



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

3100 Port of Benton Blvd • Richland, WA 99354 • (509) 372-7950

September 1, 2010

Ms. Susan Leckband, Chair  
Hanford Advisory Board  
1933 Jadwin Avenue, Suite 4  
Richland, Washington 99352

Re: Hanford Advisory Board (Board) Advice #233 - Tank Waste System Plan Revision 4 and  
Planning Assumptions for Revision 5

Dear Ms. Leckband:

Thank you for the Hanford Advisory Board's advice to the Tri-Party Agreement agencies on the Tank Waste System Plan (System Plan). The Department of Ecology (Ecology) agrees that System Plan Revision 4 shows significant improvement over Revision 3. We also agree that future revisions should ensure that solid and realistic risk mitigation options are included for key risks.

The United States Department of Energy (USDOE) considers the System Plan to be the technical underpinning for the baseline cost and schedule process. Therefore, it is vital that the System Plan contains the most relevant and correct data. We are concerned that Revision 5 will contain assumptions, equipment, and systems that are not currently considered fundamental to the baseline, for example, the aluminum removal facility. Ecology shares your concern that some of the support facilities (like Effluent Treatment Facility) are not currently in the System Plan. We will work with USDOE to include these areas in future revisions.

Ecology will continue to follow progress on System Plan development and provide input as appropriate.

We appreciate the Board's continued emphasis on system planning as it relates to the successful retrieval, treatment, storage, and disposal of tank waste. If you have questions or want to discuss this topic further, please contact Dan McDonald of the Nuclear Waste Program at 509-372-7988.

Sincerely,

Jane A. Hedges  
Program Manager  
Nuclear Waste Program

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cc: Dennis Faulk, EPA  
David Brockman, USDOE  
Matthew McCormick, USDOE  
Steve Pfaff, USDOE  
Doug Shoop, USDOE  
Stuart Harris, CTUIR  
Gabriel Bohnee, NPT  
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Ken Niles, ODOE