



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10 HANFORD/MNL PROJECT OFFICE

309 Bradley Boulevard, Suite 115
Richland, Washington 99352

2007I-300

July 13, 2007

Susan Leckband, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board
713 Jadwin, Suite 4
Richland, Washington 99352

Re: Response to Hanford Advisory Board (HAB) Consensus Advice #197 on Groundwater Values

Dear Ms. Leckband,

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed your advice and flow chart regarding cleanup of groundwater and would like to commend the Board on another fine product. We realize that development of the groundwater flow chart took many long hours, and we appreciate the thought that went into its development. It will be a great companion document to the flow chart from Advice #173 on Central Plateau Values.

In addition to the flow chart, your letter advises us to develop specific goals and schedules for the cleanup of our groundwater at Hanford. As you are aware, we have several remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS) work plans in place in the Central Plateau that will develop goals and schedules consistent with the public's values as well as comply with the Superfund law. EPA also added an action item to the recently completed 5-year review to develop schedules for submittal of final RI/FS in the River Corridor area.

You advised that groundwater cleanup should be fully funded, and we agree. You also recommended that funding be available for technology development and, while we agree, it should be noted that funding has increased over the last several years to test new technologies, particularly along the river.

EPA would like to have additional dialogue with you on your advice to create a plume registry. It is not clear what benefits this registry would provide that are not already available through our current mechanisms.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Ceto, Program Manager
Hanford Project Office

cc: Shirley Olinger, DOE-ORP
Dave Brockman, DOE-RL
Jane Hedges, Ecology

Response to HAB advice #197
HAB Consensus Advice: Groundwater Values
Letter from Nick Ceto dated 7/13/07