



**PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR THE TENTATIVE AGREEMENT  
ON  
HANFORD FEDERAL FACILITY AGREEMENT AND CONSENT  
ORDER REVISIONS FOR CENTRAL PLATEAU CLEANUP**

February 2016



In October 2015, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Richland Operations Office (RL), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology), hereinafter referred to as the Tri-Party agencies, completed negotiations on revisions to the *Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order*—also referred to as the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA). The TPA milestone (i.e., cleanup actions and schedules) changes were proposed for the following milestone series: M-015-00 (investigation work and documentation on the Central Plateau), M-016-00 (cleanup work on the Central Plateau), M-037-00 (closure for Resource Conservation and Recovery Act [RCRA] treatment, storage, and disposal units), M-085-00 (canyon cleanup), and M-094-00 (disposition of the 300 Area facilities). The proposed changes set new dates for completing work on the Central Plateau to allow for continuous progress that balances the needs of maintaining a trained work force with available funding.

A formal comment period on the proposed change package was originally scheduled to run from October 26 through December 12, 2015, but was extended to February 12, 2016 per public request. More than 1800 copies of the fact sheets were distributed by mail or sent electronically at the start of the public comment period.

During the public comment period, the Tri-Party agencies briefed the Tribal Nations, the State of Oregon, and the Hanford Advisory Board. The Tri-Party agencies also held several discussions with stakeholder groups to obtain input in planning the public meetings. On November 4, 17, 18, and 19, 2015, public meetings were held in the cities of Richland and Seattle, Washington, and the cities of Portland and Hood River, Oregon, with approximately 30 people attending each meeting. This document contains a listing of the public comments made during the regional meetings, as well as comments made by email and letter.



## **November 4, 2015 | Richland, Washington**

**Gary** [REDACTED] "Gary [REDACTED] from Grant County, and I represent Benton-Franklin counties on the Hanford Advisory Board. The people I talk to are concerned about the possibility of an overdue large earthquake in the Northwest, and we are looking at Hanford with 70 years of Plutonium contamination and another potential 70 years. When we look at the Manhattan project history, plutonium production was too dangerous to put near Chicago, too dangerous to put in Tennessee near the uranium plants, but they had this wonderful place they found out in Central Washington. People have accommodated that, but there is concern about the potential of an earthquake and whether or not it would collapse the tanks... what would happen?"

## Seattle Public Comment – November 17, 2015

Tom [REDACTED] My name's, uh, Tom [REDACTED], I'm with the Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility and I appreciate you folks being here. And I appreciate, uh, this group of people, these citizens that have shown up and they're so informed and they're so ready to do something for this cleanup. We've seen this too, too, too long.

My comments are mostly around the 618-11 burial site because it's so risky. Based on the evidence that Bob Alvarez and, uh, the Institute for Policy Studies has done for us in relation to our "hotspot." It's about two miles from the Columbia. It's really a high-level waste site. It's not in the tanks. It's in a burial site.

So it's in storage mediums of cans, milk cans of six to eight gallons and they cap it after they put the pilot-hole waste. This is spent fuel reprocessing, the most radioactive stuff on the planet.

And it's sitting in the spot right next to the parking lot of the 30-year-old reactor, the Columbia Generated Station, alias Whoops Number Two, alias Washington Public Power System, boondoggle in the state, and that's down there by Energy Northwest. It's on the, on the, uh, graphics up on the screen.

So, what have we got there? We, we, we really don't know because in 1988 the files were completely destroyed in a fire and if anybody remembers other fires and other systems where that happens was to get rid of the evidence. It happened in the Marshall Islands. All the evidence in relation to people having experienced the bombing tests. They were burned. Same thing.

Alvarez is an interesting man because he works in the Department of Energy under Hazel. And he's the one who removed the fuel away from them, and the fuel will still be circulated in the store away from the sides of the river.

(#13) Well, this site is so close to the river it needs to be an example of cleanup. And it would be so impressive, and I think you would, as the Tri-Party people would be so held up in in the, the steam, that this is where you started in 2015 and got a very serious problem, unstable, away from the Columbia River because that's still one of those major resources just like the air in the eastern part of the state.

So that's why I made the comments. I think that Bob Alvarez and his studies and our attention to some of those details, just like everybody else has been talking about tonight, are critical. And you'll see these tomorrow night in Portland, because PSR is going to be down in Portland. And you'll see it with the tribes in the river area and the next night. And we'll be contacted and we'll be doing some follow-up, and we'll be talking about this again. So hopefully you folks won't go away. And I don't think we will, either. Thanks for your, your time.

Fred [REDACTED] My name is Fred Miller. I'm a Seattle resident, uh, Washington State resident for all my adult life. Um, and I will not talk about the technical side of things. I want to talk about the, the culture of Hanford. I think that's the thing that needs to be dug up and disposed of. I think that's the thing that has been such a big problem over all the years that Hanford has been in operation.

Um, John, in your opening comments, um, you said that budgeting problems, quote, um, have hurt the economy and hurt the people of Hanford, um. As I said earlier, it's notorious that Hanford has the best wages of any place in the Pacific Northwest. Um.

Hanford was completely immune to the financial crisis, um, along with Washington DC, that the rest of us went through. Um. I've been out there enough to see the great big yachts, the speedboats, um, in one after another driveway. Um, to see the, um, flashy new cars that drive up and down the street. You go a few miles away to Yakima and you don't see that. Yakima's still in the real world. Um.

At Hanford the contractors keep on getting paid even though they're not doing the job that they signed a contract saying they would do. Um. The only sin, the only crime apparently at Hanford, um, is if you pull the, the covers off, uh, if you become a whistle blower, um, and then you're in all kinds of trouble. Um. Unless you fix that corporate culture that is still running just fine at Hanford, uh, you're never going to get things cleaned up.

It's not because you only have a, a mere half billion leftover after the basic operating costs. Those basic operating costs would be cut drastically if there was a, um, a profit motive involved. If people were just used to getting lavish salaries for commonplace jobs. Um. If failure was not considered, "Oh well, um, we'll try again. We're still getting paid."

Until you can beat that, it doesn't matter how much money you throw at the problem, um, it's just going to disappear, um, like you've already made many, many billions disappear. Um. You've got a few accomplishments, um, way, way too late. Now you're telling us that that, um, in one of your major areas you can't even begin to guess, um, what the proverbial schedule is. Um. It doesn't look good. Um.

As I mentioned earlier, I'm a contractor. (#9) These aren't contracts. These are titled games. Um. Grow up and join the real world. Start spending your money as effectively as everybody in the civilian economy spends our money. Thank you.

**Richard** [REDACTED] My name's Richard [REDACTED] Seems like I've been contributing to Heart of American Northwest for decades. Any why have I been doing that? Because (#1) it seems that the Department of Energy and its contractors, when they are paid with incentives of dates don't seem to be able to meet that date.

And even more disappointing has been, uh, throughout the decades, (#1) many of the state government that, um, generations have, uh, failed to expect that something gets done. We did get some hope this time with the lawsuit of the enforceable, uh, deadlines.

Uh, we hate to see, uh, this state government go back on that and walk and uhh have to force away. My children are grown now, but, uh, when they were younger I expected them to clean up after themselves. And if I let them tell me, uh, "I'll get to it, uh, sometime," I know what, uh, I would get out of that. I expect deadlines, and I expect them to be met.

**Mark** [REDACTED] Hello. Uh, I would just like to underscore, uh, what many other people have said about deadlines. Uh, it just seems to me that if you don't have a deadline, how can you ask Congress for

money about something, and how can it really be part of an agreement? Uh, (#1) it just doesn't seem like a good faith way to have an agreement if there really isn't a deadline.

Um, and, uh, I'd like to also underscore, uh, what, uh, Fred Miller said, uh, about, um, (#9) the contractors, um, and, uh, there just being an incredible amount of money going into that system, and how, uh, the, uh, per capita amount of money is very high, uh, in terms of the per person. Uh, and they're, they're very frequently doing jobs that maybe, uh, not, aren't as technical, um, um, and so therefore, um, not, you know, not as high paid outside of Hanford. I know that there is risk...There's a tremendous risks, uh, due to the radioactivity there but it just seems like we've got a captured revenue stream of a billion dollars a year, flowing into an area maybe that, uh, there could be some sort of, uh, better way of appropriating that money so that it's not going to, um, you know, giant contractors, um.

Liz [REDACTED] Thank you. I'm Liz [REDACTED] the Hanford Challenge. Um, and we will be submitting written comments, as well, but I just wanted to make some more informal comments tonight.

Um, probably the biggest challenge with the Tri-Party Agreement change package process is understanding the, understanding the entire process. And understanding what milestones are being discussed what the changes are, what the actual cleanup work in the milestones that are being discussed will result in, and, um, and other information about how the negotiation process works.

Um, it's very difficult to find information that clearly explains the rationale for the changes, that lays out assumptions that were used in the negotiation process, how risks were assessed, what impact to workers were, was discussed, um, what the impacts might be to tribes in the fu-, and for future land use.

Um, and also long term cost increases that result from delays, and having to have men-safe costs, um, carried on for years and years, instead of just getting a facility off the hook entirely.

Um, so considering that, um, and thinking about all those tools that Hanford Challenge has been working on trying to create... In the future, (#7) we would like to see more tools created during these comment periods on Tri-Party Agreement change packages that truly make this information accessible, and lays things out, um, so that it's easy to find.

Even finding through the administrative record the Tri-Party Agreement, and where the actual milestones are, is challenging for me, and I've been working on Hanford for eight years. So a general, or a, uh, someone who's just looking as a member of the public is gonna have a hard time finding information.

Um, we'd also like to see more notice. (#7) We appreciate the decision to move the comment period back to mid-January. But we would like to see it moved to mid-February to allow for the Hanford Advisory Board, which is likely going to be issuing advice at that time, to be considered by members of the public as they talk to their own comments. It helps some people benefit from the discussions of others.

I know you said that you would accept comments past mid-January. It sends a con-, a confusing message if the actual end of the comment period, um, isn't, um, mid-February, even if you're considering to have comments, um.

Um, (#1) we would also like to see an enforceable date for the M-16 milestone. Um, even if it's a date that you have to make up, it still acts as a driver.

Um, and I understand the rationale for why, why you put the TBD in there. But I don't think it's a good decision, um, especially, um, in the budget, um, conversation.

Um, also, uh, the, the way that budget is used is, it's too easily used as an excuse at Hanford. (#5) We would like to see a more sophisticated conversation with the public about budgetary shortfalls, um, that includes things like how money is managed on-site, how contractor incentives and fees work, and other things that go beyond just saying there isn't money on-site.

Because, um, it's, it's too simple to say that when there's such a complex thing, um, that is affected by the budget. Um, so we'll be submitting written comments, but for now, those are some thoughts from Hanford Challenge. Thank you.

Joanna [REDACTED] Um, Joanna [REDACTED]. Um, I, I'm a Seattle native. I'm also a Washington State native. I also went to Yakima Valley College, as well as Central Washington University, so I'm a Wildcat.

And, uh, so, um, I, I always look at the state in the, in, in more of a full what's happening around the state, just because of all my experience throughout all of the state. And, uh, and knowing people, and knowing the farmers, and knowing the ranchers, and, and, um, and, and knowing the wildlife areas, as well.

And I, (#5) I just keep getting concerned that we aren't getting enough money, and that, um, and that we should just have this done. Just get it done, 'cause I am so concerned about Columbia River being contaminated if... You know, it's just, there's, you know, anything, you know, any one of these things could get into some ground water, and then we're screwed. And we've already been screwed in some areas in that area, I'm sure.

But as you're looking at all this, too, it, it's, you know, we're going back into, (#12) I'm going back into climate change things that, you know, a-, right now, we're having it where our waters were hot, the hottest that we've ever had it with this El Niño that's coming in. And, and then if the river starts... You know, it's just, it just keeps going. And if these tanks, what are they going to do with the heat getting hot? I never even thought about that, so I don't know how we're going to get Congress to really think about this, except for, like, have them come on down. Come on down, boys and girls.

Um, but also just the concern with the citizens around it, the concerns of the farmers and the ranchers, and, um, also, I do want to... I am a little bit upset about the comment period, and not giving us enough time, and not letting us know.

And then also, uh, my concern of the OMB, and how can we influence them? I mean, I, I've worked with a citizen advocacy group for years, and also, um, the Physicians for Social Responsibility. We're part of it, as well as the Church Council of Greater Seattle, and we actually were one of the ones who caused this superfunds to get done, because of sending people to Washington, DC. So my question also is, of which we can talk later is, is, (#1) is there something that citizens can do to also, we can push for, for Murray, we can, you know it, and Cantwell, but there's no, who else do we need to talk to, and what else do we

need to push, and do we need to go in, do we need to go to Washington, DC as well? So, those are some things that's [inaudible 19:22] right now. Thank you.

Gerry [redacted] Thank you, sir. Gerry [redacted] speaking for Heart of America Northwest, and let me start by thanking everyone. Thank you for showing up tonight. Um, I've really concerned that far more people would've been here if you had respected their own public involvement plan. And I'm dismayed that two or three folks like to call, three of you essentially, agreed with the comments that I, and some of us, saying, "Please tell us what you think is most important for these milestones, in terms of tradeoffs we make."

Well, if you really wanted that, you'd have given us 30 to 45 days of notice, so that the citizen groups could review these proposals. And I was trying to assess the area's risks from the different waste sites. I've joined, and I haven't talked to Liz about this, but her comments, she reflects on, I've written them down here, and they're a very important part of this public involvement process, is that the agencies have never put forward TPA changes where they essentially provide a public disclosure of the relative concerns and impacts of the delay.

We've said this over and over again, work of different tradeoffs, and it's up to the citizen groups to do that work, and it takes time. So it takes time to evaluate your proposal. It takes a couple weeks. It takes time for us to ask you some questions, and then to produce a citizen's guide, and mail it to people. We're talking a minimum of 30 days, and you know it, and that's why it's in the public involvement plan. And to me it is shameful to say that you're committed to public involvement, but over and over again you say this is the least important thing.

Something is more important than giving the public enough time to hear the comments on the plan, and that's wrong. And it shows a total and utter disrespect for the role of public involvement, and for public comment. In terms of those risks, I'd like to point out that not too many years ago, there was another set of chain discussions about the solid waste fairgrounds, that's 43 miles of trenches, and either at the meeting here in Seattle, or in Portland, um, when partner Northwest raised the issue of the fact that there are unknown chemical wastes in those trenches that are reactive and ignitable, we were ridiculed by two of the three agencies, who said nothing like that could ever happen.

And I encouraged people to go online, just Google Nevada radioactive waste landfill explosion video, and see the 40-second film that happened to be captured on someone's cellphone of an underground burial ground that exploded with no monitoring around it, no idea what went up in the air. And it's similar in the wastes, or likely very similar to the waste buried in the ground at Hanford.

And in fact, it's only a miracle that we haven't had that type of explosion before. So are we willing to trade off the land, 618-11 burial ground, or the 618-10 burial ground, for central plateau burial grounds? No. That is a false tradeoff.

Money is no object at Hanford when it comes to overhead. And far more than 33 percent of Hanford's budget goes to what is viewed as overhead, including management, including, not just the traditional land work costs. 15 years ago, the energy department made a commitment packet at 30 percent, and threw that commitment out when there was, after administration change. If EPA and ecology said to energy, "We are requiring you to do the work based on that commitment, that no more than 30 percent

of your budget was going to overheads." And it's true, some of that should be paid for by the Office of River Protection. They spent an awful lot on overhead.

But if you were basing the budgets, you would, on reduced overhead, what was a realistic overhead account, you would free up 2 million dollars for work this year, and that would solve this, because frankly, soil cleanups are the cheapest part for Hanford to clean up, by far. Removing sludge from K Basin, very expensive. Going into the plutonium finishing plant with every single person having to be in self-contained breathing apparatus that has to be thrown out after every use, is incredibly expensive.

Cleaning up the soil is the cheap and easy part, and cleanup, and even less expensive, if the Energy Department is simply willing to actually, to retrieve, treat, and dispose of the waste in the soil trenches instead of saying, "We're going to take 10 years trying to characterize what is in them, in order to try to justify leaving them there." In the end, it will be far cheaper and far safer to simply retrieve.

And there is no way the public will ever trust that you've characterized enough, because when you've got a random mixture of wastes, over 43 miles of trenches, it is unlikely a groundwater flow, where you characterize its edges and its center through a model. You've no idea what you're leaving behind if you dig up five feet, and you go dig up the next five feet.

So (#1) we should be setting firm deadlines for retrieving, and completing the cleanup under M16. And without those firm deadlines, there is no driver for compliance, and there is no driver for budget. And I'd like to ask that our slides that we use for the pre-meeting, and the alternative public interest viewpoint, be incorporated in the record as our, part of our official comments, and where it says suggested comments, those should be interpreted as Heart of America Northwest comment, for the record.

And, uh, uh, and, um, I think it's a false trade off that cost us. (#3) I think we should delay 1618-11 and 324, uh, what we do ask is, should we reduce overhead costs? Or should we not spend several hundred million dollars in each of the next few years, paying the contractors to design a pre-treatment system for the pre-treatment system that isn't, doesn't work for the vitrification plant? Thanks.

**Richard [REDACTED]** Hello, my name is Richard Ellison. I'm an adjunct professor in the community here. I'm a Cougar as well.

I had the fortunate experience, uh, in, uh, as grad student, to visit Hanford in 1984. I was with, um, represented Don Bonker's office. And I was struck by some very interesting things there, and that was, their department to us is they saw us as, like, an opportunity to get money. They just saw my friend who was working, Don Bonker, um, they were lobbying us for more money. They needed more money, they said.

Um, they also, in competition, denied that any of the leaks that occurred in Hanford ever entered the groundwater [inaudible 28:33] known about the site. Perhaps that's changed now. There's more bidding on what's happening. But obviously, there's a lot of things that are entering into the groundwater and entering into the Columbia River, which are, fortunately, pollution is a solution for us there.

Um, this, the third thing that struck me was, um, was a lot of wishful thinking, and that most of the proposals were full of lots of wishful thinking, how well it was gonna work out, if only we had the money to do it. Well, it's a lot later now, it's not 1985 anymore.

Um, a few comments. I'm, I'm not an expert at this, in the sense that I can't tell you which is the perfect risk factor, and which is the perfect trade off. You know, I agree over the idea that maybe there are things that can't be traded off. Um, you're the experts. You're supposed to come and say, "These are our options," and why, as opposed to, "Oh gee, what do you think we should do?"

Um, as a general person in the public, I don't have an answer for that. I would suggest that it be more trained personnel, and (#7) I am sure that a lot of graduate colleges would be greatly appreciated, and universities around the country, that would address these kind of issues, and they're probably a lot cheaper than your average salary. Uh, they tend to work very hard for long hours than more, uh, highly paid people do.

Um, another situation, it seems to me that on the M16 area and other areas, (#1) rather than simply throw our arms in the air and say, "We can't give you a date," maybe you could break it all into smaller pieces, and then some of the smaller pieces you can give dates to. And then you can start prioritizing which ones you can give dates to, and, "These ones, we can't give dates to because..."

So it's a much, much smaller package that you're presenting to the public, of what you don't know. Um, if you have too small a toolbox, then again, perhaps you need to spend more money on training personnel to fulfill your needs for the toolbox. Thank you very much.

**Gerry [REDACTED] – Heart of America Northwest | Suggested Comments:**

**Seattle Public Meeting (during local perspective) – November 17, 2015**

- It is not acceptable to delay Central Plateau soil site cleanup from 2024 to an unknown date which is going to be more than 20 years later.
- The unlined soil trenches on Hanford's Central Plateau are dangerous. No one knows what is in them, and contamination will spread to groundwater.
- WA State and Governor Inslee have repeatedly stated that having enforceable schedules is a firm state requirement. Therefore, the State should reject replacing the 2024 deadline with a date "to be determined."
- Don't take USDOE off the hook to ask for funding or remove Congress' obligation to fund the work after the investigations are done.

## Portland Public Comment – November 18, 2015

Ross [REDACTED] Yes, my name's Ross [REDACTED] I've, uh, been coming to these meetings over 20 years, and um, I just think that one of the things that I've got a feeling of here is that there seems to be a lack of a sense of urgency in [inaudible 01:01].

OK. And, um, (#1) I think that things are delayed for too long and you really do need to request more of, um, more funding [inaudible 01:19]. And as some people have pointed out, the more delays, it will be the more expensive to fix in the future and also more dangerous to fix.

And, I think that, um, (#4) another area that you need to really be concerned about is the unlined trenches, which have all kinds of stuff in there and which is not even what anybody really knows for sure. And this, um, this whole exercise up there at Hanford seem to be the end of a giant shell game, where it's just sort of reconfiguring in each round.

(#1) The, um, it sort of appearing to be from past experience and adjusting milestones it just doesn't really work. It's always changing. And, you know, deadlines are not, deadlines are not serious or effective. They are just kind of meaningless. And I think that there just needs to be a change in the way of prioritizing these things because this is, the timing is just not really working.

And, um, I, I guess I really object to the term of "cleaning up" because that really implies that something will be fixed and now, it will be OK, but it's not OK. It's just, maybe, better contained, hopefully -- repackaged, reorganized, rearranged.

Because radiation, you know, can last for 10,000 years or more. That's not going away anywhere, or even being fixed in some way. Just hopefully, be better. And, so, (#9) somebody mentioned a thing about, um, the work force, and um, you know, either bringing things to your attention, but what's happened in many cases, is that people will be whistleblowers, and then get fired or harassed or, or, you know, really negative stuff happens to them.

And nobody really stands up for them or protects them. I mean that are in danger [inaudible 03:56], there's interest groups here that try to do that. And, so, I mean, um, I guess I'm not too optimistic about this process because it just seems to be the same old thing, you know, decade after decade. And, um, but, um, I mean, I'm not trying to imply that any of you are not, you know, doing your job or conscientious or something, but I think, (#9) over the years a lot of the contractors haven't been, a lot of them have been no good, you know, it's been proven.

And, so, I guess, (#7) the final thing I want to reiterate that some people have said that I maybe would like to have more meetings in Portland. A lot of times there's some meetings in Richland or Seattle or something, but then Portland kind of gets left off the, left off the map there somehow. So, I really would like, you know, if you're going to have them in the other places have them in Portland, too, I guess, is what I'm saying. I guess that's it.

Rachael [REDACTED] Hi, um, I'm Rachael from Heart of America Northwest. ...basically keep it really brief. I'm going to first echo what Liz [REDACTED] from Hanford Challenge said last night in Seattle. Basically, we just believe that (#1) there really should be a deadline put in place for M15, even if it's just a shot in the

dark. It's impossible to enforce a deadline when you don't set them, impossible to enforce funding for the cleanup [inaudible 05:48] an enforceable deadline.

Secondly, (#4) rather than prioritizing the different areas of the Central Plateau I think it's really important that the money at Hanford is really re-evaluated. Contractors keep getting paid but work isn't being done. It continues to be late.

And finally, (#7) we just ask again that the public involvement plan is respected. For anyone that's not aware, that requires that the agencies give public interest groups like Heart of America at least 30 to 45 days' notice before a public commentary or public meetings like these. For this one in particular the material came out October 26th and then the first meeting was nine days later.

For these we had three weeks' notice and so our group wasn't able to put out a mailer, which excludes a whole group of public that aren't able to be there because they aren't aware that these meetings are happening. (#7) So it's just really important that we're given proper notice so that we can inform the public and they can be here and voice of the needs that are educated. Thank you.

**Dan** [redacted] My name's Dan [redacted] and I'm conservation director of the Columbia Riverkeeper. Public information comes forward, I want to echo what Rachel just said, (#7) first of all, that it wasn't enough time for people to essentially get the word and digest significance of these delays. That's something that is challenging because, from our perspective, when we look at what happened at the Central Plateau, we go to each one of the sites that is impacted by this.

Each one of those carries with it a toxic or radioactive pollution load that ultimately is found within the soil and from there the groundwater and the Columbia River. For us, looking at the milestones, it's really important for people to understand those impacts. So, thank you for answering those questions about some examples of how the environment would actually be physically impacted by the soils, because that's where the rubber meets the road.

