

Originating Committee: ESC

Issue Manager Team & Authors: Chris Sutton, Brian Ivey, Chuck LoPresti, Dan Solitz, Ed Parsons, Kathy DeBois, Kevin Danby, Larry Brandt, Matthew Campbell, Matt Hendrickson, Miya Burke, Rebecca Holland, Rob Davis, Susan Coleman, Tom Sicilia

To: Brian Vance (DOE)
Stephanie Schleif (WA State Dept. of Ecology)
Dave Einan (EPA)

Subject: Fiscal Year 2027 Hanford Cleanup Priorities

The Hanford Advisory Board's (HAB's or Board's) primary mission is to provide informed and actionable advice to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the Washington State Department of Ecology, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), collectively known as the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) agencies.

The Board advises the TPA agencies to prioritize the following critical activities for fiscal year (FY) 2027 that are summarized below and outlined in more detail in the FY2027 Critical Cleanup Priorities Table:

- Maintain active 24/7 vitrification operations of the Direct-Feed Low-Activity Waste (DFLAW) Facility.
- Complete design and initiate construction of the cross-site slurry transfer line.
- Implement the 300-296 soil remediation beneath the 324 Building.
- Accelerate groundwater remediation efforts in the River Corridor and Central Plateau.
- Finalize the Records of Decision for the 100-K and 100-N areas while continuing cleanup activities in those areas.
- Initiate/continue characterization and cleanup of waste sites in the Central Plateau.
- Complete the transfer of Waste Encapsulation and Storage Facility (WESF) cesium and strontium capsules to dry storage.
- Accelerate/continue the certification of transuranic mixed (TRU/M) waste to enable full-scale shipments to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in FY2028.
- Widen Hanford Site Route 4S to more safely accommodate increased traffic.
- Initiate construction of the sanitary water system crosstie between the 200 East and West areas.
- Respond to and publish comments received during a public comment or feedback period.
- Improve public education and outreach about Hanford.

BACKGROUND

While this advice recognizes the goals outlined in DOE's current Hanford Site 5-Year Plan (Reference 1) as well as in DOE's presentation of that 5-Year Plan to the public on October 9, 2024 (Reference 2), this advice also presents work that must be prioritized based upon input from the HAB's constituent organizations. In addition to the activities identified in the Hanford 5-Year Plan placemat, the Board stresses that key projects addressed in the following table require funding in FY2027 to ensure they are completed on time or are expedited to shorten project duration. The Board has consistently emphasized the importance of advocating for and requesting funding sufficient to meet all regulatory milestones and to significantly shorten the duration of cleanup activities.

Originating Committee: ESC

Issue Manager Team & Authors: Chris Sutton, Brian Ivey, Chuck LoPresti, Dan Solitz, Ed Parsons, Kathy DeBois, Kevin Danby, Larry Brandt, Matthew Campbell, Matt Hendrickson, Miya Burke, Rebecca Holland, Rob Davis, Susan Coleman, Tom Sicilia

ADVICE

The Board supports the TPA agencies’ request that its membership shares Hanford’s past and continuing cleanup activities with the Board’s constituent organizations, elected officials, and the public. To facilitate these communications by the Board, it would be extremely beneficial for DOE to present to the public at the outset of each year measurable annual cleanup and safety targets/goals for the work to be performed that year. At year’s end DOE should assess and communicate in a transparent manner the degree to which those annual cleanup and safety targets/goals were met.

The Board recognizes the importance of assuring the safe, secure, and compliant management of Hanford’s critical resources and the maintenance of infrastructure, safeguards, and security (including cybersecurity). Accordingly, it is imperative that DOE continue to prioritize, implement, and communicate Hanford worker and public safety practices. DOE should also communicate how the safety culture of the Site will evolve as work continues to transition into an operations mode.

The table below summarizes the Board’s recommended cleanup priorities for FY2027. These cleanup priorities are deemed to be critical based upon the Board’s understanding of the goals and objectives of the Hanford Site cleanup mission. The organization of the table reflects, in general, the structure of DOE’s latest 5-Year Plan (References 1, 2). The Board requests DOE to provide a response that complies with DOE Office of Environmental Management latest guidance (Reference 4). The Board also requests a response to each of the priorities in this advice from the TPA agencies. The Board is open and willing to discuss the content of the response as well as the content of this advice with the TPA agencies to ensure HAB response expectations are met.

Note: The order of items in the table does not reflect a priority ranking.

