



U.S. Department of Energy Hanford Site

20-HAB-0001

March 20, 2020

Ms. Susan Leckband, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board
ProSidian Hanford Project Office
713 Jadwin Avenue, Suite 4
Richland, Washington 99352

Dear Ms. Leckband:

HANFORD ADISORY BOARD SEPTEMBER 19, 2019, CONSENSUS ADVICE #302, PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN BUDGET DEVELOPMENT

The U.S Department of Energy (DOE) is in receipt of your September 19, 2019 letter. We disagree with the fundamental nature of some of your advice as it is not consistent with the type and nature of advice that Hanford requests from the Hanford Advisory Board (HAB). As such we will only accept portions of the advice you provided in your above referenced letter.

In our future efforts to seek input from the HAB and the community on the preparation of Hanford's budgets, we will be sharing with you the work that we propose to perform to meet our regulatory and Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) requirements and our relative priority of the differing elements of work. We will request feedback on those relative priorities from the HAB and the public on whether you agree with our prioritization or whether you would propose re-ranking of some of the priorities. TPA 10.5.1 commits DOE to at least one public meeting in the spring to carry out our commitment to involve the public in the DOE budget formulation as reflected in paragraphs 148 and 149. Thus, we will provide high-level funding amounts for the work as part of this process. We will continue to share budget and funding details on actual appropriations and planned work once we know our appropriations levels.

As we prepare to seek public input on the Fiscal Year 2022 Hanford budget, our intent is to hold a single public meeting, tentatively in the mid-April time frame, in a manner consistent with the last few years. At this meeting, we will share all the planned workscope to meet our regulatory and TPA requirements in priority order, and will be seeking input on any proposed changes of priority for specific planned work.

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In regard to your request for additional regional meetings, we have not found that additional regional meetings have provided sufficient new information to justify the cost and staff time, and as such, intend to only hold the one meeting detailed above.

If you have any questions, please contact me, or you may also contact JoLynn Garcia, HAB Federal Coordinator, Richland Operations Office, on (509) 376-6244, or Jim Lynch, HAB Deputy Designated Federal Official, Office of River Protection, on (509) 376-4170.

Sincerely,

Brian T. Vance
Manager

HOC:JMG

cc: D.A. Borak, EM-4.32
D.R. Einan, EPA
P.Larsen, City of Richland
A.K. Smith, Ecology
D.M. Wellman, Benton-Franklin
Council of Governments
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