(#8) It's not the delays that bother us, the answerable harsh radioactive chemical pollution towards the Columbia River. That's what bothers people from the northwest. The characterization that these delays are not broke all this robust work that went on the river corridor, I think, rings hollow for a couple reasons. First of all, this whole TPA agreement was supposed to be integrated from the beginning.

And so, what we're seeing is already a result of that prioritization. The way it was laid down was already built in that we were going to focus more on river initially and then the Central Plateau later. What we're seeing is a major delay, a major setback for the Central Plateau. It was already built in that there was going to be some difference between the two.

(#10) The second thing I want to point out about that is, the river corridor is not done. I do not necessarily share your optimism with 60 million ton, slap our hands together and say, "OK, we're done with the river." The K area, the [inaudible 09:19] area, these are all major challenges very close on the river. I don't, I don't think it's accurate to characterize this as being a way to get away from the river. The cleanup that happened with chromium is one place where we look at TBD. I was thinking what could TBD stand for? The big dig.

This is an example of getting it right and going after the contamination properly in an aggressive way. I think what's frustrating looking at these milestones is that so many of them, to me, don't appear to be driven by technical impracticability in addressing them. These unlined burial trenches that someone was bringing up, those are not necessarily that we don't know how to dig things up and encapsulate the movement.

I know it's a big problem because we don't know what's in there, so it's slow going and careful, but the obstacle here is not necessarily that it's technically overwhelming. It's that we don't have the willpower, the management, the money in place to make these things happen. It's not just money. Two billion dollars a year is a lot. Somewhere this process is not being managed correctly.

The Tri-Party Agreement is supposed to be a place where accountability happens. So when these dates slip out by 10 years we are going to have to call those things delays and we are going to have to see them as setbacks in order to point fingers to find out where profits are. I know the work is difficult, but these are big, big setbacks. So, for us, a couple things that I just wanted to address...

I want to second what Rachel said, that (#1) we do need something on the M16 milestone. That seems very important. It was good to hear both Dennis and John, from EPA and Ecology, respectively, indicate that there is some interest in the regulating agencies to do just that. Um.

So kind of backing away just a little bit to the bigger picture, I... And for our members, for people who live on the Columbia River, that river focus is obviously where the region is, but, you know, you kind of look at Appendix U, and tank loader waste management. I know that's not a Bible that, you know, we all trust to say just exactly what's going to happen, but it shows that what happens in the Central Plateau affects the Columbia River.

And so we are, you know, for thousands of years, are making decisions about what people are going to experience in the Columbia River. And that is, you know, (#8) Iodine 129 hitting the Columbia River in the year 3090, and that's, that's stuff that leaps out to me when I look this document. And so, as you consider milestone changes here and going into the future, I think it's really important to convey to the public what the consequences are.

Because that's what is going to motivate people to go out there and knock on their Congressmen and Congresswomen's doors and demand the additional funding that we need to get this done right. Thanks for your time.

Charles [REDACTED] I'm Chuck [REDACTED] I'm with Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility, and, um, I already, during the question period raised these issues, but I'll raise them again. Um. (#1) The default position obviously is that the Tri-Party Agreement should be, uh, adhered to. Um. And, uh, the really, uh, in terms of the position -- particularly the state of Washington, which is not a federal agency, um, is not required to submit its budget to the, um, Office of Management and Budget and so forth, admits decision-making is separate from the federal government.

And I would also urge you, the Department of Oregon -- the state of Oregon, which obviously doesn't have a seat at the Tri-Party table but does have a voice, um, to also object to these, uh, um, delays. Um. But really, two messages to both the state of Washington and the state of Oregon. Uh. (#1) First would

be that if there are delays, they should be very grudgingly allowed and they should be very specific, and they should be, there should be some exchanges of things that we want.

This, this problem of (#2) seismic activity in the mid-Columbia basin and the potential threat to the waste encapsulations and storage facilities, we don't know if and when we're going to have an earthquake while we try and figure out what we can do with that facility. We know it's dangerous, we know it's not built to design -- it's not designed to built -- to survive beyond design an earthquake out there. So, and there could there be draining. It could release a lot of radioactivity.

Um. Therefore, (#1) I understand you are in the process of working something out -- there ought to be, there ought to be some negotiation in terms of these milestones. I don't think you should just agree to these milestone changes without getting very specific about what you're getting in exchange for it.

Um. #11 Transferring the tank waste -- the leaking tank waste to new tanks is another thing that you might wanna consider adding to the negotiation. I don't think that this negotiation should be over until...Uh. Some of these dates are being pushed only a few years. Each one of those ought to be very grudgingly agreed to, if at all, and certainly we shouldn't have a TBD.

I understand why you did it, I understand the rationale, but, um, I just think that invites pushing it even -- making it, by making it vague, it invites pushing it even further out, and I don't think we really wanna do that. Um. And finally, uh, (#5) the point is well taken that the overall budget has shrunk, uh, for cleanup, and I think that really, again, the state of Washington and the state of Oregon need to take some leadership in that. Um. It's our delegations in Congress that we're asking.

You need to ask them more vigorously, you need to expand it out. If INL is not getting the cleanup that it needs to get, the state of Idaho ought to be concerned about that, and I don't think they would object to getting additional dollars to spend on contractors in Idaho either. (#1) So, uh, if we're gonna be talking about prioritizing US DOE's activities, we ought to consider delaying. If we're gonna to delay anything, we ought to delay expanding our nuclear weapons complex.

(#5) There are some things within the US DOE budget that, uh, some items that involve building new facilities for making new bombs, uh, which is one of the most ridiculous ideas that one could even imagine. We have so much stockpiled plutonium sitting in the Savannah River moved from Hanford at this point. Uh. We do not need additional plutonium feedstock in the United States of America, or in the world for that matter, but, uh, that type of money being wasted could easily do a lot of good for cleanup.

I think we need to vigorously be talking about that with the President, you know, with our elected Congressional representatives, and the state of Washington, state of Oregon to take the lead on that, and we'll back you. Thank you.

Abigail [REDACTED] Hi, I'm Abigail [REDACTED] Hanford Coordinator with Columbia Riverkeeper, and I think all of the comments tonight have been great, and I appreciate everyone who came out here on short notice. And that is something that I would like to talk about a little bit is public participation, public engagements, and I, um, you know, will echo, echo a lot of what Rachel and Dan said as, uh, as public interest groups that are charged with turning out the public to meetings like this.

(#7) We would like more time to do that. I feel that I'm very good at my job and I can get dozens of people to come to meetings like this which aren't even very sexy. And so more time would be appreciated. And then I also want to remind DOE, EPA, Ecology that the reason why we are working to turn out the public is because we receive funding from Washington state to do so. Probably because we are more effective at turning out the public than government agencies.

And (#7) I would ask that there is a little bit more collaboration between agencies and public interest groups. Do you realize that Physicians for Social Responsibility, Hanford Challenge, Heart of America, Columbia Riverkeeper, together we have tens of thousands of members?

And you talk about wanting the public to, uh, write letters to their Congress, you know, "Help us get the budget," but you've never come to me and said, "Will you ask your members to, you know, write letters to Congress?" and "Can you give me a call to action?"

(#7) Can you give public interest groups a call to action or something tangible that we could take to our members? Because we really do have, you know, people rooting for Hanford Cleanup. Tens of thousands. And, you know, not only are there plenty of us here in the northwest, I have family members all over the United States. You know, I have family members in Denmark. They'd probably be writing letters.

(#7) You know, to someone that could maybe increase the levy. So I just want to remind our agencies that, you know, we can work together. Um. We don't have to turn out the public and give them angry things to say about you all the time. It could be a much more positive experience, and I think I just want to remind you what public engagement really can be.

Joyce [REDACTED] I'm Joyce [REDACTED]. Um. So, I... I guess, well, (#1) I agree with the people over here that I really don't like that there's a to-be-determined date for the M016 Cleanup. I don't like that the tanks and canyons aren't included in this. Um. I wonder how many sites have even been characterized yet and are even considered yet. It doesn't make you sleep well at night.

(#10) The Columbia River Corridor. You said that 17 million tons of material were moved to the Central Plateau, and, um, like, where are they going to go next? You know, it seems like we're just a little bit stuck to ground. And, um, so, that's a huge uncertainty for me. The moment Trojan (?) shut down, I started coming to Hanford hearings, 23 years ago. Um. In the '90s, we would have annual budget meetings for Hanford, and it was helpful to know where the money was going, how it was being distributed among the different projects, etc.

(#5) When Bush came into office, they were stopped. We had one budget meeting and we were shocked, you know, that they'd changed all the names of all the budgets. So you couldn't tell where the money was going, and then they just stopped. I think that needs to be a part of the public connection because it helped a lot to know.

I mean, we spent well over a decade, almost 20 years, spending \$60 million a year to keep the FFTF open, and on top of work. You know, we're wasted so much money, but because we could see in a budget where the money was going, that was one thing we focused on, is getting that thing shut down.

By the way, they told us it was all the way gone. It was good for an earthquake up to a 2.0 on the Richter scale.

Um. Anyway, (#11) we need to be hearing about the tank farms here in Portland and around the Pacific Northwest. And, um, (#8) we need a firm plan about where we could put that waste that's dripping into -- or pouring into -- our soil and into our rivers. And in terms of cleanup, how good is clean? I think when our children can safely swim in the river and eat the fish and drink the water, that's clean.

**Bill** [REDACTED] Could I have that microphone please? Thank you. OK. I'm Bill [REDACTED] and I live right downtown. Um. I'm looking at the materials you gave us, and he went over. First of all, this is a tentative agreement...which sort of defines the entire process, with the sliding of deadlines and the not having a deadline at all, etc.

And then we have the budget. Uh, \$115 billion of work, uh, combining for all of these various projects, at roughly a billion dollars a year from what I'm hearing, which mainly means to me we have a 115-year deadline that we're looking at, and if that's not true, I'd really like to know how. Yes?

**Male Audience Member:** Two billion a year.

**Bill:** Oh! I thought it was down. OK. So, what's that?

**Male Audience Member:** Sixty-five years.

**Bill:** Sixty-five years? Something like that? OK. Not quite. Fifty-seven years. Um. And we're talking about radiation getting into the river. We are talking about all of the things that, uh, the previous speaker just said, uh, that are extremely dangerous, and then we have these deadlines here. They're not deadlines. They're deadlines for all these interim things which are then pushed back.

For instance, complete the... What are these things called? "Remedial investigation and feasibility studies." Well, that's been pushed 10 years, and that doesn't mean anything was done except the studies. Right? No work is started by 2026. We just have the pieces of paper. Um. Then we have "Complete cleanup on central plateau -- except for tanks and canyons," and that's originally 2024, but that's now TBD. We don't have a clue.

Uh. And then we have the "complete 300-296 waste site 324 Building blah blah blah, burial ground cleanup," and that apparently is an actual finish job aimed at 2021. Hopefully. Unless it gets pushed. Uh. "Submit dates for completion of canyon cleanup? 2026." OK? That's just giving you new dates, which, who knows when they'll be. And they might get split or delayed or however you want to best describe them so they don't sound so rotten. Um.

And then finally we have "Complete cleanup of 12 specific DSB units," which is now 2022. I am assuming this is an actual finished project, so let's hear it for 2022. Um. So, what we have here are a bunch of really fraudulent deadlines, and they are only for, you know, these small pieces in between, except for a few of them that also have exceptions in them.

Um. This is not how you do a job. It's not how you give information to people that think that you're getting the job done. This is tap-dancing to disaster. Um. I'm curious, if you did not have a two billion

dollar a year or whatever -- a billion and a half dollars a year -- um, limit, how much money do you still need to spend? And how long would it take if you had all of that money? That's the kind of deadline I'd like to hear.

What could we do if we could go to our Congress critters and say, "Enough with the updating the atomic, or, you know, the nuclear weapons. How about if we protect our lives and the lives of the -- of the wildlife all over this river and all over this northwest, as well as every place else that we have this nonsense?" Let's try doing that.

And I would really like to hear from you. Not necessarily now, but, you know, if you could, as soon as possible. (#5) What's the budget you need, and how long could you do it if you had that much immediately? Thank you.

Helen [REDACTED] You know my name. Helen [REDACTED] I'm here because I'm a grandmother, and I don't know what else to tell my kids and my grandkids, or my great-grandkids. Um. We talked a little bit about the backup that we need for funding, and I think that's really the question. The big one is, if, if we had enough money -- if you had enough money to hire the people, you could hire them from anywhere and get it done.

If you give us notice, we, we can -- I'm taking these materials to my neighbor to let the women in the book group... There's a great surge of interest in the contamination and the effort that was put into this nuclear development. Um. Books are being published, um... I'm practically incoherent, I beg your pardon.

There is a resurgence of interest in the war effort, World War II, in the development of the bombs, in the things that happened. Books are being published, book groups are talking about them, neighbors are talking about them. If I had noticed that I could bring my neighbors, if we knew what to -- what you want, I could write, I could send things out in the alumni booklet from my university all over the world. We have the capacity to help. I -- I think -- I don't like, I don't like the feeling of dealing with this stuff instead of... Excuse me, that's not a good comment.

(#7) Let us know what you need! We'll do it. For heaven's sakes. And don't send a list saying that there's a budget meeting about Hanford that when I check the schedule on it to see if I should drive up to Richland for it, there's I think five or ten minutes was allowed for public comment. That's, that's absurd. Maybe you don't get to go to Richland if you want to listen, but that wasn't my experience in [inaudible 31:41]. Give us time, and let us, let us help you. Instead of the names of everybody on the budget committee in the Senate, just mention it. You don't have to be political throughout.

Paul [REDACTED] Thank you. My name's Paul [REDACTED] from Vancouver, Washington, downstream from Hanford. Thank you gentlemen, for coming to this evening. It's wonderful to be able to be honored, and I'm recognizing it must be daunting for you to face a room full of people like this. So thank you for your patience and thank you for your standing here taking notes.

I want to echo what these other folks have been talking about this evening, just so there's more emphasis and reinforcement of what is the matter here. (#7) The public outreach by the DOE, EPA, and

the Washington state DOP is at dismal at best right now. We need to have a lot more outreach and get a lot more people involved.

Any time I mention Hanford on the street people are like, "What?" Duh? "Oh, it's only 50 miles upstream." "It's in your backyard. You should know about it." But they don't know a damn thing about it. Delay building more [inaudible 32:53] . We'll be political about that. That's an option on the table [inaudible 32:57]. Let's stop building more nuclear things and build [inaudible 33:00] first.

(#5) We've got messes. We need to finish those first. What is there to study? We've got a big mess. We know we've got holes in the ground. How much paperwork is needed to know that we've got a big mess and we've got to get after this. I mean, really. The carpet's red. OK, great. We're going to die. It's going to be green.

We've got to clean this up. What is there to study? How many people is it going to take? How much resources? Do we have drones that need to go in there? Let's get it going on. The budgeting. (#5) I want to add to the budgeting part. There needs to be some transparency for that. We need to know what you guys are doing. Thank you.

## Hood River Public Comment – November 19, 2015

John [REDACTED] Hi, I'm John [REDACTED] from Hood River. Um, and uh, I, I think, I'd like to call for sanctions, um, against those who missed their deadlines. (#1) I think they should have hard deadlines for the cleanup of this stuff, and I think that if those deadlines are met then there should be some sort of reward. And if those deadlines are missed or pushed back then, um, there should be some sanctions, enforceable sanctions against the personnel, the management of the people doing the work and managing the work, whether that's a government employees or private contractors.

There's got to be some accountability here. I don't think anyone who's going to retire with a government pension knows anything about business because they just have never seen it done. That's what I'd like to say.

Kristen [REDACTED] Thanks. My name is Kristen [REDACTED] I'm from Moser and I'm, I'm gonna first say that I'm pretty disappointed in the delays, I'm pretty disappointed in the progress. I'd like to see more of the cleanup. But given that things are taking so long, there was a comment made in Richland a couple of weeks ago about, "OK, what are your priorities?" But I realized my priorities are [inaudible 02:17] to stay a site. I think there's a couple that I have hit on that are pretty serious.

Number one is WESF, which is the Waste Encapsulation Storage Facility. What that is for those of you who don't know is it's a concrete swimming pool. It's filled with cesium strontium capsules. It contains up to 40 percent of the radiation of Hanford, and were that facility to lose cooling water it would go critical and, uh, produce a true nuclear disaster.

The only thing that we're arguing about at this point is how big of an earthquake would it actually take, because it turns out that radiation rots concrete. So there's actually US Daily reports out there that say it's the single biggest beyond design risk issue. There's other reports out there that say we don't actually know how bad the concrete is, and the reports were all getting [inaudible 03:13].

So I would like to see (#2) WESF moved very tippy top of the priority list of start cleaning up tomorrow, and in WESF's case it's pretty straightforward. We need to take those cesium strontium capsules, put them into dry cask storage where we don't have to worry about a swimming pool losing water. Regarding a real non-technical approach, but these guys over here know way more about it than I do.

Anyway, so number one, I'd like to see (#2) WESF end the dry cask storage as soon as possible. I would like to see that project fully funded, whatever it takes, and quite frankly, I kind of get a [groan], but I'm willing to accept anything else to help.

And then secondly, I'd like to see the (#3) 324 Building, um, and I'd like to see the waste underneath that building remediated sooner rather than later, right next to the river. And the issue is that there was a big old nasty spill a couple decades back. There is a lot of water mains around there, and I've been dealing with leaky pipes in my apartment quite a bit lately.

I think as one [inaudible 04:25] just said that we've got a lot of aging infrastructure on the [inaudible 04:28] site. So I liked the...One of the issues is there's a lot of water pipes in the general area.

If there were to be a big spill and it were to flush the waste from the 324 Building in the river, that would not be a good thing. So even though there's a roof over it, I don't think we count on that, so I'd like to see the 324 Building towards the top of the list. Thanks for coming out, guys.

**Jurgen** Thank you, uh, for coming. Uh, I've been doing this for over 25 years, coming to these sessions, and if there's one constant, two constant themes, you guys I think are really trying hard. The other one is there's a series of missed delays. When I heard tonight more extensions for WESF, what is new? Nothing's new.

Um, and I think you gotta do something new, think out of the box [inaudible 05:37] . If...I'm gonna be very firm about why concrete [inaudible 05:43] need very specific deadlines. If you don't, then it's all too easy. It's human nature to say, "Well, just [inaudible 05:52]." It is human nature to say, "I'm gonna try to meet that deadline, and if I didn't, somebody's gonna hold you accountable why you didn't." (#1) I think if you extend the deadlines, especially have one to be announced, I think that's a violation of treaty rights over tribal friends. I think a, I'll see you in court, then.

Asking for sufficient funds at the department level. (#5) Make sure that your budgets get elevated all the way up to the department level and there are ways, even if Jerry's right. Legally, I worked for the Federal government for 34 years, you can't legally lie, but there are a lot of ways you could do it. If you get with Senator Murray's staffer and you say, "If you ask me this question I have to answer it." That's how we at the Gorge and Discovery Centers [inaudible 06:53]. That's not lobbying but you've got to be smart about asking for funding.

The last thing I want to say is that in that 300 area, this is really not the subject of tonight's meeting but I want to get it on right here.

(#6) Some of those lands we surplus, and the city of Richland is looking at an industrial park. If any of those lands are surplus by the ethics of what we did to the tribal people here, in this part of the world, all of those lands first choice should be to give to the Yakima nation because it's part of their seeded lands and the other nations. That should be the first choice. Then if they say, "No, we don't want it. There's pollution there." Then give it to Richland.

**Abigail** Thank you. First I just want to put on the record for Columbia River Keeper. My name's Abigail with Columbia River Keeper. For the record, (#1) we do not accept any to be determined deadline. There needs to be enforceable deadlines always so that the regulatory agencies have some teeth in the matter.

Also, deadlines ensure that Congress will be able to provide the budget we need, so no more of this to be determined. I don't think it's working.

Next I want to say that these delays clearly aren't a matter of not knowing how to plan it out. It's not the technical issues that are causing these delays, because we're really good at digging stuff up on the site and securing it, containing it. Um, and I think really the bigger issue is a matter of will, whether it's political will or the will of agencies to want to get this done.

Personally, (#5) Hanford has a pretty big budget for clean up, and perhaps it's just being mismanaged. And really what needs to happen is there needs to be more independent oversight on the contractors, on the Department of Energy for how this money is being managed, and just a little bit more accountability.

I would like to see that, um, because \$2 billion a year is quite a bit of money for cleanup and it's not technical issues that are causing these delays. I question management issues.

The last thing I would like to address is very similar to what I said in the Portland meetings yesterday, and that involves public participation and public engagement. These meetings were announced October 26th, which did not give public interest groups like Columbia River Keeper a lot of time to make sure that the public can turn out to these types of meetings.

And the mailer that was sent out to everyone regarding these changes didn't have, um, meeting dates or meeting times, so that has excluded a large part of the population from being here at this meeting today.

And so (#7) I would like to see the agencies collaborate better with public interest groups that are effective at turning out people to these meetings by giving us more time. I would also like to see public engagement happen in a more meaningful way.

Not everyone wants to come to public meetings, um, and these issues are highly technical, and I do want to say, the changes that you made to your presentations from what I saw in Richland, I give them a thumbs up.

The explanation was better, but I think for all of us to understand really what's happening at Hanford, having more town hall meetings, state-of-the-site meetings, focus groups, round table discussions where we can really hear about these issues at a street level, in English, not in Hanford, um, would really benefit the public and maybe get more people to then come to these public meetings to give comment.

But we need to figure out how to make public engagement meaningful, because as you say, you want the public to be involved and engaged. And that's important.

Karen [REDACTED] My name's Karen [REDACTED] I'm from, um, Mount Hood, and I really have appreciated, um, the meeting tonight. I'm sorry for arriving Um. I... I would second your last point there on the "(#7) getting the public more involved" spin.

It's hard to talk with people about this and the long history of cleanup and that sort of evolutionary process of where can public be most helpful. You know, there's been really combative, confrontive atmosphere for a very long time, and, you know, it's a long time. It's just a long time.

(#7) I think meetings where we were talking about what would happen with an earthquake and some of these more, um, volatile, dangerous areas would be a very, um, important discussion to have in our communities. And I know that takes money for the personnel to get it set up and do all of that, but, um, it's probably a tiny amount of money compared to, you know, what the -- the overall clean up.

Um. (#5) So if we are interested in generating more money, you know, and so, we're... I can remember in the '90s talking about, uh, flat line budgets. Like, why do we keep just underestimating -- well, not underestimating, but under asking for the money that's really needed?

And then, you know, and then you give half of it back. It's like, um, more people involved with the dangers that are in front of us, lobbying more, and more people connecting on those issues, it sounds like all we need.

I mean, I appreciate that the cleanup is going on, and I know that -- I appreciated hearing that it's 45 percent of the overall EPA clean up budget. I never knew that. Um. So there were lots of things tonight to think about.

So thank you for having the meeting. We could have more group meetings, smaller groups, in between these larger meetings. I would vote for that. I really hope we don't have an earthquake before we get to solve this problem.

Gerry [REDACTED] Gerry [REDACTED] for Heart of American Northwest members tonight. I want to start with our comments by pointing out that Governor Jay Inslee has said repeatedly that having enforceable milestones and schedules was a fundamental principle for him, you know.

And the state of Washington has gone to court for that principle in regard to education plans, and actually won a major court decision when the US District Court Judge for eastern Washington in mid-August found that not having an enforceable schedule led to a lack of accountability on the part of the Energy Department.

And what was hap- what was being argued in that case was the Energy Department's view that they wanted to first study the problem, then develop their proposed schedules with their contractors, and then they would have milestones. Does that sound familiar?

And the question is, why are 43 miles of trenches and all the contaminated soil sites on the Central Plateau not being given the same fundamental principle that you have to have enforceable milestones in place to drive the work?

(#1) Without enforceable milestones, you have no funding. There's no legal requirement for funding. What we've seen repeatedly is that the state of Washington EPA have made the same mistake over and over again, and to me it's very disconcerting, and to the public it's very disconcerting, that you haven't learned a lesson.

So when you replace enforceable milestones with "target dates" for retrieving waste from burial grounds... Just six or seven years ago, I believe, the Energy Department at public meetings said, "But we'll ask for the money and we'll still get the money for it." And what happened? They didn't ask for the money, and the state, the state and EPA could not enforce the missing schedules for that, and it's put us significantly behind.

