June 6, 2007

Mike Weis, Acting Manager
U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations
P.O. Box 550 (A7-50)
Richland, WA 99352

Elin D. Miller, Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101

Con Murphy, President
Fluor Hanford Inc.
P.O. Box 1000
Richland, WA 99352

Re: K East Basin Sludge Removal

Dear Messrs. Weis, and Murphy, and Ms. Miller,

The Hanford Advisory Board (Board) congratulates the U.S. Department of Energy, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Fluor Hanford, Inc., and the Hanford workforce for completing the removal of sludge from the 105KE basin.

The Board has followed the K Basins Closure Project (formerly the Spent Fuel Project) for more than ten years. Among the values identified in thevery first advice the Board provided to the Tri-Party Agencies in 1994 was the principle to "move ahead rapidly with cleanup in the 100 and 300 Areas." Successful completion of this most recent milestone speaks directly to that principle. A job well done by all involved!

The Board recognizes that sludge removal was yet another first-of-a-kind effort that presented many difficult challenges with constantly changing conditions. We also understand that completion of this milestone was accomplished by a dedicated, innovative workforce while developing and implementing new engineering solutions safely in the field.

The Board realizes that achieving sludge removal from the 105KE basin is one interim cleanup action in a series of actions in the 100K Area. The Board looks forward to the next remedial actions in the 100K Area that will further reduce contamination risks to the Columbia River.
Sincerely,

Susan Leckband

Susan Leckband, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board

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

Nick Ceto, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Jane Hedges, Washington State Department of Ecology
Doug Frost, U.S. Department of Energy Headquarters
Site Specific Advisory Boards
The Oregon and Washington Congressional Delegations