

Tri-Party Agreement

January 5, 1995

Merilyn Reeves, Acting Chair  
Hanford Advisory Board  
22250 Boulder Crest Lane  
Amity, Oregon 97101

Re: Environmental Restoration Refocusing and 200-ZP-1 Interim  
Action Advice Response

Dear Ms. Reeves:

The Tri-Party Agencies have received the consensus advice regarding Environmental Restoration Refocusing and the interim action on the 200-ZP-1 Operable Unit adopted at the Hanford Advisory Board's December meeting.

The Board members are to be commended for their work during the refocusing effort. Considerable time was spent over the last six months discussing many important components of the Environmental Restoration (ER) program. The Board has, in effect, acted as a steering group for the negotiations. As stated in your December 12 letter, one of the primary values of the public has been and, continues to be, protection of the Columbia River. Consequently, protection and cleanup along the river have been key to the changes being proposed for the ER program.

One particular concern outlined in your letter is the potential for budget shortfalls. Over the next several years the U.S. Department of Energy may see a substantial reduction in funding available for the cleanup of its nuclear sites. It is incumbent upon all the parties to streamline the cleanup process and to use resources in a cost-efficient manner. We believe that by changing current practices cleanup can be achieved within expected ER budgets.

The Board has asked to review all the comments and agencies' response to the comments received during the recently completed comment period. The agencies welcome the opportunity to share this information with the Board prior to finalizing the agreement. Due to public comments received, the parties will be reopening negotiations on the ER change package. The response-to-comment document will be finished after negotiations are completed. Distribution of the document is expected by mid-February.

Merilyn Reeves

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The Board also sent the parties consensus advice on the proposed interim action at the 200-ZP-1 Operable Unit. The agencies agree with the Board's advice and will detail the recommendations as part of the responsiveness summary in the interim action record of decision. Please note that all comments received supported this proposal.

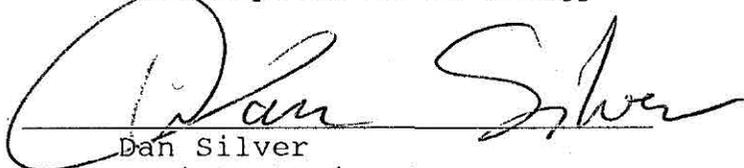
Again, we want to thank you for your continued work on ER and other aspects of Hanford cleanup.

Sincerely,



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R. D. Izatt  
Deputy Manager  
U.S. Department of Energy



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Dan Silver  
Assistant Director  
Waste Management  
Washington State Department  
of Ecology



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Carol Rushin  
Associate Division Director  
Hazardous Waste Division  
U.S. Environmental Protection

cc: Hanford Advisory Board Members