(#1) So having deadlines is essential. Having a deadline for retrieving waste from contaminated soil sites is not rocket science. We know what it takes to retrieve the waste from the burial grounds and contaminated soil sites because of the work down along the river.

Yes, some sites may take longer when you go in and you discover the contamination is worse, but we already learned that from the work along the river where they didn't know there would be spent fuel and transuranic plutonium wastes in those burial grounds, and now we know how long it takes and what the cost is to clean up burial grounds like that.

So the question is, why do we not have a firm milestone to say, "You have to complete the soil site clean ups by the year, and based on what we're looking at, we believe 2030 is a reasonable timeframe." And the safe and risk place and time frame that's appropriate is only to extend it six years.

Now, this brings up the issue of notice, as Abigail from Columbia Riverkeepers brought up, because we were given this set of Tri-Party Agreement change packages made public on October 26th. The first public meeting was November 4th. I think we're now 23 days after this was released. We've barely had enough time, as a public interest group, to delve in and look at comparison of risks.

And here we are, and the agencies are saying to you, the public, "Trust us, or tell us what we would trade off." That's not fair, because if you rely on the public interest groups to do that research, and say, "Well, wait a minute." The agencies haven't disclosed one word about the level of chemicals in those trenches, and what those potential risks are, and how fast they're spreading.

What's the level of carbon tetrachloride, and is it at a level that is actually immediately dangerous to human health being spread from these trenches? Yes, it is. What is the risk of delaying that? What is the risk of an explosion? You won't find that there.

What is the risk of the groundwater from a delay of 15 years when the containers in the ground are deteriorating? We don't know. Well, and how does that compare to the 618-11 Burial Ground by the Energy Northwest Columbia Generating Station Nuclear Reactor parking lot?

It's got serious risks, and not one word about those risks were in the agency's materials. So it's up to the public interest groups to try to present those risks to the public.

That takes a few weeks for us to do, and then we have to review it and put it out in notices to the public, and as Abigail pointed out, there wasn't one mailed notice about these public meetings from the agencies. So their email list is much smaller than the U.S. postal list. And what is their open rate on their emails? Not very high, I'm willing to bet.

So it's no surprise that we don't have a lot more people here, because had our public interest groups had time to prepare a mailing and do the turnout that we do, we'd probably have gotten a lot more people here tonight. And that brings up a final notice issue, which is what we have heard.

We've been fielding calls for three days at Heart of America Northwest from people who are just plain old pissed to have found out that the meeting was started at 6 o'clock tonight. How many of you would... You? Yeah.

Yeah. How many of you would have preferred a meeting at 7 o'clock? The agencies told us that us that they were approached and asked for the meetings to be changed from 6 to 7. They told us they were. Your convenience, it should not be driving whether or not the meeting starts at 6 or 7. It should be the community's convenience.

(#7) I know, as an elected official, that if I schedule a meeting at 6 o'clock when people couldn't get there, I'd be bounced out of office, and it is unacceptable for you to have not listened to and worked with the community groups in scheduling these meetings, including choosing the dates, giving us enough time to do turnout and do form turnout. Because I think we've got to recognize that we simply years ago gave up on the notion that the agencies were going to give you informed notice.

Meaningful notice in the public involvement world is notice that tells you how a decision might affect your values. So just putting out a material that says, "We're changing the date" is a meaningless thing. I mean, what is an M15 to you? It... Did those materials that were put out, did they, the mailers, say, "There are 43 miles of unlined trenches"? Sorry, not there.

So it's up to public interest groups to tell you that, and (#7) if you're going to partner with us, you need to partner with us and collaborate with us, but not pretend that you actually give a damn. I'm sorry that's harsh, but given the effort that the public interest groups put in, we have to be harsh, because this is not the first time, it's not the second time, it's not the third time we've had the same experience, and there has to be a consequence for that.

Finally, (#1) I want to close by pointing out that if you apply the rationale discussed tonight for putting in a date to be determined instead of a major milestone with a firm schedule, what element of Hanford Cleanup would survive? Because that rationale is what the energy department, as I said, tries to --- try to apply to the education class schedule, and to removing tank wastes, and literally applies to anything.

There would be no deadlines for completing any major area of the cleanup at Hanford under the rationale that "we'd like to study it first, and then propose with our contractor what the schedule should be." What that means is that it's basically entirely on the budget priorities of the energy department, which can't be trusted.

We've talked a lot about how you can talk to members of Congress. (#5) I would urge you to talk to the U.S. Representative beside the river and the U.S. Representative on that north side of the river, because while everyone says we ask for money for Hanford Cleanup, the fundamental issue is that if your member of Congress says that they support slashing discretionary spending, that means your member of Congress is supporting slashing this portion of the Hanford and the energy department's cleanup budget.

And when they threaten, they shut down over something, that has a real impact, as Jon Peschong I think very honestly talked about tonight. I appreciate that, because it has a real impact.

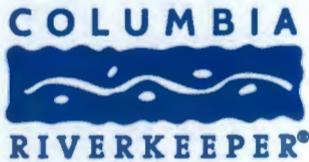
And so, when legislators, members of Congress say, "I support funding Hanford Cleanup," but they next minute tell an audience that they once slashed discretionary spending or they want to eliminate the Energy Department and the EPA, then you need to join in holding them to account, because what they're saying is, this is the type of program that they don't care about.

And, um, it is very hard when you look at the Ecology and EPA budgets, the EPA's entire staff for overseeing some of the largest clean up and most complicated and dangerous contaminated site in the western hemisphere is, I believe, seven people.

Three people now? Three people, and they're responsible not only for this site, but some of the other most contaminated sites in North America. So they're trying hard to do their job. Let's encourage them and give them our support by saying, "Hold firm and insist on firm deadlines that you can enforce." Thank you.

**Sue** [REDACTED] I just would like to say again that, um, I think, um, the management of the money - so you said that you guys are flexible, so if you can, like, the pool that she brought up, things like that that are obviously a higher priority because they're more dangerous... (#1) You could push the money that you have towards working on those things. Um. If you could enforce them, like you said, and keep to the deadlines... Um. Those are basically, you know, just stick with the plan.

**Female Audience Member:** The only thing I was going to say was Marjorie. (#8) I'd like to know more about Marjorie. Like, what is actually getting into the river, and what the levels are, and how fast they are reaching the river. That was what I was interested in.



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February 1, 2016

Ms. Kristen Holmes  
U.S Department of Energy  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box, MSIN A7-75  
Richland, WA 99352

*Submitted via email to:* kristen.l.holmes@rl.doe.gov

**RE: Comment on Proposed Changes to Hanford Central Plateau Cleanup Work and Schedule.**

Dear Ms. Holmes and the Tri-Party Agencies,

Columbia Riverkeeper (Riverkeeper) appreciates the opportunity to review and provide comments on the *Tentative Agreement on Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order Revisions for Central Plateau Cleanup*. The proposed changes to the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) milestones unnecessarily postpone cleanup actions in the Central Plateau and 300 Area of the Hanford Nuclear Reservation (Hanford). These proposed delays will increase risks to human health and the environment, increase cleanup costs over the long run, and undermine efforts by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) to hold the U.S. Department of Energy (Energy) accountable to legally binding milestones. Riverkeeper supports deadlines that prevent further groundwater contamination and contamination of the Columbia River, and protect future generations from Hanford's legacy pollution.

**Riverkeeper's Commitment to Hanford Cleanup**

Columbia Riverkeeper is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a mission to protect and restore the Columbia River, from its headwaters to the Pacific Ocean. Since 1989, Riverkeeper and its predecessor organizations have played an active role in educating the public about Hanford, increasing public participation in cleanup decisions, and monitoring and improving cleanup activities at Hanford.

A legacy of the Cold War, Hanford is the nation's most contaminated site and continues to leach radioactive and chemical pollution into the Columbia River. Hanford's nuclear and chemical contamination threatens the Pacific Northwest's people, river communities, the health of the Hanford Reach, which is the most productive mainstem spawning ground for Chinook salmon, and countless other cultural and natural resources. The public and Riverkeeper members continue to catch and consume fish from the Columbia River, drink water from the river, irrigate farms with water from the river, and recreate near and downstream of Hanford. The federal government has an obligation to ensure that Hanford's nuclear legacy does not compromise current and future generations' use and enjoyment of the Columbia River.

### **Public Participation**

Riverkeeper encourages EPA, Ecology, and Energy (collectively the "TPA agencies") to strive for robust public participation in all Hanford cleanup decisions. According to the Hanford Public Involvement Plan, the TPA agencies should "notify stakeholders at least 30 to 45 days before the start of a public comment period or before a public meeting."<sup>1</sup> The TPA agencies announced, through email only, public meetings with just nine days prior notice for the Richland public meeting, and 21 to 23 days of notice for the Seattle, Portland, and Hood River meetings. Public interest groups were not given sufficient time to prepare for meetings or to meet our public participation goals. Although several dozen people participated in the hearings in Portland and Vancouver, the timing of the public notice and hearings precluded us from reaching a broader audience to participate in the hearings.

TPA agencies should schedule meetings to provide adequate time for Riverkeeper and other public interest groups to create briefings and online content to educate the public regarding the TPA changes and the public hearings. If public interest groups are not given proper notice or information about substantial, complex changes to TPA milestones, we are unable to reach out to our members and the public in a timely way. The public participation process for these TPA changes has undermined the goals of the TPA agencies to promote and provide meaningful participation in Hanford cleanup decisions. Riverkeeper suggests the following improvements to encourage greater public involvement:

- Provide more lead time before scheduling public hearings. For future hearings, we urge the TPA agencies to provide a minimum of 30 days advanced notice before scheduled hearings, in accordance with the Public Involvement Plan.
- Provide written notice of public meetings via both email and U.S. postal mail in order to maximize the number of citizens attending public hearings.
- Improve the readability of the TPA change packages and related documents. The notices sent out by Energy failed to provide any clear or direct information on the potential impacts of the change packages, making meaningful public feedback difficult.

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<sup>1</sup>Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order - Hanford Public Involvement Plan (November 2012) Pg.6: "The TPA agencies work to notify stakeholders at least 30 to 45 days before the start of a public comment period or before a public meeting."

Also, Pg. 7: "To improve the effectiveness and efficiency of these meetings, the TPA agencies use different outreach techniques to involve the public and try to provide information 30 to 45 days prior to a public meeting."

## **TPA Agencies Fail to Provide Adequate Justification for Delaying Cleanup**

The TPA agencies provided a range of justifications for significant proposed delays in Hanford cleanup. During public hearings and in the fact sheet for the proposed TPA changes, the agencies alternately cited the following as reasons for delaying cleanup: inadequate funding; a focus on completing River Corridor cleanup at the expense of other priorities; and unexpectedly difficult cleanup sites. Given the sparse information that was provided to underpin the proposed TPA changes, Energy fails to demonstrate how each of these potential problems led to the proposed cleanup delays. Accordingly, Energy's new proposed schedule may be subject to the same pitfalls and further delays.

The information provided to the public is too sparse to justify the proposed long cleanup delays or to ensure the public that proposed changes will prevent future, costly cleanup delays at Hanford. While we recognize that Hanford's cleanup is constrained by limited funding, we are concerned that Energy is not seeking adequate funding to meet deadlines. Information for the proposed TPA changes does not provide a full picture of funds that would be required to complete work in a timely manner or in accordance with existing deadlines. Rather, the proposed TPA changes simply extend deadlines, and the TPA agencies generally cite inadequate funding as a roadblock for completing cleanup. Furthermore, although agencies cite unexpected challenges in cleanup (*i.e.*, 324 Building), the agencies fail to account for future contingency plans if cleanup sites prove more difficult than anticipated going forward. Instead, the proposed changes create a cluster of very difficult cleanup work in the 2020s and increase the risk of future delays.

Energy asserts that delays are the result of a focus on the River Corridor. This is misleading. We were surprised to see TPA agencies claim that, "Prioritizing work on the River Corridor has pushed back difficult work on the Central Plateau."<sup>2</sup> By making this assertion, Energy mischaracterizes the development of current TPA milestones. Current TPA milestones already result from prioritizing River Corridor cleanup work over Central Plateau cleanup. The proposed TPA changes add to the extended schedule for the Central Plateau, exacerbating the slower pace of cleanup that was already assumed to occur in the Central Plateau in comparison to the River Corridor. The River Corridor cleanup milestones were integrated with all other TPA milestones including those for the Central Plateau and the 300 Area. During public meetings for River Corridor cleanup decisions and other plans, Energy did not indicate that the River Corridor work would cause Energy to miss key deadlines for Central Plateau cleanup. These proposed TPA changes, although now purportedly integrated with other TPA milestones, will cause a domino effect of additional cleanup delays in the future.

To avoid further cleanup delays related to inadequate funding or unanticipated cleanup needs, Riverkeeper suggests that the Tri-Party agencies:

- Reinstate annual budget meetings that are open and transparent to the public;

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<sup>2</sup> See TPA Fact Sheet. "Proposed Changes to Hanford Central Plateau Cleanup Work and Schedule." October 2015. p. 1.

- Outline complete funding needs for all anticipated cleanup actions including contingency planning;
- Consider independent oversight of budget allocation to ensure public funding is being used appropriately;
- Collaborate with public interest groups like Riverkeeper in working with local representatives to advocate for the funding needed to complete milestones on time.

### Central Plateau Delays

Today, hundreds of dangerous liquid and solid wastes sites are located in the Central Plateau. For these sites (not including the waste tanks and processing facilities), cleanup planning was scheduled to be completed by 2016 with a final cleanup completion date of 2024. The proposed TPA changes push cleanup planning to 2026 and provide no final cleanup date at all. The proposed changes offer only “TBD” or “To Be Determined” as dates for key Central Plateau cleanup actions. These major delays create uncertainty in the TPA agencies approach to Central Plateau cleanup as contamination in the Central Plateau continues to migrate towards the Columbia River.

The delays proposed for the Central Plateau are significant and will increase the potential for contamination in soil to reach groundwater and ultimately reach the Columbia River. Unless remediated, Energy’s own modeling shows that contamination will reach the Columbia River over millennia. (See Figure U-14 from the Tank Closure Waste Management Environmental Impact Statement showing I-129 contamination reaching the Columbia River in 3890).

Delays increase risks to human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach. Delays allow contamination to migrate more deeply into soils, prolonging and expanding groundwater contamination that threatens the Columbia River. These delays also increase the cost of cleanup, and the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Further, delays can cause unexpected challenges in cleanup as aging infrastructure fails, such as support beams and water

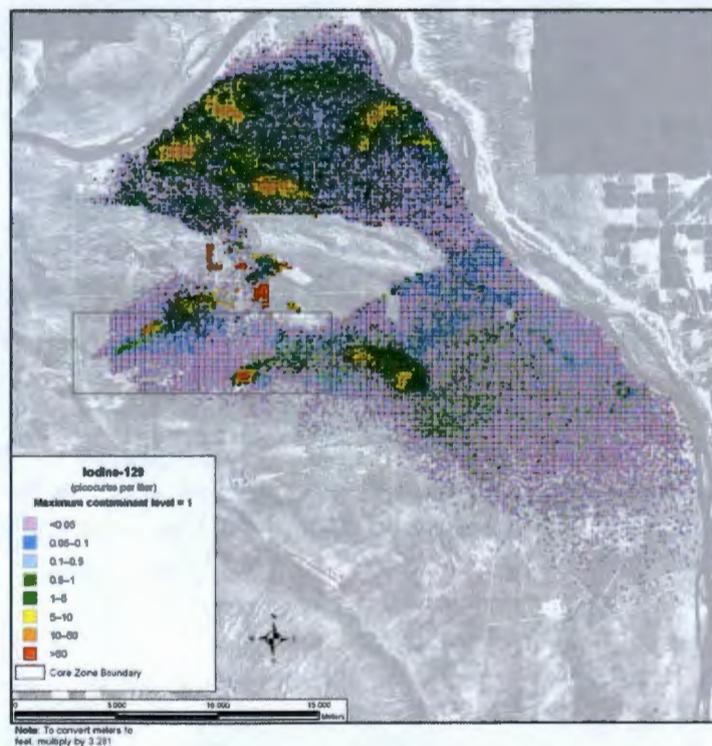


Figure U-14. Spatial Distribution of Groundwater Iodine-129 Concentration (Non-TC & WMEIS Sources), Calendar Year 3890

lines. Infrastructure challenges both increase the likelihood of contamination migrating further and increase risks to Hanford's workforce.

The TPA agencies should retain an enforceable, set deadline for completing the M-016 set of milestones rather than deferring Central Plateau soil cleanup from 2024 to an unknown date which will now take longer than 20 years. Washington state has litigated Energy's inability to meet TPA deadlines, and Governor Inslee and Washington state have repeatedly asserted that enforceable deadlines represent a critical tool in completing Hanford cleanup. Furthermore, without enforceable deadlines, Energy has no obligation to ask for funding after investigations are complete under the M-015 milestone.

Riverkeeper urges the TPA agencies to:

- Set and keep a firm deadline for major milestone M-016-00, cleanup of the Central Plateau. "TBD" is unacceptable. Based on the previously set milestone dates and the proposed delays for Central Plateau investigation, the Tri-Party agencies can and should set a realistic milestone for cleanup completion on the Central Plateau.
- Investigate or start removing the radioactive waste stored in Hanford's unlined trenches by 2020 to decrease contamination from moving deeper into soils, and eventually reaching groundwater.

### 300 Area Delays

Outside the Central Plateau, other delays involve cleanup of some of the most contaminated sites located near the Columbia River in the 300 Area where laboratory research and reactor fuel manufacturing polluted facilities, soils, and groundwater. These toxic sites include the 324 Building and the 618-11 Burial Ground, both having contaminated the soil with significant amounts of radioactive wastes. Changes to the TPA would delay cleanup of these sites by 3 years. While a three year delay appears modest in comparison to the open-ended delays proposed in the Central Plateau, any delay increases the risk of toxic waste entering the groundwater and the Columbia River, which is very close to these sites.



324 Building located just a few hundred feet from the Columbia River.

The cleanup delay proposed for the 324 building pose risks to human health and the environment. Unforeseen events such as extreme weather, failing building infrastructure, and earthquakes could jeopardize the health of workers, the public, and the environment by

mobilizing contamination close to the Columbia River. Therefore, Energy should prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building and the 618-11 Burial Ground by requesting additional site-specific funding to address these sites.

### **Conclusion**

The proposed TPA change package creates the potential for cleanup to lag for decades longer than current plans. The TPA agencies must provide far more detailed information to justify these drastic setbacks in Hanford's cleanup schedule. Furthermore, the agencies should clearly enumerate the consequences—both in terms of cost and risks to the environment—from postponing cleanup actions. Riverkeeper encourages the TPA agencies to provide additional hearings and information about the impact of proposed cleanup delays before making a decision regarding the proposed TPA changes.

Sincerely,

/s/ Abigail Cermak  
Hanford Coordinator

/s/ Dan Serres  
Conservation Director



Confederated Tribes and Bands  
of the Yakama Nation ERWM

Established by the  
Treaty of June 9, 1855

December 14, 2015

Kristen Skopect  
U.S. Department of Energy  
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Richland, WA 99352  
Email: Kristen.Skopect@rl.doe.go

RE: Proposed Changes to the TPA M-015, M-016, M-085, M-037, and M-094 Milestones

Dear Ms. Skopect:

The Yakama Nation ERWM Program appreciates the opportunity to review and provide comments on the proposed changes to the Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (HFFACO) M-091 series milestones.

The U.S. Department of Energy Hanford site was developed on land ceded by the Yakama Nation under the 1855 Treaty with the United States. Our involvement with the Department of Energy's environmental and health activities at the Hanford site spans many decades and various committees, workshops, Congressional presentations, document reviews (e.g., the Environment, Safety and Health Advisory Committee, Future Land Uses Working Group, Draft Hanford Mission Plan- DOE/RL-93-102, Hanford Advisory Board, etc). The following are but a few examples of our ongoing involvement efforts.

*The Yakama Nation's treaty remains intact with no changes since it was negotiated and signed. The Yakama Nation reserved rights for their people on their respective ceded portions of the Hanford Site and at other usual and accustomed places that their people frequented at the time of the signing of the treaties, consistent with the practice of their cultural ways and their livelihood. As I have suggested, these rights generally pertained to culturally traditional acts, such as hunting and gathering natural foods and medicines and pasturing stock. The indigenous peoples governments also reserved rights with respect to fishing on the rivers and other waters in the Northwest, including the Columbia River that flows through the Hanford Site and substantially influences the entire ecosystem and economy of the Northwest.*

*Having lived and prospered in the region for thousands of years, the Yakama developed a rich, cultural and religious tie to their ceded lands. Numerous religious sites and burial grounds exist in the region, many on the Hanford Reservation itself. These sites are protected by Federal laws that provide rights beyond those specifically reserved by the Treaties, but that are unalienable in all civilized cultures in any case.*

*It is with this background that the Yakima continue to exist on their ancestral home lands, practicing their cultural/religious ways, ever mindful of actions to protect and preserve the ecosystem of the Columbia Basin for future habitation. The future in this regard does not stop at 300 or 1000 years as various Federal and State waste management laws would lead one to believe when reviewing inadequate the design requirements for dump and waste disposal sites. The Yakima's goals and objectives in their participation in the environmental remediation and waste management of Hanford are based on visions of traditional cultural endeavors, far ahead in time, given the Yakima history extending back thousands of years in the region. To be sure the Yakima stories and orally recorded history verify this long term occupancy of the Columbia Basin and surrounding mountainous area, including the important Hanford Reach of the Columbia.*

*It is noteworthy that these visions do not overtly omit the possibility of a Yakima culture in co-existence with other cultures. In fact it is our consideration that our goals and objectives for remediation and waste management are necessary for broad unrestricted use of the Hanford Site in the future, including agricultural and domestic uses involving ground water exploitation that are so prominent in the Columbia Basin, particularly along the boundaries of the Hanford Reservation.<sup>1</sup>*

*Regarding clean-up and disposal criteria at Hanford, the Hanford Future Site Uses Working Group recently completed its report on Hanford future uses. This report included a unanimous recommendation that the entire Hanford Site, including the 200 Areas in the Central Plateau, be cleaned-up with disposal of radioactive and hazardous waste being controlled so as to allow the unrestricted use of the Site by 100 years past the closure of the various waste management facilities and remediation sites. Thus, residential and farming scenarios, as well as use of the area by Indian Nations in accordance with Treaty rights, all involving the use of ground water and soils, were considered desirable uses in the future.*

*This land use basis is considered by us to be the limiting criteria driving the clean-up and waste disposal of the future. Given the current near surface disposal facilities and design being considered for the future, it appears that long-lived wastes, whether they be radioactive or hazardous, are unacceptable for disposal at Hanford, considering the potential for future intruders or residents to encounter such materials. Thus, residential and farming scenarios, as well as use of the area by Indian Nations in accordance with Treaty rights, all involving the use of ground water and soils, were considered desirable uses in the future.<sup>2</sup>*

*YN wants to reflect a long-term perspective that included a clean Hanford Site which would be useful for future generations without the need for additional remediation or restrictive*

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<sup>1</sup> Russell Jim, July 29, 1992, Comments to House of Representatives Committee on Public Works and Transportation Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight RE: *Planning for Improving Superfund Legislation in the future.*

<sup>2</sup> Russell Jim, December 21, 1992, letter to Mr. Leo Duffy, Director, Office of Environmental Restoration and Waste Management, DOE, RE: Comments on Environmental Restoration and Waste Management Plan

*institutional controls. This conflicts with the Yakama Nation's basic objectives assuring that waste management and environmental remediation efforts at Hanford are designed to accomplish effective cleanup. We do not condone waste management practices, including disposal actions, that further damage the environment and permanently commit natural resources.*<sup>3</sup>

*There is no issue of greater importance to the Yakama Nation than protection of, and respect for the treaty-reserved rights. The Hanford Site lies within ceded area of the Confederated Tribes & Bands of the Yakama Nation. Within this ceded area, the Yakama Nation retains the rights to natural and cultural resources including but not limited to areas of ancestral use, archaeological sites and burial grounds. These resources are sacred and sensitive to the Yakama Nation, and must be managed to preserve, protect and perpetuate the resources that are inseparable from our way of life.*<sup>4</sup>

*The Yakama Nation supports cleanup actions that are complete, permanent, and are based on proven technology. We do not support remedial actions that leave large quantities of long-lived radionuclides or dangerous waste in place and rely on long-term stewardship or institutional controls to address future potential exposure scenarios. Long-term stewardship and institutional controls will not be effective for wastes that remain dangerous for hundreds or thousands of years. Assuming that contaminants remain in place implies that a Long-Term Stewardship Program Plan must be implemented which will remain effective longer than any human institution has ever existed.*<sup>5</sup>

*YN believes all the risks associated with Hanford today, after cleanup and far into the future need to be known by the people, taxpayer, and Congress, such that there is a full understanding of the hazards that will remain at Hanford (including the radiological life time of these hazards), the cost of institutional controls, and the risk to humans and the environment (today and in the future).*

It is from these consistent perspectives YN believes the changes in the select M-15,-16,-37, and -85 milestones combined with recent changes in the M-91 milestone series, and the *Central Plateau Principles* will unnecessarily postpone and jeopardize actions which would optimize cleanup in the Central Plateau areas and will result in increased risks to groundwater, the Columbia River, Tribal members and all stakeholders<sup>6</sup>. Approximately 8-10 years will elapse before any Record(s) of Decision(s) will be finalized for those areas of the Central Plateau which house some of the most radioactive threats on the Hanford site (e.g., 200-SW-2/LLBG). This delay is actually more accurately 15 years if one considers earlier established dates (e.g. 2007). There has been a consistent push-out of milestones for the remediation of the Central Plateau

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<sup>3</sup> Russell Jim, June 8, 1994, letter to Ms. Sharon Bloome, Heart of America Northwest

<sup>4</sup> Russell Jim, June 28, 2010, letter to the Tri-Party Agencies, RE: Proposed Changes to the HFFACO for the Central Plateau, and for Mixed Low-level Wastes and Transuranic Mixed Wastes

<sup>5</sup> Russell Jim, December 31, 2014, letter to the Tri-Party Agencies, RE: Central Plateau Cleanup Principles & Russell Jim, August 15, 2015, letter to Ms. Kristen Skopect, DOE-RL, RE: M-091 Waste Management Milestones

<sup>6</sup> Russell Jim, August 19, 2015, letter to Ms. Kristen Skopect, RE: M-091 Waste Management Milestones

ever since. Furthermore, the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant facility (WIPP) permit currently requires closure in 2030. Overconfidence in a quick and easy WIPP permitting renewal process and/or DOE's ability to complete ROD cleanup actions (e.g., PUREX & K-Basin sludge) could very easily result in Hanford becoming a *defacto* disposal site for both transuranic and high-level wastes. (e.g., 200-SW-2/LLBG). Furthermore, it is not apparent that any consideration was given of the domino effects of delaying cleanup actions with regards to increased risk to human health and environment, the consequences of escalated costs due to deferment of work, the ability to retain a trained work force, or conflict with the issuance of or compliance with the Hanford RCRA permit (e.g., M-037-10/11 and integration with M-015-92C).

