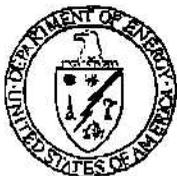


2005I-4024



**U.S. Department of Energy  
Hanford Site**

**APR 07 2005**

05-ORP-018

Mr. Todd Martin, Chair  
Hanford Advisory Board  
1933 Jadwin Avenue, Suite 135  
Richland, Washington 99352

Dear Mr. Martin:

**HANFORD ADVISORY BOARD (HAB) CONSENSUS ADVICE #169 – BUDGET  
WORKSHOPS**

Reference: HAB letter from T. Martin to K. Klein, RL; and R. Schepens, ORP,  
“Budget Workshops,” dated March 4, 2005.

This letter is in response to Hanford Advisory Board Consensus Advice #169, which provides recommendations to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) regarding public access to Hanford budget information. DOE remains committed to meeting its commitments under the Tri-Party Agreement and related Community Relations Plan to provide Hanford funding information to the regulatory agencies and the public.

DOE briefed the Oregon Hanford Cleanup Board on March 29, 2005, and held a public budget workshop and meeting on March 30, 2005, in Richland, Washington. As with the 2004 budget workshop and meeting, DOE received interest and input from the public, stakeholders, and others regarding Hanford cleanup priorities at this 2005 workshop. As you are aware, the HAB held a meeting in conjunction with the workshop and intends to develop funding-related advice to DOE. Since the HAB is a Board of regional interests representing a broad spectrum of constituencies, DOE expects the consensus advice will embody the values and principles of stakeholders throughout the region, and compliment the comments and feedback we receive from the budget workshop and meeting.

DOE disagrees with the HAB's view that it will fail to ensure cleanup activities reflect the values and principles of the public by conducting a single budget workshop and budget meeting in the Tri-Cities. As we expressed in the response to HAB Consensus Advice #155, we believe an ever

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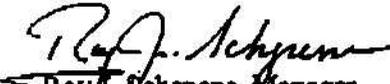
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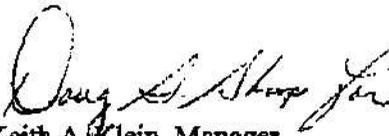
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broadening range of opportunities exists for stakeholders, HAB members, and others to receive information, become involved, or provide feedback on decisions and activities related to cleanup of the Hanford Site. Those opportunities occur throughout the year and include:

- Public comment periods on proposed changes to Tri-Party Agreement milestones;
- Public meetings, comment periods, and notifications for temporary construction authorizations and permit applications and modifications;
- The budget workshop and meeting;
- Regional State of the Site Meetings;
- Risk-based end states public meetings;
- Oregon Hanford Cleanup Board meetings;
- Tank forums, budget meetings, and other public meetings sponsored by regional interest groups; and
- HAB and committee meetings.

We look forward to receiving the HAB's consensus advice regarding Hanford cleanup funding and, as in the past, are committed to ensuring that advice with its embedded values and principles regarding cleanup, is included for consideration in the Fiscal Year 2007 budget development.

  
Roy J. Schepens, Manager  
Office of River Protection

  
Keith A. Klein, Manager  
Richland Operations Office

cc: See Page 3

Mr. Todd Martin  
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cc:

N. Ceto, EPA  
R. Kreizenbeck, EPA  
J. Manning, Ecology  
M. Wilson, Ecology  
S. Waisley, HQ  
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      Greg Walden  
Peter DeFazio        David Wu  
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U.S. Representatives (WA)

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Norm Dicks            Jim McDermott  
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Rich Larsen

State Senators (WA)

Jerome Delvin  
Mike Hewitt

State Representatives (WA)

Larry Haler  
Shirley Hankins