



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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May 30, 2014

14-NWP-114

Mr. Steve Hudson, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board
713 Jadwin, Suite 3
Richland, Washington 99352

Re: Hanford Advisory Board Advice #275, "Path Forward on Tank Waste"

Dear Mr. Hudson:

Thank you for the Hanford Advisory Board (Board) advice on the path forward on tank waste. The safe and timely retrieval and treatment of Hanford's tank waste is among the highest priorities for Ecology and the state of Washington.

We share many of the concerns outlined in the Board's advice, including openness and transparency, compliant funding, resolution of technical issues at the Waste Treatment Plant, and double-shell tank space.

On March 31, 2014, the state and federal governments both proposed amendments to the 2010 Consent Decree. The state's proposal includes a detailed schedule for keeping the tank waste cleanup mission on track, and adds new terms to hold the U.S. Department of Energy accountable for meeting its legal commitments. The state's proposal is available on Ecology's Nuclear Waste Program website at www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/nwp. Discussions on the proposals are ongoing between the two parties.

Ecology appreciates the Board's sustained focus and input on tank waste cleanup. We look forward to continuing open discussions with you as we work to address the challenges ahead and identify the best path forward for these critical cleanup decisions.

If you have any questions, please contact Suzanne Dahl, Tank Waste Treatment Section Manager, at Suzanne.Dahl@ecy.wa.gov or (509) 372-7892.

Sincerely,

for

Jane A. Hedges
Program Manager
Nuclear Waste Program

cc: See page 2



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cc electronic: Dennis Faulk, EPA
David Borak, USDOE-HQ
David Huizenga, USDOE-HQ
Jeff Frey, USDOE-RL
Ken Niles, ODOE
Suzanne Dahl, Ecology

cc: Matt McCormick, USDOE-RL
Kevin Smith, USDOE-ORP
Stuart Harris, CTUIR
Gabriel Bohnee, NPT
Russell Jim, YN