



Ecology Perspective Hanford Cleanup Priorities Virtual Public Workshop

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Ecology Perspective

- Lack of progress (“why is it taking so long”) is the most common complaint that Ecology hears about Hanford cleanup
 - USDOE is forced to request schedule extensions when Congressional appropriations are less than the amount needed to complete all required work
- USDOE-RL operated effectively when provided additional funding by the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA).
 - Ecology believes that funding of \$1.1 billion per year is needed for USDOE-RL vs. the \$900 million per year in the current President’s request (FY22)
- USDOE-ORP waste treatment plant construction and operation will be a funding challenge for the next decade plus
- The public can help by writing your US Representative and Senators stating that:
 - You support sustained funding for USDOE-RL and USDOE-ORP

USDOE detail reduced in budget meetings



My observation, ~80% of challenges in meeting Milestones are budget related – Reduced detail makes the work even more challenging

- 2015 presentation (on FFY2017 budget) received positively by the Hanford Advisory Board (HAB) for USDOE-RL, not for USDOE-ORP
- 2016 presentation was received favorably for both offices
- 2017 presentation had a reduced level of detail, and was criticized
- Subsequent presentations have been criticized
 - Ecology agrees with the criticism, that it's difficult to comment on priorities when detailed information is withheld, or transmitted after the Public Budget Priorities meeting
 - Ecology believes the public needs a reasonable amount of time to review the detailed information, prior to the meeting

Hanford Advisory Board kudos and criticism of past budget presentations

Year	How was presentation received?
2015	<p>HAB Advice #284:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Board was pleased with DOE-RL's budget format of showing the funding requests by Analytical Building Blocks (ABB) in descending priority order. Although the Board may disagree with individual ABB funding levels, we do find it easier to understand and agree with DOE-RL's relative priority list.• DOE-ORP provided no details on the Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 budget (neither budget numbers nor priorities).
2016	<p>Advice #288: Both DOE-RL and DOE-ORP provided the Board and the public with a detailed work plan based on analytical building blocks.</p>
2017	<p>Advice #294: Share the proposed Analytical Building Blocks and the Project Baseline Summary with the public during future Hanford site budget development processes.</p>

Note: these are verbatim quotes excerpted from the cited HAB advice.