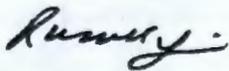
These proposed TPA milestone changes reflect a DOE bias-projected flat-line of Congressional budget approvals, an unwillingness to aggressively address the more complex cleanup issues (e.g., 324 Building & 618-11 burial grounds), or present to the public a realistic site cleanup timeline. Without enforceable milestone dates, there is no compelling DOE legal requirement to fund cleanup post ROD decision (i.e., a to-be-determined [TBD] date for completion of remedial actions under M-016-00)!

It is understandable that DOE intends to increase the pace of the cleanup activities along the Columbia River, but if important steps are not taken, such as adequate and long-term planning for the entire site, the intended "fast-track" will likely result in an incomplete and inadequate cleanup of the Hanford site (in particular, with these proposed milestone changes, for the Central Plateau and River Corridor areas). **All at the expense of the full exercise of YN Treaty rights.**

Overall, the approach presented for the Central Plateau does not ensure that cleanup will occur such that the Yakama Nation will be able to fully exercise our Treaty rights as mandated by the U.S. Constitution, Article VI, "Treaties made....shall be the supreme Law of the Land...."

The Yakama Nation ERWM Program looks forward to dialog on these concerns, comments, and Vision statements. If you have any questions, please contact me at (509) 945-6741. Please see attached comments.

Sincerely,



Russell Jim, Manager  
Yakama Nation  
ERWM Program

cc:

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Asa Washines, Chairman RHWC  
Virgil Lewis, RHWC  
Patrick Luke, RHWC  
Vivien George, RHWC  
Philip Rigdon, DNR Superintendent

## General Comments:

- **Factsheet:**

- As public comment period has been reissued, re-publish and reissue the document both electronically and hard copy with appropriate dates and meeting times.
- Edit statement under "What changes are proposed?" to simply state "Overall, the proposed changes set new dates for completing work on the Central Plateau. Changes are being proposed to the M-015, M-016, M-085, M-037, and M-094 milestone series." The remaining text is highly bias and subject to Congressional approvals outside of the authority of these proposed changes. As stated, the Tri-Parties are guaranteeing this work will be performed with no other future changes. This cannot be realistically promised by the Tri-Parties. Please delete.
- Edit statement under "Why are the TPA agencies proposing changing milestone?" to simply state "River Corridor cleanup workscope, as a priority, has been more difficult than anticipated requiring more money and resources than currently available. The remaining text is highly bias and could lead the public into the misperception that there would be no need for doing any additional RI/FS characterization for the Central Plateau. Please delete.
- Edit statement under "How will this affect work on the Central Plateau?" to delete the first sentence. There is nothing within these changes which indicate issuance of RODs by 2032.
- Include text to explain difference between *interim*, *target dates*, and *major* milestone dates and which milestones are which.
- Include text to explain the steps in the cleanup process, i.e., work plan for the RI/FS; then the ROD; then the RD/RA work plan to implement the ROD remedy.
- Edit following for clarity and public understanding:
  - M-015: Please identify the workscope and areas covered. Without this knowledge, the public cannot make an informed decision.
  - M-016: Please clarify or delete text-describing schedules that RD/RA work plans establish. It is YN understanding that work plan schedules are subject to regulatory agency approvals and reflect work to be done under Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study documents. Completion of cleanup is done under Records of Decisions.
  - M-085: Clarify text regarding work plans. Change form includes RD/RA work plans.
  - M-094: Identify that these changes have resulted in new milestones under M-016-85 and -86.

- **General Comments:**

- Current operation and maintenance [i.e. "min-safe" operations] costs for the Hanford site are ridiculously high at ~\$500 million per year. As this money is taken from cleanup dollars, what is being done to reduce these costs?
- In negotiations, both all parties "give n get." Both Washington State and EPA acknowledge their opinion that there was no "get on their behalf." In essence, Ecology and EPA have agreed to allow their authority to impose violations/fee to be easily dismissed. What value is there in this approach? The setting of TPA milestones to accomplish cleanup has seemingly become an irrelevant process.

- What are the TPA agencies doing today concerning the WIPP permitting renewal process? What is the thought process being employed today to develop an alternative site for TRU waste disposal?
- Please provide cost estimates for all remaining work along the Columbia River; identify costs by waste site and operable unit?
- Please explain how budget outlook for Tank Farms and workscope for the near future (at least the next 10-15 years) influenced the development of all milestones.
- What are the TPA agencies doing today concerning the following concerns? For each item, please explain your rationale (including supporting references and/or work-scopes if available):
  - Any domino effects of delaying cleanup actions with regards to increased risk to human health and environment;
  - the consequences of escalated costs due to deferment of work;
  - the ability to retain a trained work force;
  - or potential conflict with the issuance of or compliance with the Hanford RCRA permit (e.g., M-037-10/11 and integration with M-015-92C).
- Current TPA agencies viewpoint is understood to be: All RODs for the remaining canyon facilities are to be the same as the U-Plant's ROD. Why was this viewpoint was not presented within the discussions of the M-85 milestones?
- **M-015 Milestones:**
  - Clarify the status of MS-015-00C. Considering this milestone, delay for most all of these milestones is ~15 years start to finish the RI/FS/PP process. Explain what work scope was done between 2007 to 2015.
  - Nine Proposed Plans between due in 2023. This is equivalent to one a year and in reality, its double that because an Feasibility Study report is also required. How will the Tri-Party Agencies, in particular, DOE ensure completion of this workscope? How will the public even be able to review all these documents if they all come out within three months of each other? What is the current status of the RI/FS work-plans for all these OU?
  - Clarify if there are any RCRA TSDs within the operable units affected by these milestones.
  - Creation of M-015-96 delays the cleanup of the Orchard Lands adjacent to the Columbia River. The choice of the Tri-Party Agencies to first to create a new operable unit for these sites was unnecessary. Many of the 100-Area Operable Units had/have over-lapping waste sites with the Orchard Lands. The 100-Area remediation should have included these co-located and/or separate orchard lands. Secondly, the agreement to remove the elements of the feasibility study from the 100-OL-OU's workplan was unwarranted and indicates no real desire on the part of the Tri-Party Agencies to do the needed environmental legacy cleanup of arsenic and lead along the Columbia River Corridor.
  - There is a disconnect with WIPP closure date of 2030 and completion of all needed remedial actions for these units. DOE will have to do all remedy actions for all these units within 7 years to meet the WIPP 2030 closure date! How or has this even been integrated in projected budget analysis, workforce needs etc?
  - Habitat-derived injuries, injury to geologic material (soil) and to the underlying vadose zone and groundwater has been extensive, and will continue in the

absence of full cleanup. Delays to development of a decision for the deep vadose zone will only serve to delay employment or consideration of new technology development for remediation of or immobilization of contamination in the vadose zone. What is being done today and in the near term to support deep vadose zone remediation until this decision is finalized? Please explain in detail (including supporting references and/or work-scopes).

- How are milestones M-015-93B & M-015-92C to integrate with MS-37-10, -11, and 13?
- Note: M-16-02 MS date to initiate ROD remedy should be no more than 2 yrs. after any ROD.

- **M-016-00 Milestones:**

- M-016-00: Factsheet includes the following section and text "How will this affect work on the Central Plateau?," "The Proposed changes would allow for issuance of cleanup decisions for all non-canyon work by 2025 and issuance of canyon cleanup decisions by 2032. There is nothing within these changes which indicate issuance of RODs by 2032.

Present to the public a more accurate site cleanup timeline (e.g., a to-be-determined [TBD] date for completion of remedial actions under M-016-00. Within the next 6-8 years under M-015, there will be Proposed Plans for Central Plateau operable units. Records of Decision should follow in a timely manner. There is no justification for this milestone to remain defined as "TBD."

- M-016-02: Clarification requested. TPA Section 11.6 does have a process for submittal of RD/RA work plans, but this action is post-ROD. Additionally, these should be made available for public review.
- M-016-85 & -86: As early as 2011, the Tri-Parties were aware and planning on pushing out work along the River Corridor beyond the 2012 vision of cleanup of the corridor. This is reflected in the proposed milestone changes the 342 building and the 618-11 burial. Schedules to do this work have been pushed out for ~11 years; there should not be further delays. There is too much risk to the environment should there be any serious contingencies such as breaks in surrounding waterlines, etc.
- Milestones for the U-Plant were established in 2010. Considering the older date was based on negotiations during 2009 and a seven-year timeframe was established, there should be no delays for the cleanup work for U-Plant. Explain all delays.

- **M-037-00 Milestone:**

- There are no approved the closure /sampling and analysis plans for these units. Any modifications necessary for approval of these in a RCRA permit will need to be finalized next few years for this work to be completed. Does Ecology intend to close these units as impoundment surfaces? If not, how so?
- These units have the potential or are known to have impacted the groundwater. What is the ROD for the groundwater unit associated with the RCRA TSDs and how will these be incorporated into the closure plans?
- Are any of these TSD units overlying the 200-DV-1 OU? If yes, clarify how this work will be integrated with M-015-110B.

- **M-085-00 Milestones:**
  - M-085-01: Clarify this milestone is in accordance with RD/RA work plans to follow a ROD. Note: M-16-02 MS date to initiate ROD remedy should be no more than 2 yrs. after any ROD.
  - Five work plans due in ~five years -2020- under MS-085; no completion dates for RI/FS/PP work scopes only dates for submittal of work plans to do the work required for the RI/FS/PP process. Clarify why RI/FS/PP due dates are not yet established or proposed as under the M-015 milestone changes? TPA Section 11.6 does have a process for submittal of RD/RA work plans, but this action is post-ROD. Additionally, these should be made available for public review.
  - Two engineering evaluation/cost analysis (EE/CAs) due in within three years. These should be made available for public review.
  - Will there be consideration given to the results of the 200-SW-2 RI/FS/PP and any remediation of the LLBG and pre-1970 TRU wastes? How or has this even been integrated in projected budget analysis, workforce needs etc?
- **M-094-00 Milestone:**
  - Identify which RD/RA work plan.



# Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility

February 12, 2016

## WPSR Board of Directors

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Ms. Kristen Holmes  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550, A7-75  
Richland, WA 99352  
Kristen.L.Holmes@rl.doe.gov

Dear Ms. Holmes,

Since before inception of the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA), Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility has been committed to the health and safety of Washington's citizens and the environment. We are concerned about proposed changes to the TPA that could result in delays to the cleanup and could potentially cause adverse effects on Washington's citizens or people.

The newest Change Package, which includes delays to the Investigation Work on the Central Plateau (M-015-00); Cleanup Work on the Central Plateau (M-016-00); Canyon Cleanup (M-085-00); Closure Requirements for Treatment, Storage, and Disposal units (M-037-00); and Completion of 300-Area Facilities (M-094-00), are troubling. One of our major concerns is that this process has not allowed for much public input or participation. These Change Packages were complex and technical in nature. The public was not given sufficient opportunity to ask questions or get clarifications from the Tri Party Agencies to enable them to make substantial comments.

Although technical information about the changes was given to the public, there was no explanation of how the changes may increase risks to the public, workers at the site, Tribes in the area, or the environment including animals that live on or around the site. Also missing was an exploration of the changes will impact the total cost and timeline of the cleanup of the Hanford Area. The few public meetings that gave the public a chance to question representatives of the Tri-party Agencies were schedule too soon after the release of the proposed changes. There was not enough time for sufficient promotion of the events. There was also little time for the public to read the changes, research the ramifications, and formulate relevant questions.

The most troubling aspect of the proposed changes was setting M-016-00 milestones with a completion date of "To Be Determined" (TBD). This has never been part of the language of the TPA having an unenforceable deadline questions the power of the document.

We recommend priority be given to milestones M-015-00 and M-016-00. The investigation and remediation of non-tank farm and non-canyon waste sites in the 200 Area has long been a concern of the public and the Tribes of the area. For the M-016-00, we recommend having an enforceable deadline.

Priority should also be given to:

- The cleanup of the 324 Building, and the contaminated soil underneath. The plume's high level of radiation and proximity to the border of Richland and the Columbia River calls for fast action.
- Removing cesium and strontium capsules at the Waste Encapsulation Storage Facility.
- Investigating the risk surrounding the PUREX tunnels.

Although all the work at Hanford is important, the above projects should be prioritized over other milestones in the Change Package such as the demolition of the U Plant, closure of the B Pond, S Pond, or the Non-Radiative Waste Disposal Landfill.

We also recommend having additional meetings to educate the public and the media, and to answer questions about the changes. These meeting can only be successful if enough advanced notice is given. Thank you for considering my comments,

Daniel Noonan  
Project Manager  
Washington Physicians for Social Responsibility  
[daniel@wpsr.org](mailto:daniel@wpsr.org)  
206-547-2630



February 12, 2016

Ms. Kristen Holmes  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550, A7-75  
Richland, WA 99352  
[Kristen.L.Holmes@rl.doe.gov](mailto:Kristen.L.Holmes@rl.doe.gov)

Dear Ms. Holmes,

Hanford Challenge appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the *Proposed Changes to Hanford Central Plateau Cleanup Work and Schedule* milestone series M-015, M-016, M-085, M-037, and M-094.

The milestones set in the Tri-Party Agreement are both meaningful and meaningless. Hanford Challenge believes in the importance of setting deadlines and working hard to meet those commitments. We also understand the complexity inherent in conducting the cleanup of the most contaminated site in the western hemisphere under conditions where funding is appropriated one year at a time and unexpected challenges come up during the removal, treatment, and storage of waste. However, the effectiveness of those milestones in ensuring a timely cleanup diminishes when milestones are routinely pushed back with what appears to be ease and little internal resistance. What value do these promises have to the public when they are rarely fulfilled? That said, this is the system that was established to keep cleanup on track, and despite the moving targets, Hanford Challenge believes that firm and realistic milestones can be used to effectively drive progress when other mechanisms are also employed to ensure accountability, including pressure from the political process, litigation, and Congressional action (including sufficient funding in the budget).

Hanford Challenge looks at cleanup through the lens of future generations. The most important result is a cleanup in which waste is contained and isolated from spreading in the environment. If it takes additional time to achieve that end result, it is worth the time, money, and effort. This requires close monitoring and regulatory muscle to ensure that many of Hanford's unfortunately common problems such as inefficient work practices, fee structures that reward meeting milestones over quality, contractor malfeasance, reprisals against workers who raise concerns and the like are dealt with. Simplifying the justification for the proposed delays to an inadequate budget is inappropriate when so many other factors are at play. Hanford cleanup work may be parsed out in analytical building block line items, but in reality it is all interconnected.

The changes proposed by the TPA agencies in the milestone series, M-015-00 (Investigation Work on the Central Plateau), M-016-00 (Cleanup Work on the Central Plateau), M-085-00 (Canyon Cleanup), M-037-00 (Closure Requirements for Treatment, Storage, and Disposal units), and M-094-00 (Completion of 300-Area Facilities), are unprecedented. This is the first time in which the public is tasked to consider an extensive, negotiated change package to TPA Milestones that delivers only "gives," in the form of delays with no "gets" in the form of accelerated cleanup projects.

Hanford Challenge expects the Tri-Party agencies to negotiate achievable, legally binding milestones

with the intent of balancing challenges to achieve cleanup goals on schedule with the need to conduct and regulate a timely cleanup that reduces risk through remediation. Hanford Challenge is concerned that the delays negotiated in this milestone series were too easily pushed out using insufficient funding as an excuse, rather than proposing more stringent cleanup deadlines to make the case for more funding. Hanford cleanup is not discretionary. It is a federal obligation to address the legacy of Cold War environmental contamination and honor regulatory commitments to return the site to compliance with environmental laws. Hanford Challenge urges the TPA agencies to negotiate more stringent and robust deadlines as part of this obligation, to demonstrate the importance of this work, as Congress considers Hanford funding.

There is nothing impossible, nor impractical, about accomplishing remediation under the original TPA milestones, utilizing technology that is currently available. Hanford cleanup decisions will have impacts on people and the environment for hundreds of years to come. The Change Package, as written, assumes that contaminants contained in unlined trenches, in plumes of vadose zone soil and groundwater, both near-surface and deep, are going to stay put during the proposed delays. This false assumption, which is not even supported by reliable characterization data of the contents of these disposal sites, eliminates the urgency to fund this remediation work by presuming there is infinite time available to mitigate this waste moving through the environment. For over a decade, many interests at Hanford, including the Tri-Parties, have engaged in discussions in a variety of forums including the Lifecycle, Scope, Schedule, and Cost Reports<sup>1</sup>; centered on how previous funding shortfalls have created and will continue to create, a large "bow wave" of unfunded projects. Until this "bow wave" is eliminated, the result will be exponential increases in the cost of total cleanup and increased risks from aging facilities and infrastructure. Adequate funding levels are required to avoid this budgetary, and in our opinion, environmental crisis.

The public should have meaningful opportunities to influence cleanup decisions through open and transparent processes. Change Packages are particularly complex. The proposed changes are difficult for the public to understand, and without clarity, make it challenging for individuals to provide meaningful comments.

This is a particularly challenging topic on which to provide meaningful comments. We appreciate the responsive efforts to produce supplemental materials for the public on this topic, including the Addendum to the proposed changes. Terminology is overly technical and layered, requiring a great deal of translation to be coherent. It was difficult to find information that clearly explains the rationale for the changes; lays out the assumptions that were used; how risks were assessed; potential impacts to workers, tribes, and future land use; and long-term cost increases that will surely result from the proposed delays. It is unclear why the delays are needed and how public comment may be able to influence the Tri-Party Agencies in these and future negotiations.

In the future, Hanford Challenge would like to see more consideration given to the timing of public meetings so that organizations have time to research and get questions answered to prepare the public in advance. It was disappointing that public meetings on this change package were held in November, despite input from many organizations, including ours, that it would be more effective to have meetings in January.

Hanford Challenge supports the addition of the new milestone M-016-250 which aims to "develop a

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.hanford.gov/files.cfm/2014\\_Lifecycle\\_Report\\_DOE-RL-2013-02\\_Rev.1\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.hanford.gov/files.cfm/2014_Lifecycle_Report_DOE-RL-2013-02_Rev.1_FINAL.pdf)

three year rolling prioritized schedule consistent with site-wide cleanup priorities to implement waste site removal actions.” Aggressive pursuit of this milestone by the proposed March 31, 2016 deadline will help facilitate a much needed, collective understanding of FY 2017 Federal budget requirements. It is Hanford Challenge’s understanding that initial inputs to budget planning are needed starting in February 2016.

Considerable cleanup is being delayed in contaminated areas such as, the investigation and remediation of non-tank farm/non-canyon waste sites in the 200 Areas, milestones M-015-00 and M-016-00. Hanford Challenge believes this work should have higher priority than other projects such as the demolition of U Plant or closure of B Pond, S Pond or the Non-Radioactive Waste Disposal Landfill (NRDWL), included in milestone M-085-00.

Hanford Challenge believes actions should be taken to expeditiously remediate the plume beneath the 324 Building and move the Waste Encapsulation Storage Facility (WESF) cesium and strontium capsules into dry storage, both of which pose very high risks. Proposed milestone changes should be adjusted to better reflect these higher priorities. The agencies should also investigate the potential risks posed by the PUREX tunnels.

Setting milestones for work described as “TBD” is not acceptable. A hard date should be chosen.

## **Change Package Comments**

### **General**

- The TPA agencies should meet legal obligations by negotiating more stringent deadlines in an effort to demonstrate the priority of this work to Congress and drive adequate funding for Hanford cleanup.
- The TPA agencies should use the Tri-Party Agreement as a tool to seek adequate resources for all proposed cleanup activities.

### **Cleanup Budget**

- Money is not always the answer to Hanford’s problems. Insufficient budget is too easily used as an excuse for not getting work done at Hanford. Hanford Challenge would like the Tri-Party Agencies to have a more sophisticated conversation with the public about how the agencies are stewards of the taxpayer dollar; this would include discussion of budgetary shortfalls, how money is managed on site, how contractor incentives and fees work, and how improperly managed projects are penalized and held accountable.

### **Specific Milestone Comments**

- Hanford Challenge supports DOE to expedite the new M-016-250 milestone<sup>2</sup> (3/31/2016) in order to support efforts to influence the FY 2017 Federal budget planning process, show

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<sup>2</sup> **M-016-250:** “Develop a three year rolling prioritized schedule consistent with site-wide clean-up priorities to implement waste site removal actions per Action Memoranda (DOE/RL-2009-37, DOE/RL-2009-48, and DOE/RL-2009-86). This milestone series will continue on a yearly basis to reaffirm selected sites and recommend any changes to the list, to maintain a three year rolling prioritized schedule, until such time that removal actions are completed.” (3/31/2016 And Annually Thereafter)

progress, keep trained crews together for remove-treat-dispose work, and to take advantage of “shovel ready work” when funding is available.

