

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

December 20, 2012

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Steve Hudson

INTERIM VICE

CHAIR:

Susan Leckband

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Richland, WA 99352

Re: Tank Closure and Waste Management Final Environmental Impact Statement
(TC&WM FEIS)

Dear Messrs. Huizenga, McCormick and Samuelson,

The Hanford Advisory Board (Board) has long anticipated the issuance of the Tank Closure and Waste Management Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), having commented extensively on its development. It is a monumental document in its scope, with far reaching consequences for the future of the Pacific Northwest.

After a cursory review following its recent release, and as a result of the discussion during the December 10, 2012 Board webinar where DOE provided an overview to the FEIS, the Board reiterates concerns raised in HAB Advice 256 addressing the Final Tank Closure and Waste Management Environmental Impact Statement. Specifically HAB Advice 256 emphasized that:

- The breadth and depth of this FEIS demands a more extensive opportunity for the public and HAB to understand its impacts prior to DOE issuing records of decision based on the analysis it contains.

EnviroIssues

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- The FEIS is incomplete without identifying a preferred path for supplemental treatment.

We understand that January 14, 2013 is the earliest date that DOE would be able to issue a record of decision (ROD) based on the FEIS, which is 30 days from the notification of its release. It is evident that the Board and the public will need more than thirty days to read, digest and provide further advice on DOE's proposed path forward.

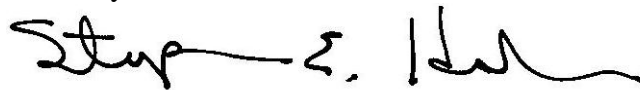
As noted above, in HAB Advice 256, the first bullet states:

The Board advises DOE to provide the public and the Board sufficient time (90 days) to review the FEIS and have dialogue with DOE in respect to its findings prior to DOE issuing any formal ROD based upon the FEIS. One or more public meetings should be held on this topic.

Therefore, we request that DOE commit to not issuing any records of decision based on this FEIS until March 14th, to allow the Board and the public sufficient time to adequately review and discuss issues and concerns raised by the FEIS.

I look forward to your response to this request.

Sincerely,



Stephen E. Hudson, 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: Jeff Frey, Deputy Designated Official, U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection
Dennis Faulk, Manager, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Jane Hedges, Program Manager, Washington State Department of Ecology
Catherine Alexander, U.S. Department of Energy, Headquarters
The Oregon and Washington Delegations