

December 8, 2016

Advising:

US Dept. of Energy
US Environmental
Protection Agency
Washington State Dept.
of Ecology

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Kevin Smith, Manager
U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection
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Richland, WA 99352

Re: Budget Priorities

Dear Messrs. Shoop and Smith,

The Hanford Advisory Board (HAB or Board) provides the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) with budget advice each year to ensure that the DOE has an opportunity to apply Board and stakeholder values when developing budget requests for Hanford cleanup.

The Board adopted and submitted HAB Advice #288 to DOE in April 2016. Although the Board has received a response from DOE that says “DOE... acknowledges that our key priorities do align and support the items on which the Board has provided input.” The Board believes that is not entirely accurate. Board priorities listed in the advice, identified below and in no particular priority order, do not match DOE’s Hanford scheduled priorities:

- supporting a dialogue about the end state of cleanup;
- accelerating movement of the cesium and strontium capsules to dry storage;
- providing new double-shell tank storage capacity;
- moving forward more expeditiously to address the contamination concentrated beneath the 324 Building;
- resuming of shipments to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant; and
- resuming of transuranic waste retrieval at Hanford.

Therefore, we are providing HAB Advice #288 again for the following reasons:

- to reiterate the funding priorities in the advice that were not addressed in the response;
- to ensure that potential new staff at DOE-Environmental Management are aware of Board cleanup values and priorities in the short and long term; and
- to give DOE the opportunity to reconsider Board priorities as they develop future budget requests.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Steve Hudson, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board

Attachments: HAB Advice #288 and DOE response to HAB Advice #288

cc: Kyle Rankin, Co-Deputy Designated Federal Official, U.S. Department of Energy Richland Operations Office
Dawn MacDonald, Co-Deputy Designated Federal Official, U.S. Department of Energy Office of River Protection
Dennis Faulk, U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
Alex Smith, Washington State Department of Ecology
The Oregon and Washington Delegations