

# HAB Advice #294

**BCC Review of DOE Response  
and  
Next Steps  
(April 11, 2018)**

# Background

- HAB issued Advice #294 (Hanford Site Budget) on Nov 13, 2017
- DOE provided response Jan 22, 2018
- HAB sent letter (with #294 attached) to DOE HQ on March 12, 2018 for budget re-evaluation
- BCC requested discussion describing the federal budget process and timing of input, and DOE conducted it via conference call on March 29, 2018.

# Advice/Response Review

- 1. Propose to Congress/OMB a steady ramp-up of Hanford's yearly cleanup budget...\$4 billion per year for 5 years...
  - DOE RL/ORP identifies funding necessary to meet "legal obligations"
  - Field offices do not make proposals to Congress.

# Advice/Response Review (Continued)

- 2.Ensure planning for contingency funding at the national level...
  - DOE provided Advice #294 to EM Budget Div.
  - DOE budget request for FY 2019 currently under review by OMB

# Advice/Response Review (Continued)

- 3. Develop an emergency plan, with funding... for the contingency of a major tank failure.
  - ORP has an emergency plan for tank failure
  - Funding contingency held by DOE-HQ
  - Process exists to request addl funding if needed
  - ORP can also re-prioritize existing work

# Advice/Response Review (Continued)

- 4. Secure additional funding...to complete design work and address technical issues...to commence construction of WTP HLW
  - ORP has requested funds to meet legal requirements

# Advice/Response Review (Continued)

- 5. Provide additional funds..new storage capacity for tank waste
  - DOE disagrees with need for new storage capacity
  - Not necessary and would divert focus/resources from ultimate goal

# Advice/Response Review (Continued)

- 6. Provide sufficient funding...for startup of DFLAW by 2022
  - Necessary funding is requested to start operation of DFLAW by 2022.

# Advice/Response Review (Continued)

- 7.Continue funding for...storage of cesium and strontium capsules in long-term dry storage
  - RL considers this a high priority and has requested necessary funds to accomplish it

# Advice/Response Review (Continued)

- 8.Share...Analytical Building Blocks and Project Baseline Summary with the public during...budget development processes
  - DOE does not consider sharing this detailed info to be appropriate
  - DOE believes their existing practice is sufficient:
    - sharing info via annual briefings on work accomplished/to-be-executed,
    - seeking priorities from the public,
    - considering comments received when developing budgets

# Federal Budget Process Summary

- DOE primarily interested in receiving the HAB's "prioritization of planned activities"
- DOE provides budget input to DOE/EM HQ in late-May. Therefore HAB should provide our activity priorities advice early in calendar year
- DOE's budget submittal meets "all legal and regulatory requirements." Little/no room for additional items recommended by the HAB

# Next Steps

- HAB should issue new Advice ASAP on our FY 2020 Activity Priorities, consolidated from all HAB committee input.
- Other Potential Actions:
  - Response to DOE's Advice #294 Response?
    - Is providing “activity priorities” sufficient for the HAB
    - Is DOE identifying funds for only “legal requirements” enough for the HAB
    - Other issues?
  - New budget advice?