

# HAB

Hanford Advisory Board



## Annual Report 2017

## The Hanford Advisory Board: Mission Statement

The Hanford Advisory Board (also known as HAB or Board) is a non-partisan, broadly representative body consisting of 32 members interested in the cleanup of Hanford Nuclear Reservation, a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) complex, located in eastern Washington, where plutonium was produced for the national defense during World War II and the Cold War. The Board works to provide consensus advice to DOE, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology), collectively known as the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) agencies, on selected major policy issues related to the cleanup of the Hanford Site.

The Board was chartered in 1994 by DOE under the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972. It is one of eight citizen advisory boards that make up the DOE Office of Environmental Management Site Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB). The purpose of the charter and development of the Board is to provide a forum for bringing together diverse views, cultures, and demographics from communities and regions affected by Hanford Site cleanup activities.

## What is the Hanford Advisory Board?

The Hanford Advisory Board is:

- **Mission-oriented:** The primary mission of the Board is to provide informed recommendations and consensus advice to the TPA agencies on selected major policy issues related to Hanford cleanup.
- **Policy-focused:** The Board focuses on difficult policy-level issues associated with a long history of plutonium production and the resulting contamination from radioactive and chemical waste.
- **Diverse:** The Board is made up of 32 members representing a variety of constituencies from local interests, environmental perspectives, business groups, tribal nations, public health representatives, state of Oregon officials, university professionals, public-at-large representatives, and the Hanford workforce.
- **Collaborative:** The Board operates by consensus.
- **Dedicated:** The Board has provided 294 pieces of consensus advice to the TPA agencies over the last 23 years.
- **Robust:** The Board maintains five standing committees that routinely meet throughout the year to discuss issues of relevance to the site's cleanup.
- **Inviting:** All Board meetings are open to the public. The Board actively reaches out to different communities to increase awareness of and involvement in Hanford cleanup. More information about the Board, including all HAB advice, responses and correspondences, can be found at [www.hanford.gov/page.cfm/hab](http://www.hanford.gov/page.cfm/hab).



# Chair's Message: 2017

## A Year of Change

For the HAB, 2017 has been a year that confirmed the old adage "the one constant in life is change." The HAB has certainly seen a fair amount of the change this year. Transitions this year include the retirement of two TPA Agency managers, Dennis Faulk (EPA) and Kevin Smith (DOE-ORP). Both Dennis Faulk and Kevin Smith were avid supporters of the Board. In January 2017, the HAB facilitation contract was awarded to ProSidian Consulting. Other transitions included new Board leadership and the welcoming of several new Board members. The Board issued two pieces of informed advice on the reinstatement of Regional State of the Site meetings and Hanford Budget Priorities.

The Board continues to be committed to becoming informed on Hanford Site cleanup issues, decisions, and successes while working with Department of Energy, Environmental Protection Agency, and Washington State Department of Ecology to provide cognizant, policy-level recommendations and consensus advice on Hanford cleanup.

The Board recognizes this is not a sprint, it is a marathon. The Hanford Advisory Board continues to encourage the Agencies to share information on Hanford cleanup to the public in open and transparent forums.



Susan Leckband, Board Chair



2017 March Hanford Advisory Board Meeting at Red Lion Hanford House

# 2017 At a Glance

This section of the report recounts HAB activities and accomplishments in 2017. This includes a summary of the consensus advice provided to the TPA agencies during this period, as well as more detailed highlights of the significant work engaged over the course of the fiscal year.

## Advice in 2017

The Board adopted two new pieces of advice in 2017. To read these pieces of advice and TPA agency responses in their entirety, visit [www.hanford.gov/page.cfm/hab](http://www.hanford.gov/page.cfm/hab). For more information about the committees of the HAB, see pages

Advice	# 293	Regional State of the Site In-Person Meetings Date submitted: 11/14/2017
	# 294	Hanford Site Budget Date submitted: 11/14/2017



2017 March Hanford Advisory Board Meeting at Red Lion Hanford House

## Hanford Site Tour

On May 16, 2017, members of the Hanford Advisory Board and Agency staff had the opportunity to take part in a Hanford Site tour.



Member and Agency Staff arrive at WESF for a briefing by Lee Ebbeson and Rick Willbanks (CHPRC) on the cesium and strontium capsules.

## Hanford Live

Susan Leckband, Board Chair had an opportunity to participate on the Hanford Live Panel.



Hanford Live Panel Participants

## Tri-Cities Hosts Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB) Fall Meeting

In October 2017, Hanford had the opportunity to host the bi-annual EM SSAB Fall meeting.



