. This early review will enable the Board to provide meaningful feedback before a more finalized version of the draft Permit and associated SEPA documents go out for public review.

The Board is also concerned with Ecology's plan to submit a draft Permit before the draft Tank Closure and Waste Management Environmental Impact Statement (TC&WM EIS) is finalized. The Board believes it is more logical to complete the draft TC&WM EIS first. Normally, a draft permit is accompanied by a draft EIS or other proposed SEPA/National Environmental Policy Act determinations in order for the public to review and comment on alternatives, potential impacts, and whether mitigating permit conditions will prevent impacts.

The Board would like advance review and comment opportunities on the following documents:

- The SEPA checklists for each unit.
- The Draft SEPA determinations for each unit.
- The Draft SEPA mitigating conditions.

By reviewing these documents early, the Board will be in a position to share comments with Ecology and advise Ecology as to whether and how the public will be able to understand potential impacts, alternatives, and effectiveness of mitigation.

Sincerely,

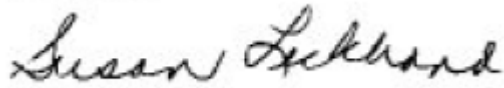
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Susan Leckband, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board

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: Matt McCormick, Manger, U. S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations
Scott Samuelson, Manager, U. S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection
Stacy Charboneau, Co-Deputy Designated Official, U.S. Department of Energy,
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The Oregon and Washington Delegations