

River and Plateau Committee

Priorities for advice on FY17 budget

Not in priority order, numbering refers to last year's related advice points, per DOE response

- (#1) The Board strongly urges DOE-Headquarters (HQ) to request full funding from Congress to meet all legal requirements of the ongoing cleanup work in FY 2016 and 2017 in addition to the following specific requests.
- (#5) The Board advises DOE-RL to restore funding for removal and treatment of thousands of stored containers of hazardous and radioactive wastes at Hanford's CWC to meet EPA and Ecology orders to remove waste and close facilities, on a schedule as fast as available treatment capacity will allow.
- (#6) The Board advises DOE-RL to begin designing and solicit procurement funding to remove extremely radioactive cesium and strontium capsules stored in WESF and put them into dry cask storage.
 - Include background on WESF, urgency based on Inspector General report and Safety Analysis Report
 - From last year: "The U.S. Inspector General (Report #OAS-L-14-04) has urged DOE-RL to deal with long-term storage of cesium and strontium capsules [in Waste Encapsulation Storage Facility (WESF)] as soon as possible."
- (#7) The Board advises DOE-RL to restore funds for continued installation and activation of the strontium barrier along the Columbia River and other groundwater protection activities. DOE should take actions to resolve cultural resource issues without further delay.
- Shelley to provide point and background on pump and treat of vadose zone perched water contamination in 200-West and 200-East areas.
- (#8) The Board supports and advises DOE to continue to provide a more detailed level of budget information, including the breakout of specific support services, to enable the Board and public to make more well-informed comments and priorities.
- (#9) The Board advises DOE to request an increase in funding for FY 2017 in the PBS RL100 to ensure the Board has adequate funding to support necessary subcommittee meetings and a minimum of six full Board meetings per year to meet expectations from DOE, regulators and the public. An increase in funding would allow the Board to pursue greater diversity in public attendance and outreach.
 - For background (needs wordsmithing). \$2M above FY15 budget (\$7M more than proposed for FY17) Board, regulators, Oregon and public involvement
- Funding for remediation of the high contamination under the 324 Building needs to be a higher priority in FY17
 - Add to background, concern about water line leaks and RAD level

Other notes

- A fully-compliant budget with TPA
 - Different interpretations from DOE and state
- Request for adequate funding for Hanford Advisory Board, regulators, tribes, Oregon
 - Needs to be increased, not cut
- Board should have 30 days to make comments on ORP budget
- Items that we have given advice on in the past that are about to fall off funding table:
 - Initial planning step for Cs/Sr capsule removal
 - Engineering support for sludge
 - Large TRU container re-packaging
 - Central Waste Complex deteriorating TRU and mixed waste containers
 - \$50-100M groundwater decision documents and remedies
 - 618-11
- Consideration, maintaining trained workforce and institutional knowledge for future cleanup