2017 EM SSAB Chairs Meeting



2017 EM SSAB Dinner Social

# Committees of the Board

The Board is composed of five committees that focus on policy recommendations that inform complex issues driving cleanup at Hanford. The sixth committee is comprised of the Board and committee leadership. Each committee develops draft advice based on shared information, discussion, and Board values. The committees work, through the consensus process, to identify and agree on specific advice points. When advice has committee consensus, it is brought before the full Board for consideration.

The Board has two technical committees, the River & Plateau (RAP) and Tank Waste Committee (TWC). They are responsible for understanding and tracking current Hanford cleanup work. The other three committees, the Public Involvement & Communications (PIC), Budget & Contracts Committee (BCC), and Health, Safety & Environmental Protection (HSEP) are focused on tracking broader, sitewide issues. The sixth committee is the Executive Issues Committee (EIC), guides Board leadership demands.

Yearly, the committees identify a list of priority topics for discussion and develop a work plan. The work plan is comprised of timely topics brought forward through collaborative discussions between the Board, TPA agency representatives, and Hanford Site contractors. Members will self-identify themselves as issue managers on a committee level, when they have a strong interest or expertise in a particular issue. Issue managers take the lead in researching, framing topics for committee discussions and advice development.

## 2017 Board and Committee Leadership

### Board Leadership

Chair: Susan Leckband, Washington League of Women Voters

Vice chair: Shelley Cimon, Columbia Riverkeeper

### National Liaison

Pam Larsen, City of Richland

### Committee Leadership

#### *Budgets and Contracts Committee*

Chair: Jerry Peltier, City of West Richland

Vice chair: Don Bouchey, Tri-City Development Council

#### *Health, Safety, and Environmental Protection Committee*

Chair: Rebecca Holland, Hanford Atomic Metal Trades Council

Vice chair: Richard Bloom, City of West Richland

#### *Public Involvement and Communications Committee*

Chair: Liz Mattson, Hanford Challenge

Vice chair: Shannon Cram, University of Washington

#### *River and Plateau Committee*

Chair: Dale Engstrom, Oregon Department of Energy

Vice chair: Jan Catrell, Public-At-Large

#### *Tank Waste Committee*

Chair: Bob Suyama, Benton County

Vice chair: Steve Wiegman, Public-At-Large



2017 Public Involvement & Communications Committee Meeting

## Getting Involved with Board Work

If you're interested in the Board's work or in learning more about cleanup at the Hanford Site, there are several ways that you can stay involved and informed:

**Talk to your Board member**— There are 32 seats on the Board representing perspectives from local governments, the Hanford workforce, public health and environmental organizations, universities, the public-at-large, and tribal nations. Talk to a representative to learn more and to share your thoughts. Current membership lists are maintained on the Hanford Advisory Board's website.

**Attend a HAB meeting** — If you are interested in learning about HAB work and cleanup at Hanford, consider observing a Board or committee meeting. HAB and committee meetings are open to the public and occur almost monthly throughout the year. Meetings are held in Richland and information on upcoming meetings can be found on the Hanford website ([www.Hanford.gov](http://www.Hanford.gov)) under the Event Calendar.

**Become a member** — Each seat on the Board consists of a primary member and an alternate. As seats become open, individual organizations or interest groups nominate replacements. For more information on the process of becoming a member of the HAB, visit: [www.hanford.gov/page.cfm/hab](http://www.hanford.gov/page.cfm/hab)

**Susan Leckband, Chair**  
Hanford Advisory Board  
713 Jadwin Avenue, Suite 3  
Richland, WA 99352  
(509) 588-7010

**Mark Heeter**  
U.S. Department of Energy,  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550, H5-20,  
Richland, WA 99352  
(509) 373-1970

**Dieter Bohrmann**  
North Wind Services, LLC  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Office of River Protection  
Richland, WA 99354  
(509) 376-9292

**Emerald Lajja**  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW  
Washington, DC 20460  
(202) 564-2724

**Randy Bradbury**  
Washington State Department of Ecology  
3100 Port of Benton Blvd  
Richland, WA 99354  
(509) 372-7954

**Lindsay Strasser, Facilitator**  
**Melissa Amaro, Support**  
ProSidian Consulting  
HAB Project Office  
713 Jadwin Avenue, Suite 3  
Richland, WA 99352  
(509) 588-7010

Information about the Hanford Advisory Board is available online at [www.hanford.gov](http://www.hanford.gov).

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