



# HANFORD ADVISORY BOARD

A Site Specific Advisory Board, Chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act

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US Dept. of Energy  
US Environmental  
Protection Agency  
Washington State  
Dept. of Ecology

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November 13, 2017

Ms. Michelle Pirzadeh  
Acting Regional Administrator  
U.S. EPA Region 10  
1200 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 900  
Seattle, WA 98101

Dear Ms. Pirzadeh,

As a result of the Manhattan Project and Cold War defense activities for over 40 years, the Hanford Nuclear Reservation is the most highly contaminated site in the United States. Cleanup of the Hanford Site is governed not only by Federal and state laws and requirements but by a negotiated agreement between the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology).

We have been fortunate here in the Pacific Northwest to have a high-level EPA manager located in Richland since the beginning of Hanford cleanup, however, the Hanford Advisory Board (HAB) is concerned that with Mr. Faulk's recent retirement the EPA may consider moving that position to the Seattle office.

The HAB urges you in the strongest terms to locate the manager you select to replace Mr. Faulk in the Richland office. We believe that the complex and dynamic interactions between EPA, DOE-ORP/DOE-RL, Ecology, the HAB, the Native American tribes, and stakeholders require the EPA manager to reside in your Richland office to do an effective job regulating Hanford cleanup.

Additional strong, positive reasons for locating this person in Richland are the ongoing needs for prompt EPA investigation and response to unusual Hanford incidences, and for maintaining a confident presence in the Tri-Cities to recognize and understand community and stakeholder environmental concerns.

In these changing times it is more important than ever for everyone to continue to work closely together to continue to maintain and foster EPA/stakeholder/community cooperation and support.

Thanking you in advance for your consideration, I remain.

Sincerely,

Susan Leckband, Chair  
Hanford Advisory Board

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cc: Sheryl Billbrey, Director  
Cami Grandinetti, Remedial Program Manager  
Sheila Fleming, Deputy Director  
The Oregon and Washington Delegations