

DRAFT ADVICE

Topic: Cleanup Priorities

Issue Manager Team & Authors: Tom Galioto, Steve Anderson, Becky Holland, Emmitt Jackson, Pam Larsen, Susan Leckband, Liz Mattson, David Reeploeg, Tom Sicilia, Chris Sutton, and Bob Suyama

Originating Committee: Budgets & Contracts Committee (BCC)

Version #1

To: Brian Vance (DOE)
David Bowen (WA State Dept of Ecology)
Dave Einan (EPA)

CC/BCC: Standard list
EM-1 – Ike White
EM-2 – Todd Shrader

Subject: FY2023 Hanford Cleanup Priorities

References: 1. Hanford Advisory Board Advice #304, “FY2022 Hanford Cleanup Priorities (HAB Consensus Advice #304),” dated February 6, 2020.
2. “Hanford Site 5 Year Plan,” Revision 2, dated November 4, 2020.

Background:

In accordance with long-standing practice, the Hanford Advisory Board (HAB) is providing a list of Hanford cleanup priorities for FY2023. The Board requests DOE include these activities in the FY2023 Hanford budget request to be submitted to DOE-Headquarters (DOE-HQ). We anticipate that the HAB will also submit this letter to DOE as a part of the associated public comment period.

As a means to meet DOE’s request for prioritizing the HAB’s cleanup activities, this year’s assessment used DOE’s most recent Hanford Site 5 Year Plan (Reference 2) as a guide. The three general categories of activities used in that document are also used in this Advice, with those being:

- Tank Waste Cleanup
- Central Plateau Cleanup
- River Corridor Cleanup

One additional category was added to capture activities not directly related to a specific cleanup activity. That category is referred to as “Cross-Cutting Activities.”

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The HAB further prioritized specific activities within each of these four areas into two Levels, defined as:

Critical – Those activities that the HAB believes must be funded in FY23 to assure completion as scheduled (whether that completion is scheduled in FY23 or in a following FY), or to accelerate the currently planned completion date.

Important – Those activities that the HAB believes should be prioritized within available funding in FY23 to achieve scheduled completion in that year or at least to make significant progress towards completion in a following FY.

Advice:

The following table summarizes the HAB's recommended cleanup priorities in FY23. Note that activities in the 5-year plan identified to be completed prior to FY23 are not listed in this table, but if they are not completed prior to FY23 they should also be added to the FY23 list.

In addition, the HAB recognizes the importance of completing activities that DOE determines each year to be necessary for assuring the Hanford facilities can achieve Minimum-Safe (min-safe) conditions, and those activities associated with critical maintenance and infrastructure that support all cleanup activities performed at Hanford. The HAB assumes that they include the safe storage of tank waste and the tank integrity program. Because min-safe, maintenance, and infrastructural support activities demand a significant commitment of both funding and manpower to accomplish, the HAB has decided that these activities must be performed to facilitate completion of all others, and must be supported before all others. Thus, they are not addressed in the Table below.

In accomplishing these activities, the HAB requests that DOE establish an improved site infrastructure program that can be accomplished at a reduced cost compared to prior years, thus allowing more of the appropriated Hanford budget to be employed for actual

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Hanford cleanup objectives. Consider earlier remediation of contaminated waste sites, more effective management of site services to contaminated sites etc.

In the spirit of transparency, we would appreciate the TPA agencies addressing each of the identified items below to allow a determination of whether they will or will not support HAB-identified priorities for them in FY23:

Table 1: FY2023 Recommended Cleanup Priorities

NOTE: Acronyms utilized in the Table below are shown at the end of the Table.

NOTE: The “Item” column below is used as an identifier, and does not represent any order of priority.

