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Tri-Party Agreement

June 1, 1995

Merilyn Reeves, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board
22250 Boulder Crest Lane
Amity, Oregon 97101



Re: Current Tri-Party Planning for 100 Area Cleanup - Hanford
Advisory Board Consensus Advice #23 Response

Dear Ms. Reeves:

The Tri-Party agencies have received the consensus advice regarding the planning for 100 Area cleanup adopted at the Hanford Advisory Board meeting held in May. The Tri-Party Agencies are on the brink of initiating cleanup after years of study and discussion. We want to thank the Board for making the effort in providing us with timely advice, and the Board has been very helpful in the decision-making process.

Recommendation 1 Response: The Tri-Parties agree with the Board's advice concerning 100 Area cleanup along the Columbia River as a high priority. Actions will begin this year to achieve these goals, initially through the 100-BC-1 Demonstration Project Expedited Response Action, then through a Record of Decision for 100-BC-1, HR-1 and DR-1 liquid waste disposal sites. The Tri-Parties have also initiated discussions on a strategy for the remaining sites in the 100 Area which supports the Board's advice for a phased release of the river corridor earlier than 2018 (cleanup of the land so it is available for other purposes).

Recommendation 2 Response: The Tri-Parties are currently accepting comments on the 100-BC-1 Demonstration Project Expedited Response Action proposal. This proposal initiates many of the ideas represented in your proposed advice. The proposal was included in the Board's June packet. Provided public comment is supportive of this proposal, the three parties plan to begin cleanup by July 1.

Recommendation 3 Response: The advice addresses waste sites which are in close proximity to the reactor buildings. The three parties agree with the advice and will make a determination on whether to leave a waste site in place until reactor removal on a waste site by waste site basis. As requested, these waste sites will be identified as part of the reactor removal negotiations scheduled to be completed by December of 1996.

Response to HAB Consensus Advice #23
(May 4, 1995)
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Merilyn Reeves

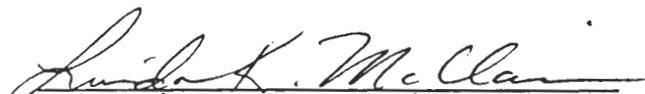
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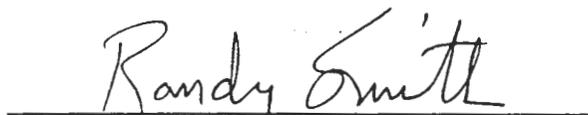
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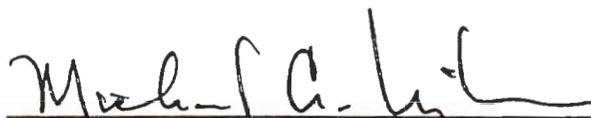
100 Area Cleanup Levels: The Board endorsed the use of the Model Toxic Control Act for establishing cleanup levels. It should be noted that in addition to using the Model Toxic Control Act for establishing cleanup levels for metals and organics, the agencies are proposing to use the draft NRC and EPA guidance of 15 millirem above background for radionuclide cleanup. The Board did not specifically address this issue, however, the advice does note that the Washington State Department of Health is currently developing radiation standards that should guide cleanup. The Department of Health recently issued a letter stating that the use of 15 millirem above background appears to be consistent with their current rule making. Therefore, it appears the three parties' approach for the cleanup of radionuclides is consistent with the Boards' desires.

The Tri-Party agencies look forward to continued dialogue with the Board on 100 Area issues.

Sincerely,


Linda G. McClain
U.S. Department of Energy


Randall F. Smith
U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency


Michael A. Wilson
Washington State Department of
Ecology