- Hanford Challenge would like the TPA agencies to adjust proposed milestones to reflect an acceleration of the M-015-00 and M-016-00 milestones series which cover the investigation and remediation of non-tank farm/non-canyon waste sites located in the 200 Areas, ahead of M-085 work related to demolishing plans to demolish U Canyon and close B Pond, S Pond, and NRDWL.
- Hanford Challenge would like the TPA agencies to negotiate earlier milestone dates for the cleanup of the 324 Building and underlying soil contamination.
- Hanford Challenge supports the newly proposed milestone M-016-086 (9/30/21)<sup>3</sup> for cleanup of the 618-11 burial ground.
- Hanford Challenge recommends that the TPA agencies to investigate PUREX tunnel risk.
- The Waste Encapsulation Storage Facility cesium and strontium capsules<sup>4</sup> should be moved into dry storage. These capsules pose a very high risk. Proposed milestone changes should be adjusted to better reflect this higher priority.
- Set a firm date for the M-016-00 Milestone. “TBD” is unacceptable.

#### Public Involvement

- Hanford Challenge would like to see future TPA Change package materials include plain language simple explanations of terminology used throughout the change package, especially reference to buildings, facilities, and waste sites. This could be accomplished through a side bar index, appendix, or addendum.
- Hanford Challenge appreciated the addendum that was created for this comment period, and would like to see it improved in the future by formatting the change package so that dates are formatted in the order in which work would occur.
- Hanford Challenge would like to the TPA Agencies to make a presentation with background information about the Tri-Party Agreement and Milestones available and easily accessible via the web during future TPA Change Package public comment periods.
- Hanford Challenge would like to see more tools created during Tri-Party Agreement Change Package comment periods that make information about the following clear and accessible:

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<sup>3</sup> **M-016-86:** “Complete remedial actions for 618-11 Burial Ground in accordance with RD/RA Work Plan for 300-FF-2 Soils (DOE/RL-2014-13-ADD1).” (9/30/2021)

<sup>4</sup> **M-092-05:** “Determine disposition path and establish interim Agreement Milestones for Hanford Site Cs/Sr capsules. DOE will assess the viability of direct disposal of the Hanford Cs/Sr capsules at the national high-level waste repository and provide a schedule leading to its disposition. If DOE concludes that direct disposal is a viable and preferred alternative to vitrification, DOE will submit to Ecology specific documentation justifying its conclusion, with a proposed milestone change request establishing enforceable Agreement Milestones for dispositioning Hanford Cs/Sr capsules.” (06/30/2017) *NOTE: This milestone is not included in this Change Package.*

- Rationale for the proposed changes;
  - Assumptions that were used to both necessitate the delay and support the new proposed dates;
  - Explanation of how the potential for increased risks to the environment, workers, the public, and tribes were assessed;
  - Impacts of the delays on future land use;
  - High-level overview of all pending cleanup work at Hanford and where the proposed changes fit within completion of Hanford cleanup;
  - Impacts of the delays on long-term cost increases for cleanup.
- During future TPA Change Package public comment periods, Hanford Challenge would like the agencies to provide increased notice in advance of public meetings, 90 day public comment periods, and conversations with the Hanford Advisory Board, stakeholders, and tribes to get input on the public involvement process, materials, and meetings.

Thank you for taking the time to consider our comments.



Liz Mattson, Outreach Director  
Hanford Challenge  
[lizm@hanfordchallenge.org](mailto:lizm@hanfordchallenge.org)  
206-292-2850x21

**Confederated Tribes *of the*  
Umatilla Indian Reservation**

Department of Natural Resources



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4 February 2016

Ms. Kristen Skopect  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550, MSIN A7-75  
Richland, WA 99352

**RE: Comments to Proposed Changes to Milestone Series M-015, M-016, M-037, M-085, and M-094 of the Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order.**

Dear Ms. Skopect,

The Energy and Environmental Sciences Program of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) Department of Natural Resources (DNR) appreciates the opportunity to comment on Proposed Changes to Hanford Central Plateau Cleanup Work and Schedule.

The CTUIR has, and will always have, a clear and consistent end-state vision for the lands that now comprise the Hanford Nuclear Reservation. This vision is for tribal members to once again safely use these lands, as they did before Hanford, for the rights and resources reserved in the Treaty of 1855. The peoples of the CTUIR look forward to the day when they can hunt; fish; gather foods, medicines, and raw materials; and pasture livestock on the lands that are now Hanford.

We realize the magnitude of the technical and monetary challenges that must be overcome for this vision to become reality. We also recognize that the Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (hereafter termed the Tri-Party Agreement) is the essential tool to manage the scope, pace, and quality of the hazardous waste compliance, permitting, closure and post closure action, and remedial and corrective actions at Hanford to achieve an end-state vision. The value of this Agreement is a direct result of the clarity in which its milestones define the order and pace of work at Hanford, along with its clear identification of who is responsible to ensure that the final product meets the agreed upon environmental standards.

For this reason, CTUIR staff advocate for continuing to hold to the underlying project management and technical principles that have guided the established Tri-Party Agreement. Specifically, any change to the Tri-Party Agreement must continue to maintain firm and realistic milestones to help drive the progress of work, and, any realignment of work should honor the prioritizing values articulated in Section 3.4 of the Tri-Party Agreement Action. Namely, work should be prioritized to maximizing the rate that public health risk and environmental risk is reduced.

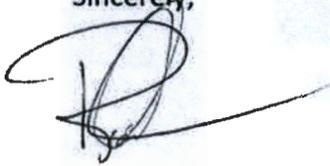
Consistent with the aforementioned principals, the CTUIR offers the following comments to the specific changes proposed in the 26 October 2015 Tentative Agreement on Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order Revisions for Central Plateau Clean-up.

- **Milestone M-015-00.** The CTUIR recognizes the reality of the budget limitations that have led to these dramatic shifts in the schedule. However, it is also recognized that delaying remediation planning and implementation by a decade will allow exacerbate the already enormous problem of finding and removing contaminants from the environment. Have the impacts of these proposed delays on the total amount of work that must be completed (expressed as total budget expenditures) been estimated? If so, how much does the total cost of remediation increase over the current baseline estimates?
- **Milestone M-015-11B.** Deep vadose zone contamination represents an enormous quantity of hazardous and radioactive chemicals that are uncontained and directly threaten future groundwater quality. This operable unit should remain a high priority and the associated milestones should be accelerated if possible. The deep vadose zone sources are already directly impacting the groundwater at several places with long-lived radionuclides. Furthermore, the problem is still largely undefined will likely require multiple treatability tests to address the multiple zones/depths of contamination and the myriad of contaminants (both radioactive and nonradioactive).
- **Milestone M-015-96 through M-015-99.** The CTUIR supports the addition of these milestones to further define the schedule of remediation activities.
- **Milestone M-016-00.** The CTUIR strongly supports enforceable, firm milestones. "To be determined" milestone dates do not facilitate the sense of urgency that this work needs to maintain. Please replace this TBD milestone with a completion date based on the current best estimate.
- **Milestone M-016-200A.** The CTUIR agrees with the State of Oregon's concern stated in their letter addressing these proposed changes (dated 21 December 2015). Specifically, Oregon noted on Page 2 in their fourth bullet that *"Given that major cleanup projects at Hanford typically take longer and cost more than initially planned, we have significant concerns about DOE's ability to complete three major projects at the same time in 2021 – demolition of U Plant; remediation of the contaminated soil beneath the 324 Building and demolition of that building; and remediation of the 618-11 burial ground."* Did DOE consider historical cost overrun data when the schedule for these activities were determined?
- **Milestone M-016-250.** The CTUIR supports the addition of this milestone to further define the schedule of remediation activities.
- **Milestone M-085 Series.** The CTUIR supports the addition of this milestone to further define the schedule for cleanup activities. Furthermore, the CTUIR

agrees that response actions for 200-CB-1 and 200-CR-1 can be put-off until 2025 without adding extensive risk to human health and the environment.

If you have any questions concerning this matter please feel free to contact me at (541) 429-7420, or by email at [rodskeen@ctuir.org](mailto:rodskeen@ctuir.org).

Sincerely;

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. Skeen', written over a light blue rectangular stamp or watermark.

Rodney S. Skeen, Ph.D, P.E.  
Manager, CTUIR-EESP/DNR

Cc:  
File



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor



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December 21, 2015

Ms. Kristin Holmes  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550, A7-75  
Richland, WA 99352

Dear Ms. Holmes:

The State of Oregon appreciates the opportunity to review and provide comment on *Proposed Changes to Hanford Central Plateau Cleanup Work and Schedule*.

Throughout the more than 25 years of Hanford cleanup, the State of Oregon has consistently advocated for a quality cleanup and the State has been willing to accept delays when necessary to ensure that a quality cleanup does occur. At the same time, we have advocated for and understand the importance of firm and realistic milestones to help drive progress.

It is disappointing, though not unanticipated, that widespread delays in the Central Plateau cleanup are being proposed. At the same time, we are surprised by the extent of the proposed delays – a minimum of a decade in most cases, and “yet to be determined” for some projects, that will likely slip by an additional two or three decades.

We recognize the reality of the budget limitations and that complaining about this reality serves no purpose. Likewise, it is not helpful to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) or its regulators for Oregon or other stakeholders to insist they find ways to get the work done on schedule with the inadequate available funding.

As we consider the difficulty of providing useful, pertinent comments, we cannot help but sympathize with members of the public, who are also being asked to provide comments without the benefit of the frequent interaction that Oregon staff have with the Tri-Party agencies. Based solely on the information provided in the Change Package, it is incredibly difficult to see the “big picture” of Hanford cleanup during the next 10-15 years. While it is clear that numerous projects will be pushed back, it is difficult to ascertain the major work focus at Hanford for each of the next dozen or so years until this delayed work begins. This is information that the public needs– both to understand that cleanup work will in fact be continuing over the next decade; also to allow the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed sequence and schedule for cleanup. The material in the Change Package provides insufficient clear and direct information to solicit that type of public feedback.

We appreciate that the comment period was extended, though we do not understand the rush to move forward to conduct public meetings in November. Several public interest groups – who do help considerably to increase the turnout for public meetings – felt they did not have sufficient time to prepare for the meetings. Regional meetings could easily have been put off until January. We reject any argument that delaying the public meetings would have had a negative impact with moving forward with the cleanup. This Change Package is all about major delays, completely negating any urgency to get through the public comment process.

After much consideration and consultation with each of the Tri-Party agencies, Oregon offers several recommendations – some specific to the proposed changes, and others that are a bit more far-reaching. We hope they will be relevant as the Tri-Parties consider these significant changes to Hanford’s cleanup schedule and plan the sequence of work during the next decade. We do not intend to provide detailed comment on each of the proposed milestone changes.

- Oregon strongly supports enforceable, firm milestones. We believe they have repeatedly proven beneficial and we appreciate that the proposed firm milestones were not replaced with rolling milestones, as has been done at other DOE sites.
- We do not support having a milestone date “To Be Determined” for the major milestone, M-016-00. We encourage the Tri-Parties to take their best shot at developing a realistic, achievable milestone – even if it is one that will cause major concern. We and the public need to understand the expected amount of delay.
- In our July 2015 comments on proposed changes regarding transuranic waste (M-091 milestones), we expressed concern about delaying too much work into the 2020s. Given these additional major delays into the 2020s, we reiterate our recommendation to move up the M-091 schedules and begin that work sooner.
- Given that major cleanup projects at Hanford typically take longer and cost more than initially planned, we have significant concerns about DOE’s ability to complete three major projects at the same time in 2021 – demolition of U Plant; remediation of the contaminated soil beneath the 324 Building and demolition of that building; and remediation of the 618-11 burial ground. We propose (below) a different sequence of work priorities.
- The repeated problems of contamination spread that have occurred at the 618-10 burial ground give us pause in considering how to move forward with remediation of the 618-11 burial ground. Due to the proximity of the Columbia Generating Station nuclear plant, similar spread of contamination cannot be allowed to occur from 618-11. That will likely require some type of enclosure over the waste site, which will increase the time necessary for both planning and conducting the work. It will also increase the cost of doing the work, though DOE has successfully done similar work at other sites. While we understand the benefits of transferring the experienced workers to 618-11 upon completion of the work at 618-10, we believe there needs to be more deliberate

planning before work begins there. Coupled with anticipated funding challenges, we advocate that work on 618-11 not be started until several other major projects are completed. These projects include demolishing the Plutonium Finishing Plant to slab-on-grade; moving the cesium/strontium capsules at the Waste Encapsulation Storage Facility (WESF) into dry storage; removal of all sludge from the K West basin; and remediation of the contaminated soil beneath the 324 Building.

As we look at work to be done at Hanford during the next decade under the direction of the DOE-Richland office, we offer the following recommendations for prioritizing the work (the order does represent our priority).

In addition to these priorities, we recognize there are ongoing min-safe requirements which must be funded, and we support as well the on-going groundwater remediation efforts. We are generally supportive of infrastructure upgrades that have been identified and we also support an increase in funding for Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration work, to help move that process forward.

**Near-term priorities (now through 2018)**

- Complete demolition of the Plutonium Finishing Plant to slab-on-grade
- Begin moving the cesium/strontium capsules from pool storage at WESF to dry storage
- Complete remediation of the 618-10 burial ground
- Begin installation of the extended apatite barrier at N Area
- Begin expansion of well networks for both the 100-K Area and 100-HR-3
- Begin sludge movement from K West Basin (meeting TPA milestone M-016-175 for first sludge movement by September 30, 2018)
- Begin remediation of the high-dose soil contamination beneath 324 Building
- Continue work on the River Corridor Records of Decision
- Begin planning a structural analysis to determine the integrity of the PUREX tunnels

**Mid-term priorities (2019 through 2021)**

- Complete movement of cesium/strontium capsules to dry storage
- Resume retrieval/treatment of retrievably stored waste from the solid waste burial grounds and resume shipments of transuranic waste to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant
- Complete sludge movement from K West Basin (meeting TPA milestone M-016-176 for completion of sludge movement by December 31, 2019)
- Complete the N Area apatite barrier
- Complete remediation of soil beneath the 324 Building and demolition of the building
- Expand groundwater extraction wells into the 200 East Area
- Begin demolition of K-West basin
- Develop a more robust program to characterize and remediate contamination in the deep vadose zone
- Begin Plutonium Finishing Plant waste site and sub-slab clean up

- Conduct a structural analysis of the PUREX tunnels to determine whether immediate actions are necessary to prevent collapse
- Begin characterization of the solid waste burial grounds

**Longer-term priorities (2022 through 2025)**

- Begin additional characterization/treatment in the deep vadose zone
- Begin and complete Interim Safe Storage of K East and K West reactors
- Begin remediation of the 618-11 burial ground
- Continue retrieval/treatment of retrievably stored waste from the solid waste burial grounds and continue shipments of transuranic waste to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant
- Begin characterization of waste sites near PUREX and other canyons

**Work that we believe should be delayed until after 2025**

- U Plant closure
- S Pond barrier
- B Pond barrier
- Non-Radioactive Dangerous Waste Landfill (NRDWL) barrier
- Outer Area soil cleanup

In recommending delays for U Plant closure, barrier construction and Outer Area soil cleanup, we believe that the risks and costs for these projects won't appreciably increase with a delay. While we recognize there is some desire to complete closure of Hanford's first canyon, and to complete Hanford's first permanent barrier over a landfill or pond, we believe there are other, far more pressing priorities. Additionally, when barrier construction does begin, it will be important to design and install each of these barriers with impacts on remaining wastes and other barriers in mind.

Once the sludge has been moved off the river into interim storage at T Plant, we recognize that there will need to be some type of treatment and final disposition. The sludge project, and the K-Basin spent fuel project before that, have been major drains on Hanford's cleanup budget. Rather than immediately devote significant funding towards sludge treatment, we believe that work should be delayed until completion of the work outlined above in our "Near," "Mid-Term" and "Longer Term" priorities.

Should you have questions or if you want to discuss our comments, please contact me at 503-378-4906.

Sincerely,



Ken Niles  
Assistant Director for Nuclear Safety

cc: Doug Shoop, U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Office  
Dennis Faulk, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Jane Hedges, Washington Department of Ecology  
Rod Skeen, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation  
Russell Jim, Yakama Indian Nation  
Gabe Bohnee, Nez Perce Tribe  
Mecal Seppalainen, Chair, Oregon Hanford Cleanup Board  
Steve Hudson, Chair, Hanford Advisory Board

# HANFORD ADVISORY BOARD

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

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US Environmental  
Protection Agency  
Washington State  
Dept of Ecology

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Ken Niles  
Mecal Seppalainen

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Representatives  
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Department of Health

February 4, 2016

Stacy Charboneau, Manager  
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825 Jadwin Ave., Suite 210 (A1-43)  
Richland, WA 99352

Jane Hedges, Manager  
Washington State Department of Ecology  
3100 Port of Benton Blvd.  
Richland, WA 99354

Re: Central Plateau Milestone Series Change Package

Dear Ms. Charboneau, Messrs. Smith and Faulk and Ms. Hedges,

## **Background**

The Hanford Advisory Board (Board) provides the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) agencies with policy advice that reflects the Board's core values<sup>1</sup> related to Hanford cleanup. Core values<sup>2</sup> pertinent to the Proposed Changes to Hanford Central Plateau Cleanup Work and Schedule (Change Package) include:

- protect the Columbia River,
- protect and restore groundwater,

1 [http://www.hanford.gov/files.cfm/HAB\\_2013O-01\\_ValuesWhitePaper\\_Attach.pdf](http://www.hanford.gov/files.cfm/HAB_2013O-01_ValuesWhitePaper_Attach.pdf)

2 As presented, the values listed are of equal importance.

## Envirolssues

Hanford Project Office  
713 Jadwin, Suite 3  
Richland, WA 99352  
Phone: (509) 942-1906  
Fax: (509) 942-1926

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Subject: Central Plateau Milestone Changes  
Adopted: February 4, 2016  
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- protect the broader environment,
- involve the public,
- secure sufficient funding,
- maintain the integrity of the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA),
- incorporate long-term stewardship needs in current and future cleanup decisions.

The changes proposed by the TPA agencies in the milestone series, M-015-00 (Investigation Work on the Central Plateau), M-016-00 (Cleanup Work on the Central Plateau), M-085-00 (Canyon Cleanup), M-037-00 (Closure Requirements for Treatment, Storage, and Disposal units), and M-094-00 (Completion of 300-Area Facilities), are unprecedented. This is the first time<sup>3</sup> in which the Board is tasked to consider an extensive, negotiated change package to TPA Milestones that provides only losses in the form of delays and no benefits in the form of accelerated cleanup projects.

The Board expects the TPA agencies to negotiate achievable, legally binding milestones with the intent of balancing challenges to achieve cleanup goals on schedule with the need to conduct and regulate a timely cleanup that reduces risk through remediation. The Board is concerned that the delays negotiated in this milestone series were too easily pushed out using insufficient funding as an excuse, rather than proposing more stringent cleanup deadlines to make the case for more funding. Hanford cleanup is not discretionary. It is a federal obligation to address the legacy of Cold War environmental contamination and honor regulatory commitments to return the site to compliance with environmental laws. The Board urges the TPA agencies to negotiate more stringent deadlines as part of this obligation, to demonstrate the importance of this work, as Congress considers Hanford funding.

The Board believes there is nothing impossible, nor impractical, about accomplishing remediation under the original TPA milestones, utilizing technology that is currently available. Hanford cleanup decisions will have impacts on people and the environment for hundreds of years to come. The Change Package, as written, assumes that contaminants contained in unlined trenches, in plumes of vadose zone soil and groundwater, both near-surface and deep, are going to stay put during the proposed delays. This false assumption

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<sup>3</sup> The Board previously provided consensus advice on at least 13 proposed TPA Change Packages (Advice #53, 72, 73, 82, 125, 128, 154, 163, 216, 224, 231, 264 and 285).

eliminates the urgency to fund this remediation work by presuming there is infinite time available to mitigate this waste moving through the environment. For over a decade, many interests at Hanford, including the TPA agencies, have engaged in discussions in a variety of forums including the Hanford Lifecycle, Scope, Schedule, and Cost Reports<sup>4</sup>; centered on how previous funding shortfalls have created and will continue to create, a large “bow wave” of unfunded projects. Until this “bow wave” is eliminated, the result will be exponential increases in the cost of total cleanup and increased risks from aging facilities and infrastructure. Adequate funding levels are required to avoid this budgetary, and in our opinion, environmental crisis.

The public should have meaningful opportunities to influence cleanup decisions through open and transparent processes. Change Packages are particularly complex. The proposed changes are difficult for the public to understand, and without clarity, make it challenging for individuals to provide meaningful comments.

The Board believes that information provided about the changes should be more comprehensive. The TPA agencies provided a coded list of the proposed changes and some explanation of the process, however, the agencies failed to fully describe how Hanford cleanup will move forward with these significant delays. The rationale for the proposed changes or assumptions that were used to both necessitate the delay and support the new proposed dates was not fully explained. An explanation was not provided for how the agencies assessed the potential for increased risks to the environment, workers, the public, or Tribes. A high-level overview of where the proposed changes fit within completion of Hanford cleanup and how delays may impact overall costs of the cleanup would have increased the HAB’s and the public’s understanding. In the future, the TPA agencies are encouraged to provide this information and map an in-depth vision for the Board and the public detailing the activities that are being recommended for elimination, deferment, or reassignment from one milestone to another.

The Board has long argued for early access to information and for increased public participation. It appears to the Board that more consideration should be given to the timing of public meetings during TPA Change Package public comment periods to ensure adequate time is provided to build understanding of these complex topics. There were several conversations through the Board’s Public Involvement and Communications

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<sup>4</sup> [http://www.hanford.gov/files.cfm/2014\\_Lifecycle\\_Report\\_DOE-RL-2013-02\\_Rev.1\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.hanford.gov/files.cfm/2014_Lifecycle_Report_DOE-RL-2013-02_Rev.1_FINAL.pdf)

Committee, and the River and Plateau Committee, in which Board members recommended that meetings be held later in the comment period, as opposed to holding the meetings in November 2015.

We believe that a more comprehensive suite of information and planned public meetings are needed to achieve meaningful public involvement. The success of the Board as a group representing and advocating for varied interests depends on having the latest information pertaining to the priorities, timelines and funding decisions that impact the completion of cleanup.

The Board supports the addition of the new milestone M-016-250 which aims to “develop a three year rolling prioritized schedule consistent with site-wide cleanup priorities to implement waste site removal actions.” Aggressive pursuit of this milestone by the proposed March 31, 2016 deadline will help facilitate a much needed, collective understanding of Fiscal Year 2017 federal budget requirements. It is the Board’s understanding that initial inputs to budget planning are needed starting in February 2016.

Considerable cleanup is being delayed in contaminated areas that the Board has previously identified as a high priority. For example, moving forward with the investigation and remediation of non-tank farm/non-canyon waste sites in the 200 Areas, milestones M-015-00 and M-016-00, is consistent with Board values. The Board believes this work to have higher priority than other projects such as the demolition of U Plant or closure of B Pond, S Pond or the Non-Radioactive Waste Disposal Landfill (NRDWL), included in milestone M-085-00.

The Board believes the TPA agencies should expeditiously remediate the plume beneath the 324 Building and move the Waste Encapsulation Storage Facility (WESF) cesium and strontium capsules into dry storage, both of which pose very high risks. Proposed milestone changes should be adjusted accordingly to better reflect these higher priorities.

The Board also believes the TPA agencies should expeditiously investigate potential risks posed by the PUREX tunnels.

In addition, setting milestones for work described as “To Be Determined” (TBD) is not acceptable. TBD is neither a guide for the Board or stakeholders, nor a vehicle for agencies seeking funding for future cleanup. The Board repeatedly heard this message at public

meetings.

The Board supports continuing the practice of setting some, limited target milestones, based on observations of cleanup work to date. We have seen successful remediation and a reduction of risk to humans and the environment because of this practice.