Item	FY2027 Critical Cleanup Priorities
Tank Waste Treatment Mission	
DFLAW	Maintain 24/7 tank waste vitrification operations with a goal of safely optimizing throughput.
Supernatant Cross-Site Transfer Line	Complete design and initiate construction/repairs/updates to cross-site supernatant transfer line to comply with Milestone M-042-03 by 2030.
Risk Reduction	
324 Building	Assuming the Record of Decision amendment is completed, implement the 300-296 soil remediation and continue to monitor downgradient groundwater for cesium and strontium.
Groundwater Protection	Accelerate groundwater remediation efforts in the River Corridor and Central Plateau through source reduction and by enhancing the efficiency and

Originating Committee: ESC

Issue Manager Team & Authors: Chris Sutton, Brian Ivey, Chuck LoPresti, Dan Solitz, Ed Parsons, Kathy DeBois, Kevin Danby, Larry Brandt, Matthew Campbell, Matt Hendrickson, Miya Burke, Rebecca Holland, Rob Davis, Susan Coleman, Tom Sicilia

Item	FY2027 Critical Cleanup Priorities
	throughput of extraction well networks and Pump and Treat facilities in accordance with the M-024 series of milestones.
100-K & 100-N Records of Decision	Finalize the Records of Decisions for 100-K and 100-N, while continuing cleanup activities in those areas.
Waste Site Characterization	Initiate/continue characterization and cleanup of waste sites in the Central Plateau (for example, OUs: 200-SW-2, 200-WA-1, 200-CW-3, 200-BC-1, 200-IA-1) to accelerate submittal of remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS) documents.
Waste Management	
Waste Encapsulation and Storage Facility	Complete transfer of cesium and strontium capsules to dry storage.
TRU/M Waste	Accelerate/continue the certification of TRU/M waste to enable full scale shipment to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in FY2028.
Site Infrastructure	
Highway Safety	Initiate widening of Route 4S from 2 lanes to 4 lanes as recommended in Advice 319 (Reference 3)
Sanitary Water System	Initiate crosstie of sanitary water system between 200 East and 200 West Areas.
Public Engagement	
Response to Comments	Respond to and publish any comment received during a public comment or feedback period.
Public Engagement	Regularly schedule opportunities for the TPA agencies to provide education and meaningfully engage in dialogue with the public.

References

1. Hanford Site 5-Year Plan 2024-2029. Link: [5-Year Plan 2024-2029 - Hanford Site](#)
2. Hanford Site 5-Year Plan 2024-2029 Public Presentation) October 9, 2024. Link: [PowerPoint Presentation](#)
3. Traffic Safety (HAB Consensus Advice #319). Link: [HAB Advice 319 - Traffic Safety](#)
4. Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EMSSAB) Policies Desk Reference, April 2023, Page 16. Link: [EMSSAB Policies Desk Reference](#)



Originating Committee: ESC

Issue Manager Team & Authors: Chris Sutton, Brian Ivey, Chuck LoPresti, Dan Solitz, Ed Parsons, Kathy DeBois, Kevin Danby, Larry Brandt, Matthew Campbell, Matt Hendrickson, Miya Burke, Rebecca Holland, Rob Davis, Susan Coleman, Tom Sicilia

CC LIST

Mark all applicable names/organizations to be included as advice recipients.

TPA Agency Representatives

- Candice Robertson, DOE-EM
- Jeffrey Avery, DOE-EM
- Brian Vance, DOE
- Stephanie Schleif, ECY
- David Einan, EPA
- Roberto Armijo, EPA
- Ryan Miller, ECY
- Jennifer Colborn, DOE

Site-Specific Advisory Boards

- Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board
- Nevada Site Specific Advisory Board
- Northern New Mexico Citizens Advisory Board
- Paducah Citizens Advisory Board
- Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board
- Idaho Cleanup Board
- Portsmouth Site Specific Advisory Board
- Kelly Snyder, DFO

OR/WA Congressional Delegations (to Chief of Staff)

- Sen. Patty Murray, WA
- Senator Maria Cantwell, WA
- Rep. Suzan DelBene, WA-01
- Rep. Rick Larsen, WA-02
- Rep. Marie Gluesenkamp Perez, WA-03
- Rep. Dan Newhouse, WA-04
- Rep. Michael Baumgartner, WA-05
- Rep. Emily Randall, WA-06
- Rep. Pramila Jayapal, WA-07
- Rep. Kim Schrier, WA-08

- Rep. Adam Smith, WA-09
- Rep. Marilyn Strickland, WA-10
- Sen. Ron Wyden, OR
- Sen. Jeff Merkley, OR
- Rep. Suzanne Bonamici, OR-01
- Rep. Cliff Bentz, OR-02
- Rep. Maxine Dexter, OR-03
- Rep. Val Hoyle, OR-04
- Rep. Janelle Bynum, OR-05
- Rep. Andrea Salinas, OR-06

Write-in/Additional

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

Requests to Receive Advice

- Jessica Keys, Staff to Sen. Merkley