

Version #: 3

Date Revised: 03/05/2025

**Letter Heading:**

To: [This is who the letter is directed to; Add names, titles, and organizations, as appropriate]

*The CC list is separate and provided at the end of the template.*

Subject: [Advice Title]

**Background/Executive Summary:**

This is the fourth advice the Hanford Advisory Board (HAB/Board) has issued on traffic safety. In the latest, Advice #319<sup>1</sup>, the HAB advised the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE):

- To be proactive in improving conditions facing workers commuting to the site by pursuing expedited funding to expand Route 4S, exploring alternatives in preparation for the resurfacing of Route 4S, and engaging with Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to improve traffic flow from SR240 to Route 10.
- To address the emergency vehicle pedestrian safety issues in the 300 Area specific to the 300 Area fire station.

The DOE response (Letter 24-HOC-0109<sup>2</sup>) to HAB Advice #319 focused on safety and compliance actions related to communications, signage, and the issuance of speeding tickets to improve traffic safety. The response failed to address the specific advice points outlined in Advice #319, including the substandard condition of the road. The DOE response does not acknowledge the advantages of improving commuting conditions for worker recruitment and retention. Studies have shown (references) that, after a difficult commute, a worker's mental capacity is likely to be significantly reduced, often experiencing decreased focus, concentration, and cognitive abilities due to increased stress, fatigue, and a feeling of being mentally drained, potentially impacting their productivity and performance at work.

Like every major construction project on the Hanford Site, the administrative tasks are significant. The preparation and approval of documentation (preliminary design documentation, site surveys, cultural reviews, Waste Information Database reviews, Environmental Assessments, radiological evaluations, potential air permitting, the potential need for a "take" permit under the Migratory Bird Act, etc.) are far more extensive than the actual construction period itself. Most of these administrative documents can be prepared without full project funding.

Due to DOE's inadequate response to HAB Advice #319, the HAB is reissuing the Traffic Safety Advice and asking DOE for a point-by-point response to the advice.

**Advice:**

- The Board advises DOE to be proactive in improving conditions facing workers commuting to the site.
  - The Board advises DOE to prepare administrative documentation, including a project plan, to support the Route 4S expansion in anticipation of future funding.
  - The Board advises DOE to pursue expedited funding to expand Route 4S to a divided four-lane roadway and reduce delays at the Wye Barricade.
  - The Board advises DOE to engage with the WSDOT to improve traffic flow from SR240 to Route 10.
- The Board advises DOE to address the emergency vehicle pedestrian safety issues in the 300 Area specific to the 300 Area fire station, which will remain operational for an indeterminate period of time.

**References:**

1. HAB Consensus Advice #319: Traffic Safety, dated September 12, 2024. Link: [https://www.hanford.gov/files.cfm/HAB\\_Advice\\_319\\_-\\_Traffic\\_Safety\\_-\\_Signed\\_Final.pdf](https://www.hanford.gov/files.cfm/HAB_Advice_319_-_Traffic_Safety_-_Signed_Final.pdf)
2. Letter 24-HOC-0109: Hanford Advisory Board September 12, 2024, Consensus Advice No. 319, Traffic Safety, dated December 5, 2024. Link: [https://www.hanford.gov/files.cfm/24-HOC-0109\\_-\\_Letter.pdf](https://www.hanford.gov/files.cfm/24-HOC-0109_-_Letter.pdf)
3. Reference 3

Originating Subcommittee: LIDS

Issue Manager Team & Authors: Richard Bloom, Charles LoPresti, Erin Braich, Larry Brandt, Miya Burke, Rebecca Holland, Rob Davis, Susan Coleman

**CC/BCC:**

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

**TPA Agency Representatives**

- Roger Jarrell, DOE-EM
- DOE-HFO Representative
- Stephanie Schleif, ECY
- David Einan, EPA
- Meegan Tripp, DOE
- Roberto Armijo, EPA
- Ryan Miller, ECY
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**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
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- 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

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- Rep. Andrea Salinas, OR-06

**Write-in/Additional**

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**Requests to Receive Advice**

- Jessica Keys, Staff to Sen. Merkley