### **Advice**

The delays in this change package are difficult to accept; in response the Board provides the following specific advice:

- The Board advises the TPA agencies to meet legal obligations by negotiating more stringent deadlines in an effort to demonstrate the priority of this work to Congress and drive adequate funding for Hanford cleanup.
- The Board advises DOE to seek adequate resources for all proposed cleanup activities.
- The Board advises DOE to expedite the new M-016-250 milestones<sup>5</sup> (3/31/2016) in order to support efforts to influence the FY 2017 Federal budget planning process, show progress, keep trained crews together for remove-treat-dispose work, and to take advantage of “shovel ready work”.
- The Board advises the TPA agencies to set a specific, achievable date for the M-016-00 milestone<sup>6</sup> and to cease the practice of publishing “To Be Determined” as a place mark for a completion date. The goal should be to establish specific, achievable milestones within a process that allows for changing milestones when necessary.
- The Board advises the TPA agencies to adjust proposed milestones to reflect an

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<sup>5</sup> M-016-250: “Develop a three year rolling prioritized schedule consistent with site-wide clean-up priorities to implement waste site removal actions per Action Memoranda (DOE/RL-2009-37, DOE/RL-2009-48, and DOE/RL-2009-86). This milestone series will continue on a yearly basis to reaffirm selected sites and recommend any changes to the list, to maintain a three year rolling prioritized schedule, until such time that removal actions are completed.” (3/31/2016 And Annually Thereafter)

<sup>6</sup> M-016-00: “Complete remedial actions for all non-tank farm and non-canyon operable units in accordance with schedules established in approved RD/RA work plans.” (changed from 9/30/24 to TBD).

acceleration of the M-015-00 and M-016-00 milestones series which cover the investigation and remediation of non-tank farm/non-canyon waste sites located in the 200 Areas, ahead of M-085 work related to demolishing plans to demolish U Canyon and close B Pond, S Pond, and NRDWL. In addition, with regards to M-015-00 and M-016-00 milestone sites with below ground contamination, the TPA agencies should consider temporarily delaying capping to allow for future deep vadose zone remediation.

- The Board advises the TPA agencies to negotiate earlier milestone dates for the cleanup of the 324 Building and initiate remediation of the plume beneath the Building<sup>7</sup>. Extremely high radiation levels and proximity to the Columbia River and to the people living within the boundary of the City of Richland morally obligates near-term action.
- The Board supports the newly proposed milestone M-016-086 (9/30/21) for cleanup of the 618-11 burial ground<sup>8</sup>.
- The Board advises the TPA agencies to expeditiously investigate whether the PUREX tunnels pose a high risk, and if so, to then negotiate milestones to begin planning for their remediation.
- The Board advises DOE to move the WESF cesium and strontium capsules<sup>9</sup> into dry storage. These capsules pose a very high risk. Proposed milestone changes should be adjusted accordingly to better reflect this higher priority.
- The Board advises the TPA agencies to schedule meetings to educate the Board and the public on expectations for cleanup based on year-by-year goals and

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**7 M-016-85:** "Complete remedial actions for 300-296 Waste Site in accordance with RD/RA Work Plan for 300-FF-2 Soils (DOE/RL-2014-13-ADD1) and final disposition for the 324 Building and Ancillary Buildings in accordance with the Removal Action Work Plan (DOE/RL-2004-77)." (9/30/2021)

**8 M-016-86:** "Complete remedial actions for 618-11 Burial Ground in accordance with RD/RA Work Plan for 300-FF-2 Soils (DOE/RL-2014-13-ADD1)." (9/30/2021)

**9 M-092-05:** "Determine disposition path and establish interim Agreement Milestones for Hanford Site Cs/Sr capsules. DOE will assess the viability of direct disposal of the Hanford Cs/Sr capsules at the national high-level waste repository and provide a schedule leading to its disposition. If DOE concludes that direct disposal is a viable and preferred alternative to vitrification, DOE will submit to Ecology specific documentation justifying its conclusion, with a proposed milestone change request establishing enforceable Agreement Milestones for dispositioning Hanford Cs/Sr capsules." (06/30/2017) *NOTE: This milestone is not included in this Change Package.*

activities for the next decade and beyond. The intent is for the Board and the public to better understand the overall impact of the delays proposed in the change package and to address how DOE intends to mitigate the “bow wave” of unfunded work that has accumulated.

- The Board advises the TPA agencies to improve the public review and comment process on proposed changes to the TPA or other important cleanup actions, working closely with the HAB's Public Involvement and Communication Committee on the development of materials and presentations describing change packages.
- During future TPA Change Package comment periods, the Board advises the TPA agencies to include supplemental plain language explanations of terminology used throughout the change package in their materials, especially references to buildings, facilities, and waste sites.
- The Board advises the agencies to create materials during future TPA Change Package comment periods that make information about the following clear and accessible:
  - Rationale for the proposed changes and assumptions that were used to both necessitate the delay and support the new proposed dates;
  - Explanation of how the potential for increased risks to the environment, workers, the public, and Tribes were assessed;
  - High-level overview of all pending cleanup work at Hanford and where the proposed changes fit within completion of Hanford cleanup;
  - Impacts of the delays on estimated long-term cost increases for cleanup.

Sincerely,



Steve Hudson, Chair  
Hanford Advisory Board

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*This advice represents Board consensus for this specific topic. It should not be taken out of context to extrapolate Board agreement on other subject matters.*

cc: Jon Peschong, Co-Deputy Designated Federal Official, U.S. Department of Energy  
Richland Operations Office  
Joanne Grindstaff, Co-Deputy Designated Federal Official, U.S. Department of  
Energy Office of River Protection  
David Borak, U.S. Department of Energy, Headquarters  
The Oregon and Washington Delegations

**From:** nancy [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 26, 2016 5:52 PM

**To:** Holmes, Kristen L

**Subject:** Changes in Plans

Dear Kristen- I am always suspicious of all these change orders and changes to plans at the Hanford Nuclear site. Are there plans to back off solidifying the most radioactive wastes? I truly hope that does not happen. We citizens really have no way of knowing what is happening out there. So, we count on you in DOE to really KNOW what is being proposed and carried out. Thank you very much for your work. Our grandchildren spend some time each year downwind and in Richland so we DO have a personal interest in the safety of the site and progress being made. Thank you. Nancy [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Ms. Kristen Holmes  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550, A7-75  
Richland, WA 99352  
[Kristen.L.Holmes@rl.doe.gov](mailto:Kristen.L.Holmes@rl.doe.gov)

Dear Ms. Holmes,

Thanks you for providing the opportunity for the public to share comments on the *Proposed Changes to Hanford Central Plateau Cleanup Work and Schedule* milestone series M-015, M-016, M-085, M-037, and M-094.

Deadlines play an important role in Hanford cleanup. However, the effectiveness of those deadlines in ensuring a timely cleanup diminishes when milestones are routinely pushed back with what appears to be ease and little internal resistance. What value do these promises have when they are rarely fulfilled? That said, this is the system that was established to keep cleanup on track, and despite the moving targets, I believe that firm and realistic milestones can be used to effectively drive progress when other mechanisms are also employed to ensure accountability, including pressure from the political process, litigation, and Congressional action (including sufficient funding in the budget).

I want a cleanup in which waste is contained and isolated from spreading in the environment so that future generations are protected. If it takes additional time to achieve that end result, it is worth the time, money, and effort. This requires close monitoring and regulatory muscle to ensure that many of Hanford's unfortunately common problems such as inefficient work practices, fee structures that reward meeting milestones over quality, contractor malfeasance, reprisals against workers who raise concerns and the like are dealt with. Simplifying the justification for the proposed delays to an inadequate budget is inappropriate when so many other factors are at play.

The changes proposed by the TPA agencies in the milestone series, M-015-00 (Investigation Work on the Central Plateau), M-016-00 (Cleanup Work on the Central Plateau), M-085-00 (Canyon Cleanup), M-037-00 (Closure Requirements for Treatment, Storage, and Disposal units), and M-094-00 (Completion of 300-Area Facilities), are unprecedented. This is the first time in which the public is tasked to consider an extensive, negotiated change package to TPA Milestones that delivers only "gives," in the form of delays with no "gets" in the form of accelerated cleanup projects.

I expect the Tri-Party agencies to negotiate achievable, legally binding milestones with the intent of balancing challenges to achieve cleanup goals on schedule with the need to conduct and regulate a timely cleanup that reduces risk through remediation. I am concerned that the delays negotiated in this milestone series were too easily pushed out using insufficient funding as an excuse, rather than proposing more stringent cleanup deadlines to make the case for more funding. Hanford cleanup is not discretionary. It is a federal obligation to address the legacy of Cold War environmental contamination and honor regulatory commitments to return the site to compliance with environmental laws. I urge the TPA agencies to negotiate more stringent and robust deadlines as part of this obligation, to demonstrate the importance of this work, as Congress considers Hanford funding.

There is nothing impossible, nor impractical, about accomplishing remediation under the original TPA milestones, utilizing technology that is currently available. Hanford cleanup decisions will have impacts on people and the environment for hundreds of years to come. There is not infinite time available to contain Hanford's waste so that it is stopped from moving through the environment. Previous funding shortfalls have created a backlog of unfunded projects. Until this backlog of cleanup work is adequately

addressed, this trend will continue. The result will be exponential increases in the cost of total cleanup and increased risks from aging facilities and infrastructure. Adequate funding levels are required to avoid this budgetary and environmental crisis.

This is a particularly challenging topic on which to provide meaningful comments. It was difficult to find information that clearly explains the rationale for the changes; lays out the assumptions that were used; how risks were assessed; potential impacts to workers, tribes, and future land use; and long-term cost increases that will surely result from the proposed delays. It is unclear why the delays are needed and how public comment may be able to influence the Tri-Party Agencies in these and future negotiations.

Please consider the following as you finalize changes to the Tri-Party Agreement.

#### **General**

- Meet legal obligations by negotiating more stringent deadlines in an effort to demonstrate the priority of this work to Congress and drive adequate funding for Hanford cleanup.
- Use the Tri-Party Agreement as a tool to seek adequate resources for all proposed cleanup activities.

#### **Cleanup Budget**

- Money is not always the answer to Hanford's problems. Insufficient budget is too easily used as an excuse for not getting work done at Hanford. Share how the agencies are stewards of the taxpayer dollar; this would include discussion of budgetary shortfalls, how money is managed on site, how contractor incentives and fees work, and how improperly managed projects are penalized and held accountable.

#### **Specific Milestone Comments**

- Expedite the new M-016-250 milestone<sup>1</sup> (3/31/2016) in order to support efforts to influence the FY 2017 Federal budget planning process, show progress, keep trained crews together for remove-treat-dispose work, and to take advantage of "shovel ready work" when funding is available.
- Adjust proposed milestones to reflect an acceleration of the M-015-00 and M-016-00 milestones series which cover the investigation and remediation of non-tank farm/non-canyon waste sites located in the 200 Areas, ahead of M-085 work related to demolishing plans to demolish U Canyon and close B Pond, S Pond, and NRDWL.
- Negotiate earlier milestone dates for the cleanup of the 324 Building and underlying soil contamination.
- Keep the newly proposed milestone M-016-086 (9/30/21)<sup>2</sup> for cleanup of the 618-11 burial ground.

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<sup>1</sup> **M-016-250:** "Develop a three year rolling prioritized schedule consistent with site-wide clean-up priorities to implement waste site removal actions per Action Memoranda (DOE/RL-2009-37, DOE/RL-2009-48, and DOE/RL-2009-86). This milestone series will continue on a yearly basis to reaffirm selected sites and recommend any changes to the list, to maintain a three year rolling prioritized schedule, until such time that removal actions are completed." (3/31/2016 And Annually Thereafter)

<sup>2</sup> **M-016-86:** "Complete remedial actions for 618-11 Burial Ground in accordance with RD/RA Work Plan for 300-FF-2 Soils (DOE/RL-2014-13-ADD1)." (9/30/2021)

- Investigate PUREX tunnel risk.
- Move the Waste Encapsulation Storage Facility cesium and strontium capsules<sup>3</sup> into dry storage. These capsules pose a very high risk. Proposed milestone changes should be adjusted to better reflect this higher priority.
- Set a firm date for M-016-00. "TBD" is not acceptable.

### Public Involvement

- Include plain language simple explanations of terminology used throughout the change package, especially reference to buildings, facilities, and waste sites. This could be accomplished through a side bar index, appendix, or addendum.
- Improve on the addendum that was created for this comment period by formatting the change package milestones so that dates are formatted in the order in which work would occur.
- Share a presentation with background information about the Tri-Party Agreement and Milestones so that it is easily accessible via the web during future TPA Change Package public comment periods.
- Create more materials during Tri-Party Agreement Change Package comment periods that make information about the following clear and accessible:
  - Rationale for the proposed changes;
  - Assumptions that were used to both necessitate the delay and support the new proposed dates;
  - Explanation of how the potential for increased risks to the environment, workers, the public, and tribes were assessed;
  - Impacts of the delays on future land use;
  - High-level overview of all pending cleanup work at Hanford and where the proposed changes fit within completion of Hanford cleanup;
  - Impacts of the delays on long-term cost increases for cleanup.
- Provide increased notice in advance of public meetings, 90 day public comment periods for significant change packages, and get input on the public involvement process, materials, and meetings.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my comments.

Sincerely,  
Emily [REDACTED]

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<sup>3</sup>M-092-05: "Determine disposition path and establish interim Agreement Milestones for Hanford Site Cs/Sr capsules. DOE will assess the viability of direct disposal of the Hanford Cs/Sr capsules at the national high-level waste repository and provide a schedule leading to its disposition. If DOE concludes that direct disposal is a viable and preferred alternative to vitrification, DOE will submit to Ecology specific documentation justifying its conclusion, with a proposed milestone change request establishing enforceable Agreement Milestones for dispositioning Hanford Cs/Sr capsules." (06/30/2017) *NOTE: This milestone is not included in this Change Package.*

Dear Ms. Holmes,

Thanks you for providing the opportunity for the public to share comments on the *Proposed Changes to Hanford Central Plateau Cleanup Work and Schedule* milestone series M-015, M-016, M-085, M-037, and M-094.

Deadlines play an important role in Hanford cleanup. However, the effectiveness of those deadlines in ensuring a timely cleanup diminishes when milestones are routinely pushed back with what appears to be ease and little internal resistance. What value do these promises have when they are rarely fulfilled? That said, this is the system that was established to keep cleanup on track, and despite the moving targets, I believe that firm and realistic milestones can be used to effectively drive progress when other mechanisms are also employed to ensure accountability, including pressure from the political process, litigation, and Congressional action (including sufficient funding in the budget).

I want a cleanup in which waste is contained and isolated from spreading in the environment so that future generations are protected. If it takes additional time to achieve that end result, it is worth the time, money, and effort. This requires close monitoring and regulatory muscle to ensure that many of Hanford's unfortunately common problems such as inefficient work practices, fee structures that reward meeting milestones over quality, contractor malfeasance, reprisals against workers who raise concerns and the like are dealt with. Simplifying the justification for the proposed delays to an inadequate budget is inappropriate when so many other factors are at play.

The changes proposed by the TPA agencies in the milestone series, M-015-00 (Investigation Work on the Central Plateau), M-016-00 (Cleanup Work on the Central Plateau), M-085-00 (Canyon Cleanup), M-037-00 (Closure Requirements for Treatment, Storage, and Disposal units), and M-094-00 (Completion of 300-Area Facilities), are unprecedented. This is the first time in which the public is tasked to consider an extensive, negotiated change package to TPA Milestones that delivers only "gives," in the form of delays with no "gets" in the form of accelerated cleanup projects.

I expect the Tri-Party agencies to negotiate achievable, legally binding milestones with the intent of balancing challenges to achieve cleanup goals on schedule with the need to conduct and regulate a timely cleanup that reduces risk through remediation. I am concerned that the delays negotiated in this milestone series were too easily pushed out using insufficient funding as an excuse, rather than proposing more stringent cleanup deadlines to make the case for more funding. Hanford cleanup is not discretionary. It is a federal obligation to address the legacy of Cold War environmental contamination and honor regulatory commitments to return the site to compliance with environmental laws. I urge the TPA agencies to negotiate more stringent and robust deadlines as part of this obligation, to demonstrate the importance of this work, as Congress considers Hanford funding.

There is nothing impossible, nor impractical, about accomplishing remediation under the original TPA milestones, utilizing technology that is currently available. Hanford cleanup decisions will have impacts on people and the environment for hundreds of years to come. There is not infinite time available to contain Hanford's waste so that it is stopped from moving through the environment. Previous funding shortfalls have created a backlog of unfunded projects. Until this backlog of cleanup work is adequately addressed, this trend will continue. The result will be exponential increases in the cost of total cleanup

and increased risks from aging facilities and infrastructure. Adequate funding levels are required to avoid this budgetary and environmental crisis.

This is a particularly challenging topic on which to provide meaningful comments. It was difficult to find information that clearly explains the rationale for the changes; lays out the assumptions that were used; how risks were assessed; potential impacts to workers, tribes, and future land use; and long-term cost increases that will surely result from the proposed delays. It is unclear why the delays are needed and how public comment may be able to influence the Tri-Party Agencies in these and future negotiations.

Please consider the following as you finalize changes to the Tri-Party Agreement:

### **General**

- Meet legal obligations by negotiating more stringent deadlines in an effort to demonstrate the priority of this work to Congress and drive adequate funding for Hanford cleanup.
- Use the Tri-Party Agreement as a tool to seek adequate resources for all proposed cleanup activities.

### **Cleanup Budget**

- Money is not always the answer to Hanford's problems. Insufficient budget is too easily used as an excuse for not getting work done at Hanford. Share how the agencies are stewards of the taxpayer dollar; this would include discussion of budgetary shortfalls, how money is managed on site, how contractor incentives and fees work, and how improperly managed projects are penalized and held accountable.

### **Specific Milestone Comments**

- Expedite the new M-016-250 milestone<sup>[1]</sup> (3/31/2016) in order to support efforts to influence the FY 2017 Federal budget planning process, show progress, keep trained crews together for remove-treat-dispose work, and to take advantage of "shovel ready work" when funding is available.
- Adjust proposed milestones to reflect an acceleration of the M-015-00 and M-016-00 milestones series which cover the investigation and remediation of non-tank farm/non-canyon waste sites located in the 200 Areas, ahead of M-085 work related to demolishing plans to demolish U Canyon and close B Pond, S Pond, and NRDWL.
- Negotiate earlier milestone dates for the cleanup of the 324 Building and underlying soil contamination.
- Keep the newly proposed milestone M-016-086 (9/30/21)<sup>[2]</sup> for cleanup of the 618-11 burial ground.
- Investigate PUREX tunnel risk.

- Move the Waste Encapsulation Storage Facility cesium and strontium capsules<sup>[3]</sup> into dry storage. These capsules pose a very high risk. Proposed milestone changes should be adjusted to better reflect this higher priority.
- Set a firm date for M-016-00. "TBD" is not acceptable.

#### **Public Involvement**

- Include plain language simple explanations of terminology used throughout the change package, especially reference to buildings, facilities, and waste sites. This could be accomplished through a side bar index, appendix, or addendum.
- Improve on the addendum that was created for this comment period by formatting the change package milestones so that dates are formatted in the order in which work would occur.
- Share a presentation with background information about the Tri-Party Agreement and Milestones so that it is easily accessible via the web during future TPA Change Package public comment periods.
- Create more materials during Tri-Party Agreement Change Package comment periods that make information about the following clear and accessible:
  - Rationale for the proposed changes;
  - Assumptions that were used to both necessitate the delay and support the new proposed dates;
  - Explanation of how the potential for increased risks to the environment, workers, the public, and tribes were assessed;
  - Impacts of the delays on future land use;
  - High-level overview of all pending cleanup work at Hanford and where the proposed changes fit within completion of Hanford cleanup;
  - Impacts of the delays on long-term cost increases for cleanup.
- Provide increased notice in advance of public meetings, 90 day public comment periods for significant change packages, and get input on the public involvement process, materials, and meetings.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my comments.

Sincerely,

Pedro [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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[1] **M-016-250:** "Develop a three year rolling prioritized schedule consistent with site-wide clean-up priorities to implement waste site removal actions per Action Memoranda (DOE/RL-2009-37, DOE/RL-2009-48, and DOE/RL-2009-86). This milestone series will continue on a yearly basis to reaffirm selected sites and recommend any changes to the list, to maintain a three year rolling prioritized schedule, until such time that removal actions are completed." (3/31/2016 And Annually Thereafter)

[2] **M-016-86:** "Complete remedial actions for 618-11 Burial Ground in accordance with RD/RA Work Plan for 300-FF-2 Soils (DOE/RL-2014-13-ADD1)." (9/30/2021)

[3] **M-092-05:** "Determine disposition path and establish Interim Agreement Milestones for Hanford Site Cs/Sr capsules. DOE will assess the viability of direct disposal of the Hanford Cs/Sr capsules at the national high-level waste repository and provide a schedule leading to its disposition. If DOE concludes that direct disposal is a viable and preferred alternative to vitrification, DOE will submit to Ecology specific documentation justifying its conclusion, with a proposed milestone change request establishing enforceable Agreement Milestones for dispositioning Hanford Cs/Sr capsules." (06/30/2017) *NOTE: This milestone is not included in this Change Package.*

This note is in response to RL's recent request for additional time and taxpayer money to perform environmental cleanup of central Hanford. I will start with an apology to RL since my comments are, unfortunately, not very complimentary to them, but what I have to offer, needs to be said.

There is no question that RL's mission is a tough one, and everyone needs to do what they can to help them achieve their cleanup goals, but I believe that RL has to do a better job of helping themselves. The fact is RL's record over the years for meeting budgets and schedules has been dismal regardless of the simplicity or complexity of any particular task. In the world of private enterprise, if a management team continually demonstrates they are incapable of meeting budgets and schedules, that management team is replaced, or worse yet, the company goes out of business. Here at Hanford, when RL management continually fails to meet budgets and schedules they hold a meeting, like the recent one in November, to beg for more tax payer money and more time to do a job that is already some 20 years overdue and billions of dollars overspent. My brief experience at Hanford as a contractor identifies the major problem to be inefficiency and waste, and management that is incapable or unwilling to deal with it. There is little effort expended to reduce costs and improve schedules through implementation of a cost reduction program similar to that used by just about every private enterprise.

Assuming RL's schedule delays and budget overruns have not been intentional; the effect has, never-the-less, been favorable for the local economy but a significant liability for the rest of the nation given the Federal government's efforts to reduce deficit spending. How much longer can this be allowed to continue? A recent example of how schedule delays can result in cost overruns is apparently being played out at the 618-10 Burial Ground where Sr-90 contamination, likely from the burial ground, has apparently been spread outside the footprint of the burial ground and across Route 4N to adjoining lands. Recent wind storms are likely the culprit but the years of schedule delays in cleaning up the trenches and what I believe to be a needlessly complex process for VPU cleanup are the root causes for the contamination problem and resultant cost overruns. Hopefully this contamination has not spread south to the 1,641 acres recently transferred to the public for economic development.

Budget delays and cost overruns seem to have turned the Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) into a toothless piece of paper. Therefore, my position is simple as outlined below. Any new money/schedule agreements approved by the TPA members should be accompanied by conditions and consequences that hold RL accountable for:

- 1) Implementation of a formal cost reduction program within RL to include identification of unnecessary personnel and wasteful/inefficient practices/policies, the actions necessary to correct those conditions, the cost savings expected by correcting them and a schedule for completion/implementation of the each action item.
- 2) Implementation of the same at each of RL's contractor organizations.
- 3) Independent auditing by GAO or other independent auditing agency to verify credibility of the RL/contractor cost savings program.
- 4) Formal presentation, at each HAB meeting, of the progress made by implementing these cost reduction programs at RL and at each of the contractor organizations, and,
- 5) Replacement of management teams that demonstrate an inability or an unwillingness to get the job done.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment,

Carl [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

February 12, 2016

Ms. Kristen Holmes  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550, A7-75  
Richland, WA 99352

Dear Ms. Holmes,

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments on the *Proposed Changes to Hanford Central Plateau Cleanup Work and Schedule* milestone series M-015, M-016, M-085, M-037, and M-094.

The Hanford cleanup is incredibly complex from a political, economic, social, and technological perspective. I understand that fulfilling cleanup milestones within the context of this enormous complexity is challenging, especially when negotiating annual funding appropriations and unexpected challenges associated with the removal, treatment, and storage of waste. However, setting cleanup deadlines and meeting those commitments needs to be fundamental to the cleanup process even in the face of these inherent complexities. When cleanup milestones are continually pushed back, the Department of Energy undermines its relationship with the public. What value do cleanup milestones have when they can be changed and delayed with what seems to be little internal resistance?

