

# Hanford Advisory Board Draft Advice

**Topic:** Draft 300 Area Remedial Investigation & Feasibility Study Proposed Plan

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**Originating Committee:** River & Plateau

**Version #1:**                    **Color:** X pink yellow green Salmon purple blue

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## Background

The Hanford Advisory Board (Board) provides this advice to supplement previous advice on the 300 Area groundwater uranium problem (HAB Advice #257). Final decisions about cleanup at Hanford's 300 Area are important because of their potential impacts to the Columbia River. The 300 Area Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) and Proposed Plan will provide a template for subsequent River Corridor and similar Central Plateau groundwater-uranium decisions that follow. It is important to the Board that the 300 Area decisions are dependable, protective, defensible, and well supported.

The latest alternative of the 300 Area RI/FS and Proposed Plan proposes to do an application of polyphosphate to the most contaminated location in the lowermost 300 Area vadose zone to bind with uranium, thereby limiting its ability to migrate into the Columbia River. The Board supports an active effort to limit uranium contamination in groundwater (HAB Advice #257). The Board agrees that such a treatability test will help determine whether the approach is effective and help develop an optimum approach for the application of phosphate for groundwater uranium remediation.

## Advice<sup>1</sup>:

1. The Board advises DOE to undertake a treatability test to determine the effectiveness of uranium sequestration. Upon a successful test result, the Proposed Plan for a Record of Decision would be better informed and would be done in a more timely and cost effective manner. If the test is not successful, the Board advises the agencies to continue to work with the Board on a path forward.
2. The Board advises DOE to communicate its plan for detecting and determining the effectiveness of uranium sequestration using polyphosphate injection in the 300 Area.
3. The Board advises DOE to consider further application of the phosphate technology if it is determined to be effective in removing uranium from groundwater.

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<sup>1</sup> **PLEASE NOTE:** *These advice bullets are numbered for ease of editing; they do not reflect order of importance and will be revised to a bulleted list following the editing process.*