



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

MAY 29 2018

Ms. Susan Leckband, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board
ProSidian Hanford Project Office
713 Jadwin Ave., Suite 4
Richland, Washington 99352

Dear Ms. Leckband:

Thank you for your March 12, 2018, letter expressing the Hanford Advisory Board's (HAB) concern with the proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Hanford budget. The Department of Energy (DOE) values the engagement of our stakeholders and takes our obligations and commitment to the safety of the workers, the public, and the environment seriously.

While I am new to my role at DOE, I well appreciate the magnitude, importance, and urgency of the cleanup mission at the Hanford Site and across the entire Environmental Management (EM) program. The FY 2019 proposed EM budget will enable us to continue making steady progress cleaning up the environmental legacy of the Manhattan Project and the Cold War.

The FY 2019 proposed budget provides a total of \$6.6 billion to EM, and it is indicative of the Administration's strong support for the EM mission. The DOE FY 2019 proposed budget positions EM to make continued progress on preparation for cesium and strontium capsule removal from wet to dry storage; transferring K Basin sludge to the Central Plateau; and pump and treat activities to remediate contaminated groundwater. The FY 2019 request also will enable EM to continue moving forward with tank retrievals and construction, startup, and commissioning of the Waste Treatment and Immobilization Plant.

The HAB's involvement in the work at the Hanford Site is important, and we appreciate the continued dialogue.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Mr. Mark Gilbertson, Associate Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Regulatory and Policy Affairs, at (202) 586-5042.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Anne Marie White".

Anne Marie White
Assistant Secretary
for Environmental Management



cc: The Oregon and Washington Delegations
David Einan, Manager, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10
Alexandra Smith, Manager, Washington State Department of Ecology
Brian Vance, ORP
Doug Shoop, RL