As a university professor who spends my days with young people, I think about cleanup through an intergenerational lens. My priority is ensuring that Hanford's waste is contained and isolated from spreading throughout the environment to the bodies of future inhabitants of this region. I understand this containment process takes time, and I want it to be done right—so if these proposed delays were based on better implementation of containment processes or safety procedures, I could understand that. However, justifying proposed delays based on an inadequate budget is unacceptable to me. The Hanford cleanup is not discretionary. It is a federal obligation to address the legacy of Cold War environmental contamination and honor regulatory commitments to return the site to compliance with environmental laws. I therefore urge the TPA agencies to negotiate more stringent and robust deadlines to fulfill this obligation and to demonstrate the importance of this work, as Congress considers Hanford funding.

The changes proposed by the TPA agencies in the milestone series, M-015-00 (Investigation Work on the Central Plateau), M-016-00 (Cleanup Work on the Central Plateau), M-085-00 (Canyon Cleanup), M-037-00 (Closure Requirements for Treatment, Storage, and Disposal units), and M-094-00 (Completion of 300-Area Facilities), are unprecedented. This is the first time in which the public is tasked to consider an extensive, negotiated change package to TPA Milestones that delivers only “gives,” in the form of delays with no “gets” in the form of accelerated cleanup projects. I am concerned that the delays negotiated in this milestone series were too easily pushed out using insufficient funding as an excuse, rather than proposing more stringent cleanup deadlines to make the case for more funding.

There is nothing impossible, nor impractical, about accomplishing remediation goals under the original TPA milestones, utilizing technology that is currently available. Hanford cleanup decisions will have

impacts on people and the environment for hundreds of years to come. The Change Package, as written, assumes that contaminants contained in unlined trenches, in plumes of vadose zone soil and groundwater, both near-surface and deep, are going to stay put during the proposed delays. This false assumption, which is not even supported by reliable characterization data of the contents of these disposal sites, eliminates the urgency to fund this remediation work by presuming there is infinite time available to mitigate this waste moving through the environment. For over a decade, many interests at Hanford, including the Tri-Parties, have engaged in discussions in a variety of forums including the Lifecycle, Scope, Schedule, and Cost Reports<sup>4</sup>; centered on how previous funding shortfalls have created and will continue to create, a large "bow wave" of unfunded projects. Until this "bow wave" is eliminated, the result will be exponential increases in the cost of total cleanup and increased risks from aging facilities and infrastructure. Adequate funding levels are required to avoid this budgetary, and in our opinion, environmental crisis.

The public should have meaningful opportunities to influence cleanup decisions through open and transparent processes. Change Packages are particularly complex. The proposed changes are difficult for the public to understand, and without clarity, make it challenging for individuals to provide meaningful comments.

This is a particularly challenging topic on which to provide meaningful comments. I appreciate the responsive efforts to produce supplemental materials for the public on this topic, including the Addendum to the proposed changes. Terminology is overly technical and layered, requiring a great deal of translation to be coherent. It was difficult to find information that clearly explains the rationale for the changes; lays out the assumptions that were used; how risks were assessed; potential impacts to workers, tribes, and future land use; and long-term cost increases that will surely result from the proposed delays. It is unclear why the delays are needed and how public comment may be able to influence the Tri-Party Agencies in these and future negotiations.

I support the addition of the new milestone M-016-250 which aims to "develop a three year rolling prioritized schedule consistent with site-wide cleanup priorities to implement waste site removal actions." Aggressive pursuit of this milestone by the proposed March 31, 2016 deadline will help facilitate a much needed, collective understanding of FY 2017 Federal budget requirements.

Considerable cleanup is being delayed in contaminated areas such as, the investigation and remediation of non-tank farm/non-canyon waste sites in the 200 Areas, milestones M-015-00 and M-016-00. I believe this work should have higher priority than other projects such as the demolition of U Plant or closure of B Pond, S Pond or the Non-Radioactive Waste Disposal Landfill (NRDWL), included in milestone M-085-00.

I also believe that actions should be taken to expeditiously remediate the plume beneath the 324 Building and move the Waste Encapsulation Storage Facility (WESF) cesium and strontium capsules into dry storage, both of which pose very high risks. Proposed milestone changes should be adjusted to better reflect these higher priorities. The agencies should also investigate the potential risks posed by the PUREX tunnels.

Setting milestones for work described as "TBD" is not acceptable. A hard date should be chosen.

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<sup>4</sup> [http://www.hanford.gov/files.cfm/2014\\_Lifecycle\\_Report\\_DOE-RL-2013-02\\_Rev.1\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.hanford.gov/files.cfm/2014_Lifecycle_Report_DOE-RL-2013-02_Rev.1_FINAL.pdf)

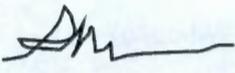
## **Change Package Comments**

- The TPA agencies should meet legal obligations by negotiating more stringent deadlines in an effort to demonstrate the priority of this work to Congress and drive adequate funding for Hanford cleanup.
- The TPA agencies should use the Tri-Party Agreement as a tool to seek adequate resources for all proposed cleanup activities.
- Money is not always the answer to Hanford's problems. Insufficient budget is too easily used as an excuse for not getting work done at Hanford. I would like the Tri-Party Agencies to have a more sophisticated conversation with the public about how the agencies are stewards of the taxpayer dollar; this would include discussion of budgetary shortfalls, how money is managed on site, how contractor incentives and fees work, and how improperly managed projects are penalized and held accountable.
- DOE should expedite the new M-016-250 milestone (3/31/2016) in order to support efforts to influence the FY 2017 Federal budget planning process, show progress, keep trained crews together for remove-treat-dispose work, and to take advantage of "shovel ready work" when funding is available.
- I would like the TPA agencies to adjust proposed milestones to reflect an acceleration of the M-015-00 and M-016-00 milestones series which cover the investigation and remediation of non-tank farm/non-canyon waste sites located in the 200 Areas, ahead of M-085 work related to demolishing plans to demolish U Canyon and close B Pond, S Pond, and NRDWL.
- I would like the TPA agencies to negotiate earlier milestone dates for the cleanup of the 324 Building and underlying soil contamination.
- I support the newly proposed milestone M-016-086 (9/30/21) for cleanup of the 618-11 burial ground.
- I recommend that the TPA agencies to investigate PUREX tunnel risk.
- The Waste Encapsulation Storage Facility cesium and strontium capsules should be moved into dry storage. These capsules pose a very high risk. Proposed milestone changes should be adjusted to better reflect this higher priority.
- Set a firm date for the M-016-00 Milestone. "TBD" is unacceptable.
- I would like to see future TPA Change package materials include plain language simple explanations of terminology used throughout the change package, especially reference to buildings, facilities, and waste sites. This could be accomplished through a side bar index, appendix, or addendum.

- I would like to see more tools created during Tri-Party Agreement Change Package comment periods that make information about the following clear and accessible, such as:
  - Rationale for the proposed changes;
  - Assumptions that were used to both necessitate the delay and support the new proposed dates;
  - Explanation of how the potential for increased risks to the environment, workers, the public, and tribes were assessed;
  - Impacts of the delays on future land use;
  - High-level overview of all pending cleanup work at Hanford and where the proposed changes fit within completion of Hanford cleanup;
  - Impacts of the delays on long-term cost increases for cleanup.
  
- During future TPA Change Package public comment periods, I would like the agencies to provide increased notice in advance of public meetings, 90 day public comment periods, and conversations with the Hanford Advisory Board, stakeholders, and tribes to get input on the public involvement process, materials, and meetings.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my comments.

Sincerely,



Shannon [redacted]

[redacted]  
[redacted]  
[redacted]

From: Beth [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 8:35 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Don't delay the Hanford cleanup!

Changing the TPA is Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I'm writing you today because I am affected Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I live in Hood River and swim in the Columbia, downstream from Hanford. I support deadlines that will prevent further river and groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays could harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach. I've paddled on the Hanford Reach and it's a beautiful stretch of river worth protecting from further degradation.

It is not acceptable to defer Central Plateau soil cleanup from 2024 to an unknown date more than 20 years away. The unlined trenches in Hanford's Central Plateau contain dangerous pollution. Delaying soil cleanup increases the potential for contamination to reach groundwater and ultimately reach the Columbia River. Furthermore, Washington State and Governor Inslee have repeatedly stated that having enforceable schedules is a firm requirement. The State should therefore reject replacing the 2024 deadline with a date "to be determined."

The cleanup delays proposed for the 324 building, although not as long, still pose increased risk to human health and the environment. Being located close to the river, unforeseen events such as extreme weather, failing building infrastructure and earthquakes could jeopardize the health of workers, the public, and the environment by mobilizing contamination close to the Columbia River.

Specifically, I urge you to:

- Set and keep a firm deadline for cleanup of the Central Plateau--"TBD" is irresponsible and unacceptable.
- Investigate or start removing the radioactive waste stored in Hanford's unlined trenches by 2020 so we decrease the chance of more contamination reaching groundwater.
- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

What happens in the Central Plateau, doesn't stay in the Central Plateau. Every delay means more contamination gets into the groundwater from toxic burial grounds. Since the groundwater is moving toward the Columbia River, a 10 year delay increases the likelihood of radioactive and chemical wastes reaching the River. The same logic can be applied to the delays happening for the 618-11 burial ground and the 324 building, some of the most dangerous and toxic sites located near the river. We work, live, play and eat fish from the Columbia River and protecting it should be the highest priority.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Beth [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: David [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2016 9:37 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford

Dear Ms. Skopeck,

I would like to add my support for Heart of America Northwest's complaint regarding the USDOE Proposed Agreement on Hanford Cleanup Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) Changes. I am very concerned that this change will adversely effect our states attempts to clean up the Hanford site and prevent the further contamination of our precious water systems.

I've quoted from the comment letter below.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this important matter.

Sincerely,

David [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

> Heart of America Northwest's and Heart of America Northwest Research Center's Comments on Washington State Ecology – USDOE Proposed Agreement on Hanford Cleanup Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) Changes, Which Fail to Provide Firm Treatment Deadlines for Illegally Stored Mixed Wastes and Would Delay Retrieval of Transuranic Mixed Hazardous Wastes by 10 Years under TPA Milestone M-091  
>

>> In the past, Washington State has joined our organizations in objecting to USDOE plans based on illegal long-term storage of mixed transuranic and hazardous wastes on the Hanford site without the legally required characterization and treatment of those wastes – even if they are eventually, hoped for, and intended to be disposed in the USDOE's underground WIPP facility in New Mexico.

>

> The proposed agreement appears to be based on plans which are at odds with Washington State's longstanding concerns and related positions.

>

> It is possible to treat and retrieve waste at a much faster pace, instead of delaying the milestone for retrieving waste from unlined trenches by ten years; and, instead of allowing USDOE to propose when it will obtain or build treatment capacity for illegally stored wastes based on USDOE's internal budget and other priorities.

>

> It is surprising that Washington State would agree to this latter approach for TRU wastes since: a) Washington already won a federal court decision requiring that "Mixed" hazardous and TRU wastes stored for any length of time at Hanford must be treated to avoid safety risks, even if the wastes would eventually be disposed at WIPP; and, b) Washington State just won a significant federal court decision rejecting USDOE's approach to allow USDOE to propose milestones for when it would build treatment facilities for tank wastes based on USDOE's internal budgeting and other priorities.

>

> Therefore, the proposal should be replaced with milestones to require shipment or treatment as fast as is possible, utilizing expanded commercial treatment and firm enforceable deadlines for building other treatment capacity (just as Washington just won the right to require for tank waste treatment).

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 14, 2016 4:38 PM  
**To:** Holmes, Kristen L  
**Subject:** Hanford Central Plateau Cleanup Work and Schedule

Since my dad worked for the ABCC in Nagasaki 1949-1951 I was aware of Hanford for many decades and he visited there once or twice when he visited me, here in White Salmon, WA. Unfortunately, I kept my head in the sand as to the state of the site. After finally attending a public meeting in Hood River I am appalled at the state of the clean-up.

While I applaud the containment that has happened, and I understand that you need more funding. This delay of start while you delay the plan completion seems like a recipe for DISASTER! We were told that you wanted to "get it right the first time" so more time was needed to tweek the plan but the aging infrastructure as well as the proximity in fault lines is beyond worrisome. Indeed, earthquakes are increasingly common in areas not previously seen. It is time to put up an emergency containment system BEFORE a final plan is completed! Start it NOW! That way if there is a leak due to infrastructure failure or other reason at least the spread can be slowed while final plans and construction can be completed. When this inevitable leak happens then hopefully the funding will follow!

Be HEROS, take the risk to make the steps necessary to prevent widespread ruining the health & life of flora & fauna & ecosystems, current and future!

Caroline [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**From:** Patricia [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 08, 2016 3:49 PM  
**To:** Holmes, Kristen L  
**Subject:** Hanford clean up

Please do not extend the dead line for the clean up to a "time to be determined". This is unacceptable!  
Sincerely, Patricia [REDACTED] State of Washington resident.

From: James [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 25, 2016 7:28 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford cleanup

It's more than about time to push this project through to completion.  
Delaying tactics cost more than the cost of pushing it harder.  
jim b

~~~~~  
James [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
~~~~~

**From:** Karen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 31, 2016 2:18 PM  
**To:** Holmes, Kristen L  
**Subject:** Hanford clean-up

To whom it concerns,

I have recently learned about proposed changes to the Tri-Party Agreement that would eliminate the deadline for cleaning up the 43 miles of unlined trenches on the Central Plateau. This troubles me. It seems to me that, if there is no deadline, there is a good chance that that work will not be done for several decades, and maybe never. I consider it very important that the clean-up proceed as scheduled to protect the ground water, the Columbia River and to prevent the danger of explosions which would further spread contamination. It seems to me that if the federal government can conjure up 11 trillion dollars to bail out the banks, they can afford to clean up the contamination they have created at Hanford. Please do not eliminate the deadline.

Thank-you

Stephen [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Jennifer [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 3:20 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Changes

Tri-Party Agencies,

I am writing due to the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will increase the cost of cleanup, and the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup action. These delays could harm our health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach.

It is not acceptable to defer Central Plateau soil cleanup from 2024 to an unknown date which will take longer than 20 years. The unlined trenches in Hanford's Central Plateau contain dangerous pollution. Delaying soil cleanup will increase the potential for contamination to reach groundwater and ultimately reach the Columbia River. Washington State and Governor Inslee have repeatedly stated that having enforceable schedules is a firm requirement. The State must reject replacing the 2024 deadline with a date "to be determined."

The cleanup delays proposed for the 324 building, although not as long, still pose increased risk to our health and the environment. Being located close to the river, unforeseen events such as extreme weather, failing building infrastructure and earthquakes could jeopardize the health of workers, the public, and the environment by mobilizing contamination close to the Columbia River.

I urge you to:

- Set and keep a firm deadline for cleanup of the Central Plateau--"TBD" is irresponsible and unacceptable.
- Investigate or start removing the radioactive waste stored in Hanford's unlined trenches by 2020 to decrease the chance of more contamination reaching groundwater.
- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Sincerely,

Jennifer [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: naomi [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, February 04, 2016 10:32 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

**Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!**

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I'm writing you today because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays could harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach.

It is not acceptable to defer Central Plateau soil cleanup from 2024 to an unknown date which will now take longer than 20 years. The unlined trenches in Hanford's Central Plateau contain dangerous pollution. Delaying soil cleanup will increase the potential for contamination to reach groundwater and ultimately reach the Columbia River. Furthermore, Washington State and Governor Inslee have repeatedly stated that having enforceable schedules is a firm requirement. The State should therefore reject replacing the 2024 deadline with a date "to be determined."

The cleanup delays proposed for the 324 building, although not as long, still pose increased risk to human health and the environment. Being located close to the river, unforeseen events such as extreme weather, failing building infrastructure and earthquakes could jeopardize the health of workers, the public, and the environment by mobilizing contamination close to the Columbia River.

Specifically, I urge you to:

- Set and keep a firm deadline for cleanup of the Central Plateau--"TBD" is irresponsible and unacceptable.
- Investigate or start removing the radioactive waste stored in Hanford's unlined trenches by 2020 so we decrease the chance of more contamination reaching groundwater.
- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

naomi [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Dianne [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2016 11:52 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopec@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopec@ri.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I'm writing you because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays could harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach.

It is not acceptable to defer Central Plateau soil cleanup from 2024 to an unknown date which will now take longer than 20 years. The unlined trenches in Hanford's Central Plateau contain dangerous pollution. Delaying soil cleanup will increase the potential for contamination to reach groundwater and ultimately reach the Columbia River. Furthermore, Washington State and Governor Inslee have repeatedly stated that having enforceable schedules is a firm requirement. The State should therefore reject replacing the 2024 deadline with a date "to be determined."

The cleanup delays proposed for the 324 building, although not as long, still pose increased risk to human health and the environment. Being located close to the river, unforeseen events such as extreme weather, failing building infrastructure and earthquakes could jeopardize the health of workers, the public, and the environment by mobilizing contamination close to the Columbia River.

Specifically, I urge you to:

- Set and keep a firm deadline for cleanup of the Central Plateau--"TBD" is irresponsible and unacceptable.
- Investigate or start removing the radioactive waste stored in Hanford's unlined trenches by 2020 so we decrease the chance of more contamination reaching groundwater.
- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

This is a very important issue to me and I thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Dianne [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Sarah [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, February 03, 2016 11:29 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopec@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopec@ri.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I'm writing you today because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays could harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach.

It is not acceptable to defer Central Plateau soil cleanup from 2024 to an unknown date which will now take longer than 20 years. The unlined trenches in Hanford's Central Plateau contain dangerous pollution. Delaying soil cleanup will increase the potential for contamination to reach groundwater and ultimately reach the Columbia River. Furthermore, Washington State and Governor Inslee have repeatedly stated that having enforceable schedules is a firm requirement. The State should therefore reject replacing the 2024 deadline with a date "to be determined."

The cleanup delays proposed for the 324 building, although not as long, still pose increased risk to human health and the environment. Being located close to the river, unforeseen events such as extreme weather, failing building infrastructure and earthquakes could jeopardize the health of workers, the public, and the environment by mobilizing contamination close to the Columbia River.

Specifically, I urge you to:

- Set and keep a firm deadline for cleanup of the Central Plateau--"TBD" is irresponsible and unacceptable.
- Investigate or start removing the radioactive waste stored in Hanford's unlined trenches by 2020 so we decrease the chance of more contamination reaching groundwater.
- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Sarah [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: jeff [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, February 02, 2016 12:29 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

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jeff [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Sharon [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 8:21 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Sharon [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Rebecca [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, February 01, 2016 2:30 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Rebecca [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Judy [REDACTED]  
Sent: Sunday, January 31, 2016 5:40 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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- Investigate or start removing the radioactive waste stored in Hanford's unlined trenches by 2020 so we decrease the chance of more contamination reaching groundwater.
- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building.

The Hanford Reserve is becoming a National Park, which is all the more reason to not postpone this clean up.

Judy [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Gregory [REDACTED]  
Sent: Sunday, January 31, 2016 3:32 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Gregory [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Bonnie [REDACTED]  
Sent: Sunday, January 31, 2016 12:20 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I am writing to urge you in the strongest possible way to stay with the deadlines currently specified in the TPA for addressing the cleanup at Hanford. Cleanup has been delayed far too long already, and pushing back deadlines further is completely unacceptable.

I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays could harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach.

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Bonnie [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Sandra [REDACTED]  
Sent: Sunday, January 31, 2016 10:20 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Sandra [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: David and Ann [REDACTED]  
Sent: Saturday, January 30, 2016 7:36 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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David and Ann [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: John [REDACTED]  
Sent: Saturday, January 30, 2016 5:46 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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John [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Robyn & Mike [REDACTED]  
Sent: Saturday, January 30, 2016 4:46 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

As a resident of Portland, OR, I was shocked to learn about the Hanford pollution so close to the Columbia River. I am concerned for the fish, wildlife and humans that rely on clean water. I fear for my children's future.

I'm writing you today because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Robyn & Mike [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

From: Larry [REDACTED]  
Sent: Saturday, January 30, 2016 2:41 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Larry [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: bj [REDACTED]  
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2016 7:11 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

bj [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Betty [REDACTED]  
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2016 5:28 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Betty [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Hal [REDACTED]  
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2016 5:10 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I do not support proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes that delay cleanup(s) on further groundwater contamination. We need protection NOW for children and future generations from ongoing nuclear waste pollution.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are far too long. They will increase all costs of cleanup, but worse will endanger more children!

It is not acceptable to defer Central Plateau soil cleanup from 2024 to an unknown date which will now take longer than 20 years. I would drive, camp, and join protesters of this immoral delay, for as long as it takes, to force decision makers to actually appear to care. You know the facts, and they are all indescribably bad for water, right now.

Only the cleanup delays proposed for the 324 building are reasonable, yet they, too, still pose increased risk to human health and the environment. Being located close to the river, unforeseen events such as extreme weather, failing building infrastructure and earthquakes could jeopardize the health of workers, the public, and the environment by mobilizing contamination close to the Columbia River.

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Hal [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Dell [REDACTED]  
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2016 5:01 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I'm writing you today because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays could harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach.

It is not acceptable to defer Central Plateau soil cleanup from 2024 to an unknown date which will now take longer than 20 years. The unlined trenches in Hanford's Central Plateau contain dangerous pollution. Delaying soil cleanup will increase the potential for contamination to reach groundwater and ultimately reach the Columbia River. Furthermore, Washington State and Governor Inslee have repeatedly stated that having enforceable schedules is a firm requirement. The State should therefore reject replacing the 2024 deadline with a date "to be determined."

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Specifically, I urge you to:

- Set and keep a firm deadline for cleanup of the Central Plateau--"TBD" is irresponsible and unacceptable.
- Investigate or start removing the radioactive waste stored in Hanford's unlined trenches by 2020 so we decrease the chance of more contamination reaching groundwater.
- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Dell [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Barb [REDACTED]  
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2016 4:24 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopec@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopec@rl.doe.gov)

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Barb [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: James [REDACTED]  
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2016 4:15 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

James [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Aaron [REDACTED]  
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2016 4:08 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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It is not acceptable to defer Central Plateau soil cleanup from 2024 to an unknown date which will now take longer than 20 years. The unlined trenches in Hanford's Central Plateau contain dangerous pollution. Delaying soil cleanup will increase the potential for contamination to reach groundwater and ultimately reach the Columbia River. Furthermore, Washington State and Governor Inslee have repeatedly stated that having enforceable schedules is a firm requirement. The State should therefore reject replacing the 2024 deadline with a date "to be determined."

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- Investigate or start removing the radioactive waste stored in Hanford's unlined trenches by 2020 so we decrease the chance of more contamination reaching groundwater.
- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Aaron [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Ron [REDACTED]  
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2016 3:57 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays could harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach.

It is not acceptable to defer Central Plateau soil cleanup from 2024 to an unknown date which will now take longer than 20 years. The unlined trenches in Hanford's Central Plateau contain dangerous pollution. Delaying soil cleanup will increase the potential for contamination to reach groundwater and ultimately reach the Columbia River. Furthermore, Washington State and Governor Inslee have repeatedly stated that having enforceable schedules is a firm requirement. The State should therefore reject replacing the 2024 deadline with a date "to be determined."

The cleanup delays proposed for the 324 building, although not as long, still pose increased risk to human health and the environment. Being located close to the river, unforeseen events such as extreme weather, failing building infrastructure and earthquakes could jeopardize the health of workers, the public, and the environment by mobilizing contamination close to the Columbia River.

Specifically, I urge you to:

- Set and keep a firm deadline for cleanup of the Central Plateau--"TBD" is irresponsible and unacceptable.
- Investigate or start removing the radioactive waste stored in Hanford's unlined trenches by 2020 so we decrease the chance of more contamination reaching groundwater.
- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Ron [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Margaret [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 26, 2016 2:27 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I'm writing you today because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays could harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach.

It is not acceptable to defer Central Plateau soil cleanup from 2024 to an unknown date which will now take longer than 20 years. The unlined trenches in Hanford's Central Plateau contain dangerous pollution. Delaying soil cleanup will increase the potential for contamination to reach groundwater and ultimately reach the Columbia River. Furthermore, Washington State and Governor Inslee have repeatedly stated that having enforceable schedules is a firm requirement. The State should therefore reject replacing the 2024 deadline with a date "to be determined."

