

April 2, 2004

Keith Klein, Manager  
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Roy Schepens, Manager  
U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection  
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John Iani, Regional Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10  
1200 Sixth Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98101

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

Re: 300 Area Explanation of Significant Difference

Dear Mssrs. Klein, Schepens, Iani and Ms. Hoffman,

The Hanford Advisory Board (Board) is reviewing the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) Agencies' proposed Explanation of Significant Difference (ESD) on the 300 Area cleanup. The cleanup plans are moving forward quickly.

The Board is encouraged and supports the inclusion of the eight sites outside the 300 Area fence line and requests that "unrestricted use" be the standard applied to these eight sites and all other sites along the Columbia River Corridor. The TPA agencies previously committed to an "unrestricted surface use" standard as the appropriate use standard for these areas. The reasonably foreseeable long-term exposure scenarios for these Columbia River Corridor sites could include children, Native Americans, residential, commercial, or other non-industrial uses.

The Board is continuing to review many other aspects of the plans and may provide additional advice regarding the 300 Area ESD in the near future.

Lastly, the Board understands and supports the urgency associated with establishing unrestricted use for these eight sites. However, decisions of this magnitude should always be subject to public review and input prior to being made. Unfortunately, on this decision that did not occur.

Sincerely,

Todd Martin, Chair  
Hanford Advisory Board

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*This advice represents HAB consensus for this specific topic. It should not be taken out of context to extrapolate Board agreement on other subject matters.*

cc: Howard Gnann, Deputy Designated Federal Official, U.S. Department of Energy  
Michael Gearheard, Environmental Protection Agency  
Michael Wilson, Washington State Department of Ecology  
Sandra Waisley, U.S. Department of Energy Headquarters  
The Oregon and Washington Congressional Delegations

U.S. Senators (OR)

Gordon H Smith  
Ron Wyden

U.S. Senators (WA)

Maria Cantwell  
Patty Murray

U.S. Representatives (OR)

Earl Blumenauer  
Peter DeFazio  
Darlene Hooley  
Greg Walden  
David Wu

U.S. Representatives (WA)

Brian Baird  
Norm Dicks

Jennifer Dunn  
Jay Inslee  
Richard Hastings  
Rick Larsen  
Jim McDermott  
George Nethercutt  
Adam Smith

State Senators (WA)

Pat Hale  
Mike Hewitt

State Representatives (WA)

Jerome Delvin  
Shirley Hankins