Nov. 7, 2003

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Richland, WA 99352

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
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Seattle, WA 98101

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

Re: Need for Site-wide Cumulative Impact Analysis Relative to Hanford Solid Waste EIS and Decisions to Add Waste from Offsite

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

In response to Hanford Advisory Board (Board) advice on the draft Hanford Solid Waste Environmental Impact Statement (HSW-EIS), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) stated that a site-wide cumulative impact analysis can be initiated by 2008 (when Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act and Resource Conservation Recovery Act facility investigations are complete pursuant to M-15 and M-45 milestones). The Board urges the Tri-Party Agreement include a milestone to ensure this site-wide cumulative impact analysis occurs.

The Board advises the Department of Energy not proceed with the proposed decision to add the offsite wastes considered in the draft HSW-EIS to the Hanford site’s soil until an analysis has been conducted assessing the cumulative impacts of adding the waste to waste already disposed on site. Only if we understand the cumulative risk from Hanford’s waste can we consider whether adding more waste would be advisable.
creates unacceptable risks and impacts. EPA's response to Board advice regarding the draft HSW-EIS recognized the EIS does not provide this cumulative impact analysis.

Sincerely,

Todd Martin, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board

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: Jessie Roberson, Assistant Secretary of Energy, U.S. Department of Energy Headquarters
Marla Marvin, Deputy Designated Federal Official, U.S. Department of Energy
Michael Gearheard, Environmental Protection Agency
Michael Wilson, Washington State Department of Ecology
Sandra Wailesy, 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)
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Peter DeFazio
Darlene Hooley
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David Wu
U.S. Representatives (WA)
Brian Baird
Norm Dicks
Jennifer Dunn
Jay Inslee
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