Item	Priority Level	FY2023 Cleanup Activity Description
		Tank Waste Cleanup
TW-a	Critical	DFLAW: Complete all work necessary to accelerate and achieve glass production (e.g. ORR and hot commissioning) ahead of TPA milestone.
TW-b	Critical	Evaporator: Complete maintenance and resume operations of the 242-A Evaporator.
TW-c	Important	SST Closures: Complete planned retrieval activities for SSTs (complete AX Farm retrieval and initiate A Farm retrieval in FY23).
TW-d	Important	WTP: Continue design & construction activities supporting the WTP high level waste facilities TPA milestone.
TW-e	Important	E/W Transfer Line: Initiate activities needed to put 200-E/W tank waste Transfer Line into service.
TW-f	Important	Tank Vapors: Continue engineered vapor exposure controls for Tank Farm areas.

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Item	Priority Level	FY2023 Cleanup Activity Description
TW-g	Important	Additional Tank Storage: Initiate design and permitting activities in FY23 to support additional tank waste storage options. See also HAB Advice #298.
		Central Plateau Cleanup
CP-a	Critical	WESF: Accelerate activities to safely initiate physical transfer of Cs/Sr capsules to dry storage pad in FY23. Funding should be continuous to maintain trained workforce and continue progress until the project is successfully completed.
CP-b	Critical	P&T: Maintain, optimize, and expand current Groundwater P&T Program capabilities and operations. Expand P&T to BP-5/PO-1 and address deep vadose zone contamination.
CP-c	Critical	CWC: Set and meet deadlines to bring all wastes stored (indoors or outdoors) into compliance by characterizing, removing and treating wastes
CP-d	Important	Waste Characterization: Initiate/continue waste site characterization associated with milestone M-015 (OUs: SW-2, WA-1, CW-3) to accelerate submittal of RI/FS documents.
		River Corridor Cleanup
RC-a	Critical	324 Building: Complete remediation of waste site 300-296, preparatory to demolition of Building 324. Funding should be continuous to maintain trained workforce and continue progress until the project is successfully completed.
RC-b	Critical	Groundwater Cleanup: Accelerate remediation and groundwater cleanup in the River Corridor through efficient optimization of extraction well networks and associated P&T facilities.

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Item	Priority Level	FY2023 Cleanup Activity Description
RC-c	Important	100-N Apatite Barrier: Submit 100-K&N area final RD/RA work plans for regulatory review. Complete work on establishing the apatite barrier as defined in the ROD. Pending tribal consultation, completion of the barrier should be a priority in 2023.
RC-d	Important	Contaminated pipelines: Remove contaminated pipelines in the River Corridor (as recommended in prior advice #296 re: 100-B/C).
RC-e	Important	105-KW Basin: Complete necessary activities to begin demolition of the 105-KW basin. This is needed to perform characterization of underlying soils leading to interim safe storage of last site reactor.
		Cross-Cutting Activities
CC-a	Critical	Workforce Issues: Enhance Hanford current and future workforce planning/ development to assure workforce availability. DOE should: a. engage the current workforce in Hanford workforce planning and development. b. identify any potential risks to accomplishing waste processing campaigns that require uninterrupted operations dependent on trained workers. c. make tangible investments in the next generation workforce. (See HAB Advice #305)
CC-b	Critical	Worker Safety: Prioritize Hanford worker safety (see HAB Values paper)

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Item	Priority Level	FY2023 Cleanup Activity Description
CC-c	Important	Expanded Public Involvement: DOE is requested to : a. fully fund the HAB to hold up to 6 full board meetings a year, 1 regional meeting, and a full complement of committee and Issue manager meetings as needed. b. fund for regional public involvement meetings. c. reinstate travel reimbursement for HAB alternates. d. invest in technological improvements for all Hanford public meetings, including HAB meetings, to allow recordings to be published online.

Acronyms used in the above Table:

CWC – Central Waste Complex
DFLAW – Direct Feed Low Activity Waste
E/W – East/West
FY – Fiscal Year
Haz – Hazardous Waste
IM -- Issue Management
ORR – Operational Readiness Review
OUs – Operable Units
P&T – Pump and Treat
RD/RA – Remedial Design/Remedial Action
ROD – Record of Decision
SST – Single Shell Tank
TRU – Transuranic Waste
WESF – Waste Encapsulation and Storage Facility
WTP – Waste Treatment Plant
Yr -- Year