The cleanup delays proposed for the 324 building, although not as long, still pose increased risk to human health and the environment. Being located close to the river, unforeseen events such as extreme weather, failing building infrastructure and earthquakes could jeopardize the health of workers, the public, and the environment by mobilizing contamination close to the Columbia River.

Specifically, I urge you to:

- Set and keep a firm deadline for cleanup of the Central Plateau--"TBD" is irresponsible and unacceptable.
- Investigate or start removing the radioactive waste stored in Hanford's unlined trenches by 2020 so we decrease the chance of more contamination reaching groundwater.
- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Margaret [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Joe [REDACTED]  
Sent: Sunday, January 24, 2016 8:28 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopec@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopec@rl.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I'm writing you today because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

The delays continue to harm human health and the environment.

It is not acceptable to defer Central Plateau soil cleanup from 2024 to an unknown date which will now take longer than 20 years. The unlined trenches in Hanford's Central Plateau contain dangerous pollution.

Tests in the Columbia River consistently return many multiples of the maximum allowable contamination of many materials and people are eating this and our environment is suffering.

Washington State and Governor Inslee have repeatedly stated that having enforceable schedules is a firm requirement. The State should therefore reject replacing the 2024 deadline.

Cleanup delays proposed for the 324 building, also pose increased risk to human health and the environment. Stop the delays.

I urge you to:

- Set and keep a firm deadline for cleanup of the Central Plateau-- ("TBD" is irresponsible and unacceptable.)
- Start removing the radioactive waste stored in Hanford's unlined trenches by 2020 so we stop the chance of more contamination.
- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Joe [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Olivia [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, January 20, 2016 9:20 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I'm writing you today because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays could harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach.

It is not acceptable to defer Central Plateau soil cleanup from 2024 to an unknown date which will now take longer than 20 years. The unlined trenches in Hanford's Central Plateau contain dangerous pollution. Delaying soil cleanup will increase the potential for contamination to reach groundwater and ultimately reach the Columbia River. Furthermore, Washington State and Governor Inslee have repeatedly stated that having enforceable schedules is a firm requirement. The State should therefore reject replacing the 2024 deadline with a date "to be determined."

The cleanup delays proposed for the 324 building, although not as long, still pose increased risk to human health and the environment. Being located close to the river, unforeseen events such as extreme weather, failing building infrastructure and earthquakes could jeopardize the health of workers, the public, and the environment by mobilizing contamination close to the Columbia River.

Specifically, I urge you to:

- Set and keep a firm deadline for cleanup of the Central Plateau--"TBD" is irresponsible and unacceptable.
- Investigate or start removing the radioactive waste stored in Hanford's unlined trenches by 2020 so we decrease the chance of more contamination reaching groundwater.
- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Olivia [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Sigrid [REDACTED]  
Sent: Sunday, January 17, 2016 3:12 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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I'm writing you today because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

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- Set and keep a firm deadline for cleanup of the Central Plateau--"TBD" is irresponsible and unacceptable.
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- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Sigrid [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Carhy [REDACTED]  
Sent: Saturday, January 16, 2016 10:41 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopec@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopec@rl.doe.gov)

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Carhy [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Katharine [REDACTED]  
Sent: Saturday, January 16, 2016 10:43 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Katharine [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Dennis [REDACTED]  
Sent: Friday, January 15, 2016 11:06 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Dennis [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Madelein [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2016 4:44 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Madelein [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Katherine [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2016 10:16 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Katherine [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: fred [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2016 8:16 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I'm writing you today because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays could harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach.

It is not acceptable to defer Central Plateau soil cleanup from 2024 to an unknown date which will now take longer than 20 years. The unlined trenches in Hanford's Central Plateau contain dangerous pollution. Delaying soil cleanup will increase the potential for contamination to reach groundwater and ultimately reach the Columbia River. Furthermore, Washington State and Governor Inslee have repeatedly stated that having enforceable schedules is a firm requirement. The State should therefore reject replacing the 2024 deadline with a date "to be determined."

The cleanup delays proposed for the 324 building, although not as long, still pose increased risk to human health and the environment. Being located close to the river, unforeseen events such as extreme weather, failing building infrastructure and earthquakes could jeopardize the health of workers, the public, and the environment by mobilizing contamination close to the Columbia River.

Specifically, I urge you to:

- Set and keep a firm deadline for cleanup of the Central Plateau--"TBD" is irresponsible and unacceptable.
- Investigate or start removing the radioactive waste stored in Hanford's unlined trenches by 2020 so we decrease the chance of more contamination reaching groundwater.
- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

fred [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Chris [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2016 4:17 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I'm writing you today because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

I live in the Columbia River bioregion with our relatives the birds, plants, fish and animals. The government funded by the taxpayer made the mess; the government funded by the taxpayer must clean it up.

Chris [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

From: Gisela [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2016 6:40 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

I am really concerned about the negative effects of more and more delays to the clean-up. Please show some urgency for solving this mess!

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Gisela [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Sandra & Tom [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2016 6:08 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Sandra & Tom [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Sammy [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2016 5:00 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Sammy [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Sandra [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2016 4:55 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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My family has been downwind since 1950. My father, my mother my sister and I have had cancer. My father died of his, I have survived breast cancer so far but also have a form of lymphoma that can be controlled, but not cured. Of course we cannot tell exactly the role Hanford has had in this...but it certainly did not help anything. A family friend who worked there died of Leukemia. Naturally no one claims responsibility for his illness.

These things should not happen, especially because the government continues to goof around with this. I'm sure if any of us could afford to buy a politician it could be handled quickly.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Sandra [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: connie [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2016 2:05 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopec@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopec@rl.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

connie [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Duane [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2016 11:43 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I'm writing you today because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution. When our architectural firm designed the Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory (EMSL) for DOE/PNNL in the 1970's the goal was to move quickly in finding solutions to remove/protect the radioactive and toxic waste materials stored at Hanford. We are now about 35 years later and the delays continue.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays could harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach.

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities. As the President addressed in his State of the Union speech last night, America needs to resolve many of the unresolved

issues that government has been relaxed on, and Hanford's cleanup is a major "cancer" in the DOE record book. Quick resolution of this major treat to our public safety is a must.

Duane [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Nicholas [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2016 11:43 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Nicholas [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Nadine [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 10:07 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

Ms. Kristen Skopeck  
U.S Department of Energy  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box, MSIN A7-75  
Richland, WA 99352

I AM 77. AND I AM A HANFORD DOWNWINDER.  
I HAD SECRET RADIOACTIVE IODINE RELEASES FROM HANFORD WHEN I WAS A CHILD AND I HAVE HAD TO DEAL WITH MANY NEGATIVE RESULTS MY WHOLE LIFE, AS HAVE MANY OF THE OTHER KIDS I GREW UP WITH. SOME ARE DEAD AS A RESULT OF IT - ONE IS PRESENTLY HANGING ON IN THE HOSPITAL AND FACING 3-DAYS PER WEEK ON KIDNEY DIALYSIS.

DON'T LET THIS NEGLECT GO ON ANY LONGER! I WOULDN'T WISH THESE DOWNWINDER PROBLEMS ON ANYONE.

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Nadine [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Craig [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 8:17 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Craig [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Sherry [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 4:32 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Sherry [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Jane Camero [mailto:janeo@gorge.net]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 4:32 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Jane [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Bruce [REDACTED] & Kathy [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 4:16 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I'm writing you today because I live along the Columbia River, and am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays could harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those of us who live, recreate and fish along the Columbia River.

It is not acceptable to defer Central Plateau soil cleanup from 2024 to an unknown date which will now take longer than 20 years. The unlined trenches in Hanford's Central Plateau contain dangerous pollution. Delaying soil cleanup will increase the potential for contamination to reach groundwater and ultimately reach the Columbia River. Furthermore, Washington State and Governor Inslee have repeatedly stated that having enforceable schedules is a firm requirement. The State should therefore reject replacing the 2024 deadline with a date "to be determined."

The cleanup delays proposed for the 324 building, although not as long, still pose increased risk to human health and the environment. Being located close to the river, unforeseen events such as extreme weather, failing building infrastructure and earthquakes could jeopardize the health of workers, the public, and the environment by mobilizing contamination close to the Columbia River.

Specifically, I urge you to:

- Set and keep a firm deadline for cleanup of the Central Plateau--"TBD" is irresponsible and unacceptable.
- Investigate or start removing the radioactive waste stored in Hanford's unlined trenches by 2020 so we decrease the chance of more contamination reaching groundwater.
- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Bruce [REDACTED] & Kathy [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Nancy [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 12:37 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopec@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopec@ri.doe.gov)

**Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!**

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I'm writing you today because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays could harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach.

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- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Nancy [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Nora [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 11:28 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopec@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopec@rl.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I'm writing you today because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays could harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach.

It is not acceptable to defer Central Plateau soil cleanup from 2024 to an unknown date which will now take longer than 20 years. The unlined trenches in Hanford's Central Plateau contain dangerous pollution. Delaying soil cleanup will increase the potential for contamination to reach groundwater and ultimately reach the Columbia River. Furthermore, Washington State and Governor Inslee have repeatedly stated that having enforceable schedules is a firm requirement. The State should therefore reject replacing the 2024 deadline with a date "to be determined."

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- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Nora [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Mark [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, December 23, 2015 12:32 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I'm writing you today because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays could harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach.

It is not acceptable to defer Central Plateau soil cleanup from 2024 to an unknown date which will now take longer than 20 years. The unlined trenches in Hanford's Central Plateau contain dangerous pollution. Delaying soil cleanup will increase the potential for contamination to reach groundwater and ultimately reach the Columbia River. Furthermore, Washington State and Governor Inslee have repeatedly stated that having enforceable schedules is a firm requirement. The State should therefore reject replacing the 2024 deadline with a date "to be determined."

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Specifically, I urge you to:

- Set and keep a firm deadline for cleanup of the Central Plateau--"TBD" is irresponsible and unacceptable.
- Investigate or start removing the radioactive waste stored in Hanford's unlined trenches by 2020 so we decrease the chance of more contamination reaching groundwater.
- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Mark [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Sigrid [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, December 22, 2015 3:04 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I'm writing you today because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I absolutely support mandatory deadlines that we must have in order to prevent still further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

Do not risk making the waters of the Columbia still more radioactive by postponing meaningful, decades-overdue cleanup action. Washington State does not need to add more radioactivity to the Columbia, which essentially flows right by the underground plume of Hanford's radioactive waste,

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays could harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach.

These delays are unconscionable.

It is not acceptable to defer Central Plateau soil cleanup from 2024 to an unknown date which will now take longer than 20 years. The unlined trenches in Hanford's Central Plateau contain dangerous pollution. Delaying soil cleanup will increase the potential for contamination to reach groundwater and ultimately reach the Columbia River.

Furthermore, Washington State and Governor Inslee have repeatedly stated that having enforceable schedules is a firm requirement. The State should therefore reject replacing the 2024 deadline with a date "to be determined."

The cleanup delays proposed for the 324 building, although not as long, still pose increased risk to human health and the environment. Being located close to the river, unforeseen events such as extreme weather, failing building infrastructure and earthquakes could jeopardize the health of workers, the public, and the environment by mobilizing contamination close to the Columbia River.

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- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Sigrid [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: connie [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, December 21, 2015 1:17 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I'm writing you today because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays could harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach.

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- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

connie [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Anthony [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, December 21, 2015 12:51 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Anthony [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Bruce [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, December 21, 2015 9:53 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Bruce [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Marianne [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, December 21, 2015 8:30 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopec@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopec@rl.doe.gov)

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I'm writing you today because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Marianne [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Catherine [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 11:12 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I have observed cleanup delays, deceit, and arguably fraud for more than half a century! I'm writing you today because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays could harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach.

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- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

There really is no good excuse nor good reason to delay cleaning up a deadly mess that is spreading as you read this! Get on it!

Catherine [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

From: john [REDACTED]  
Sent: Saturday, January 30, 2016 8:42 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

john [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Mary [REDACTED]  
Sent: Saturday, January 30, 2016 8:41 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopec@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopec@rl.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

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- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Mary [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Lynn [REDACTED]  
Sent: Saturday, January 30, 2016 4:27 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

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- Investigate or start removing the radioactive waste stored in Hanford's unlined trenches by 2020 so we decrease the chance of more contamination reaching groundwater.
- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Lynn [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: naomi [REDACTED]  
Sent: Saturday, January 30, 2016 12:11 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I'm writing you today because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays could harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach.

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

naomi [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: C. William [REDACTED]  
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2016 8:47 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I'm writing you today because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays could harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach.

It is not acceptable to defer Central Plateau soil cleanup from 2024 to an unknown date which will now take longer than 20 years. The unlined trenches in Hanford's Central Plateau contain dangerous pollution. Delaying soil cleanup will increase the potential for contamination to reach groundwater and ultimately reach the Columbia River. Furthermore, Washington State and Governor Inslee have repeatedly stated that having enforceable schedules is a firm requirement. The State should therefore reject replacing the 2024 deadline with a date "to be determined."

The cleanup delays proposed for the 324 building, although not as long, still pose increased risk to human health and the environment. Being located close to the river, unforeseen events such as extreme weather, failing building infrastructure and earthquakes could jeopardize the health of workers, the public, and the environment by mobilizing contamination close to the Columbia River.

Specifically, I urge you to:

- Set and keep a firm deadline for cleanup of the Central Plateau--"TBD" is irresponsible and unacceptable.
- Investigate or start removing the radioactive waste stored in Hanford's unlined trenches by 2020 so we decrease the chance of more contamination reaching groundwater.
- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

C. William [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Lehman [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 10:25 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I've visited the Hanford area and am aghast at the lack of progress being made in the cleanup. I'm writing you today because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays could harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach.

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Lehman [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: William [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 10:22 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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William [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Dean [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 10:17 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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I'm writing you today because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

We have been delaying these necessary, critical operations for years. I worked as a technical writer on moving nuclear waste from single-walled to double-walled tanks on tank farm C (I think) over 20 years ago. Even that was acknowledged to be a short-term "fix" that would not prevent these toxic wastes from eventually infiltrating the Columbia River.

The lack of urgency then and now astounds me. We could lose, essentially for all time from our perspective, the Columbia River's final 200 miles, contaminating wildlife, making life tenuous for downstream residents, and destroying a God-given resource. This has to count for something, or we will devastate this bounty before our grandchildren ever get to know what they lost.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays could harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach.

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Specifically, I urge you to:

- Set and keep a firm deadline for cleanup of the Central Plateau--"TBD" is irresponsible and unacceptable. Time is of the essence. We wouldn't let a leak in our basement go this long unchecked.

- Investigate or start removing the radioactive waste stored in Hanford's unlined trenches by 2020 so we decrease the chance of more contamination reaching groundwater.
- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Dean [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Richard [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 10:15 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Richard [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Joana [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 10:14 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Joana [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Katherine [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 10:07 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Katherine [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Martha [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 9:46 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Martha [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Janiece [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 9:04 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopec@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopec@rl.doe.gov)

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Janiece [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Barbara [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 8:14 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Barbara [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Margaret [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 8:05 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Margaret [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Eric [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 8:00 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Eric [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Jeanne [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 7:30 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Jeanne [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Jan [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 7:06 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Jan [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Melody [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 7:06 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I'm writing you today because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

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Melody [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Elizabeth [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 6:39 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Elizabeth [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: James [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 6:11 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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James [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Stephen [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 4:02 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopec@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopec@ri.doe.gov)

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Stephen [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Marty [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 1:51 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Marty [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Laura [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 12, 2016 12:11 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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I attended a recent hearing here in Portland regarding these delays and listened to US DOE, EPA and WA DOE state that the main challenge of the cleanup is not having enough money. I've since learned from a little research that the billions spent on the cleanup, has not been well spent—corrupt and bumbling contractors, and poor worker safety. Delayed deadlines are not the answer to deep seated problems with how the cleanup is run. Please try and do all you can to maintain these cleanup deadlines and if not be honest about why they aren't being kept and what we can do about that.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays could harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach.

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Laura [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Philip [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 11:49 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Philip [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Steve [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 11:40 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Steve [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Dawn [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 11:21 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Dawn [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Brent [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 11:10 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Brent [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Michael [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 10:20 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Michael [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Jeffrey [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 10:17 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Jeffrey [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Pamela [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 9:58 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Pamela [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Teresa [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 9:41 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
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via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Specifically, I urge you to:

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- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Teresa [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Dani [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 9:29 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

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This should have been taken care of years ago, and every second it causes unrecoverable human and environmental damage re the fish, the river. Radioactivity is one of the most dangerous pollutants. It is a crime that this has been dragged out for so many years. Please step up the process to save us all.

Thank you

Dani [REDACTED]

From: Sandra [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 9:04 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Sandra [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: miriam [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 8:23 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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miriam [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Chris [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 8:11 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Chris [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Scott & Joan [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 8:06 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Scott & Joan [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Heather [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 8:02 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Heather [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Ted [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 7:52 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Ted [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Marion [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 7:29 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Marion [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Basey [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 7:20 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Basey [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Paul & Susan [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 7:09 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Paul & Susan [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Janet [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 7:08 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Janet [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Susanna [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 7:00 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Susanna [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Gene & Jeannie [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 6:42 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Gene & Jeannie [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: J Angell [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 6:31 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

J Angell  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Nick [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 6:29 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Nick [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Deborah [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 6:08 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Deborah [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Diana [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 6:07 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Diana [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Janelle [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 6:04 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Janelle [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: blayney [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 5:57 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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blayney [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Ann [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 5:52 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes in the clean up plan for Hanford. How long must we wait to have this toxic time-bomb defused?

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Ann [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Marc [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 5:50 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Marc [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Ceiridwen [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 5:45 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Ceiridwen [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Richard [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 5:44 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Richard [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Lawrence [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 5:42 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Lawrence [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Linda [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 5:41 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Linda [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Winston [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 5:36 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Winston [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Adina [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 5:35 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Adina [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: John [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 5:33 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

John [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: John & Polly [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 5:29 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I know how important it is for Washington's economy to NEVER CLEAN UP HANFORD, but still. It's the right thing to do. Japan has re-populated Nagasaki and Hiroshima but we cannot set foot on the Hanford reservation's dirtiest places for, oh, maybe another quarter million years. They win unless you clean the damn thing up. Do you want to lose WWII for the Allies?

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John & Polly [REDACTED]

From: Pauline [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 5:23 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Pauline [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: stephen [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 5:21 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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stephen [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Chris [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 5:16 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Chris [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Gary [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 5:13 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Gary [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: George [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 5:12 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Revisions Absurd

Dear Tri-Party,

I am actually aghast at the proposed revisions to the Hanford cleanup plan. The entire idea here is to put resources TOWARDS preventing further contamination and pollution. The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant, and quite honestly...just frightening !.

Also baffling, considering that such delays will only result in an increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future.

Governor Inslee has agreed that having enforceable schedules is a firm requirement. The State should therefore reject replacing the 2024 deadline with a date "to be determined."

There has come a point when decision making on the Health, Safety, and Welfare of the American Public...and on a critically endangered ecosystem...can no longer be: "TBD".

Please do your jobs, and uphold your responsibilities.

George Jacobs  
Portland

George [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: jasmine [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 5:11 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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jasmine [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Mona [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 5:09 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Mona [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Ron [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 5:07 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Ron [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Laurie [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 5:05 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Laurie [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Joseph [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, January 11, 2016 10:11 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Joseph [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Nina [REDACTED]  
Sent: Sunday, January 10, 2016 12:25 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Nina [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: jeff [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 05, 2016 6:49 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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jeff [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Connor [REDACTED]  
Sent: Sunday, January 03, 2016 1:32 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Specifically, I urge you to:

- Set and keep a firm deadline for cleanup of the Central Plateau--"TBD" is irresponsible and unacceptable.
- Investigate or start removing the radioactive waste stored in Hanford's unlined trenches by 2020 so we decrease the chance of more contamination reaching groundwater.
- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Connor [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Erica [REDACTED]  
Sent: Friday, January 01, 2016 3:40 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopec@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopec@ri.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I'm writing you today because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays could harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach.

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Erica [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Cathy [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, December 30, 2015 10:25 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Cathy [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Larry and Markreta [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, December 30, 2015 10:17 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Larry and Markreta [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Craig [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, December 29, 2015 5:32 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Craig [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Randall [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, December 29, 2015 10:22 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Randall [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Greg [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, December 29, 2015 8:42 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Greg [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Robert [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, December 29, 2015 8:02 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Robert [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Nancy [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, December 29, 2015 8:01 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Nancy [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Mary [REDACTED]  
Sent: Sunday, December 27, 2015 4:49 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Mary [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: debra [REDACTED]  
Sent: Monday, December 28, 2015 2:01 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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debra [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Rusty [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, December 24, 2015 1:29 AM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@rl.doe.gov)

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Rusty [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

From: Ramona [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, December 23, 2015 9:36 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I'm writing you today because as a Pacific Northwest resident I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays will certainly harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate, and fish in the Hanford Reach.

Deferring Central Plateau soil cleanup from 2024 to an undetermined date sometime in the future signifies to me that the U.S. Dept. of Energy is not serious about cleaning up this horribly contaminated site.'

'The unlined trenches in Hanford's Central Plateau contain dangerous pollution. Delaying soil cleanup will increase the likelihood for contamination to reach groundwater and ultimately reach the Columbia River, if, in fact, it has not ALREADY done so.. Furthermore, Washington State and Governor Inslee have repeatedly stated that having enforceable schedules is a firm requirement. The State should therefore reject replacing the 2024 deadline with a date "to be determined."

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and Pacific Northwest communities.

Ramona [REDACTED]  
From: Nadine [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, December 23, 2015 5:33 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

Proposed TPA Changes are Unacceptable!

Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I'm a HANFORD DOWNWINDER. Secret releases of radioactive iodine during my childhood (I am 77 now & grew up in Cd'A, ID) gave me lasting daily reminders of the importance of cleaning up Hanford. The longer it takes, the more seepage, contamination and exposure to others there will be. FURTHER DELAYS SMACK OF PAY-OFFS AND LACK OF ETHICS. DO IT NOW.

I'm writing you today because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays could harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach.

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Nadine [REDACTED]  
From: Luke [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, December 23, 2015 5:21 PM  
To: Holmes, Kristen L  
Subject: Hanford Cleanup Delays are Unacceptable!

via email: [kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov](mailto:kristen.skopeck@ri.doe.gov)

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Dear Tri-Party Agencies,

I'm writing you today because I am invested in the future of Hanford, our nation's most contaminated site, and I am concerned with the recently proposed Tri-Party Agreement changes. I support deadlines that will prevent further groundwater contamination and will protect future generations from ongoing pollution.

The delays listed for the Central Plateau and waste sites located near the Columbia River are significant. These delays will only increase the cost of cleanup, and they also increase the likelihood of additional postponements of cleanup actions in the future. Furthermore, these delays could harm human health and the environment, including endangered salmon that spawn in the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River, and those who live, recreate and fish in the Hanford Reach.

It is not acceptable to defer Central Plateau soil cleanup from 2024 to an unknown date which will now take longer than 20 years. The unlined trenches in Hanford's Central Plateau contain dangerous pollution. Delaying soil cleanup will increase the potential for contamination to reach groundwater and ultimately reach the Columbia River. Furthermore, Washington State and Governor Inslee have repeatedly stated that having enforceable schedules is a firm requirement. The State should therefore reject replacing the 2024 deadline with a date "to be determined."

The cleanup delays proposed for the 324 building, although not as long, still pose increased risk to human health and the environment. Being located close to the river, unforeseen events such as extreme weather, failing building infrastructure and earthquakes could jeopardize the health of workers, the public, and the environment by mobilizing contamination close to the Columbia River.

Specifically, I urge you to:

- Set and keep a firm deadline for cleanup of the Central Plateau--"TBD" is irresponsible and unacceptable.
- Investigate or start removing the radioactive waste stored in Hanford's unlined trenches by 2020 so we decrease the chance of more contamination reaching groundwater.
- Prioritize the cleanup of the 324 building by requesting additional site-specific funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the proposed TPA changes that affect Hanford's cleanup schedules and the health of the Columbia River and river communities.

Luke [REDACTED]  
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