



**Department of Energy**  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550  
Richland, Washington 99352

11-HAB-0049

**OCT 07 2011**

Ms. S. L. Leckband, Chair  
Hanford Advisory Board  
Enviroissues Hanford Project Office  
713 Jadwin, Suite 4  
Richland, Washington 99352

Dear Ms. Leckband:

**HANFORD ADVISORY BOARD (HAB) FEBRUARY 11, 2011, CONSENSUS  
ADVICE #242, "PRESERVATION OF HISTORICAL PROPERTIES AND ARTIFACTS"**

Thank you for your letter conveying the HAB's consensus advice #242 "Preservation of Historical Properties and Artifacts" (enclosed). I appreciate the HAB's interest in this subject and agree that the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) renewed and active focus on it was needed.

We share the value you place on preservation of the artifacts, historic facilities, and other historically significant items at the Hanford Site, and we understand our responsibilities and the obligations of our contractors under the National Historic Preservation Act. Because I understand that you intend your advice to apply to the Manhattan Project, Cold War, and pre-Manhattan Project buildings, my reply applies to the same (the archaeological collections cared for by DOE are handled differently).

In the past, efforts were made to catalogue Manhattan Project and Cold War properties and artifacts that have resulted in a collection of photographs, documentation, and oral histories. Recently, the DOE Richland Operations Office (RL) has gone a step further by having Mission Support Alliance, LLC (MSA), the contractor who holds the Curation Services workscope, provide an "artifact pickup service" to tag, remove, and store Manhattan Project and Cold War tagged items. In addition, MSA is engaged in a 100 percent inventory check that will be complete next year. If HAB members have information on specific items you believe were lost, we would like to add that information into our record-keeping as MSA continues to improve practices in this area across the site.

OCT 07 2011

I agree with you that senior management advocacy for preservation activities is critically important. We do this in two ways, one we have a cultural preservation group who oversees overall implementation of the cultural resource program at Hanford and we have a senior manager who provides advocacy on preservation (Colleen French, Program Manager, Government Affairs, RL). For example, Ms. French and the Hanford team created the B Reactor Preservation Project, working with many of you on the HAB and others to save vintage locomotives and railcars slated for disposal, and working closely with community organizations and the National Park Service to raise the profile of the remaining pre-Manhattan Project facilities, including the Bruggemann Warehouse, the White Bluffs Bank, the Hanford High School, the Hanford Pump House, the Allard Pump House, and the East White Bluffs Log Cabin with an eye toward preserving them for interpretation as part of the Manhattan Project story.

Thank you again for your thoughtful and complete advice on this subject. It's one of the key items relating to the post-cleanup future that we need to focus on now to ensure we are doing it right. If you have any questions, you may contact me, or your staff may contact Ms. French at (509) 373-5985.

Sincerely,

  
Matt McCormick  
Manager

HAB:PKC

Enclosure

cc: See page 3