

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

September 4, 2009

Dave Brockman, Manager
U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations
P.O. Box 550 (A7-50)
Richland, WA 99352

CHAIR:

Susan Leckband

Shirley Olinger, Manager
U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection
P.O. Box 450 (H6-60)
Richland, WA 99352

VICE CHAIR:

Bob Suyama

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Ex-Officio

Confederated Tribes
of the Umatilla
Washington State
Department of Health

Jay Manning, Director
Washington State Department of Ecology
P.O. Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Michelle Pirzadeh, Acting Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10
1200 Sixth Avenue RA-140
Seattle, WA 98101

Subject: State of the Site Meetings

Dear Messrs. Brockman and Manning and Ms. Olinger, and Ms. Pirzadeh,

Background

Senior managers from the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) Agencies have met with the public at annual State-of-the-Site meetings since 2002. The meetings are intended as a forum for senior decision-makers to meet with the public and talk about progress and challenges associated with the Hanford cleanup. The meetings also provide opportunities for direct public input to decision-makers and help foster openness and accountability.

Advice

- The Hanford Advisory Board (Board) supports the concept of the State-of-the-Site meetings and encourages senior managers from the TPA Agencies to continue to make themselves available to the public on at least an annual basis. The Board finds great value in these meetings.
- The Board recommends the following objectives for the State-of-the-Site meetings:
 - To provide an overview of key/critical accomplishments, challenges, and future activities.
 - To provide an overview of how the TPA Agencies used public input from the previous year's State-of-the-Site meetings.
 - To receive and consider feedback from the public on the TPA Agencies' accomplishments, challenges and future activities.
 - To provide an opportunity for all organizations and TPA Agencies involved with Hanford cleanup to share information and perspectives with the public.

Envirolssues

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

Hanford Advisory Board Advice #222

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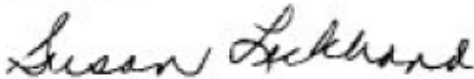
- To support the meeting objectives stated above, the Board recommends the following:
 - Conduct an open house one hour prior to each State-of-the-Site meeting to provide organizations and agencies with an opportunity to share information with the public. Ensure that agency senior managers are available for one-on-one conversations during the open house.
 - Make presentations concise, with the goal of actively engaging the public and addressing their questions and comments no later than 45 minutes after the start of the meeting.
 - After the TPA Agencies have made their presentations, the opportunity for a non-agency perspective should continue to be provided.
 - The meetings should be held annually in four or five cities around the region.

- The TPA Agencies should work cooperatively with the Board and its member organizations to actively promote the meetings and also provide information to those who would not or cannot attend the meetings. TPA Agencies are encouraged to increase use of:
 - The news media (for example, radio talk shows and editorial boards)
 - Educational networks (for example, classroom presentations and university networking)
 - Social networking sites (for example, My Space, Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube)

The following Board member abstained from the advice.

Emmett Moore, Washington State University

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: Steve Pfaff, Co-Deputy Designated Federal Official, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection
Dennis Faulk, Environmental Protection Agency
Jane Hedges, Washington State Department of Ecology
Catherine Brennan, U.S. Department of Energy Headquarters
The Oregon and Washington Congressional Delegations