



U.S. Department of Energy

Hanford Field Office
P.O. Box 550
Richland, Washington 99352

RECEIVED

Aug 12, 2026
Department of Ecology
NWP - Richland

26-MGR-0016

Ms. Laura Buelow, Manager
Hanford Project Office
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
825 Jadwin Avenue, Suite 210
Richland, Washington 99352

Ms. Stephanie Schleif
Program Manager
Nuclear Waste Program
Washington State Department of Ecology
3100 Port of Benton Boulevard
Richland, Washington 99354

Addressees:

HANFORD ADVISORY BOARD – MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is working to align the operation of the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB) at Hanford, known locally as the Hanford Advisory Board (HAB), with the EM SSAB Charter and to ensure compliance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act and DOE Order 515.1.

DOE remains committed to working with the Tri-Party Agencies to support continued involvement in engaging with the Hanford community in the cleanup process. Over the last few months, we have jointly attempted to revise and update the HAB Memorandum of Understanding to align with anticipated changes to the HAB. We have been unable to reach alignment on revisions so, consistent with Section III.F. of the "Memorandum of Understanding Among the U.S. Department of Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Washington State Department of Ecology Regarding the Hanford Advisory Board," dated June 2008, DOE is providing 60-day notification that it intends to terminate the HAB MOU. DOE is amenable to discussing a new MOU amongst the Tri-Parties in the future.

DOE is not terminating the HAB. Rather, DOE will work to ensure the HAB is compliant with all Federal requirements and consistent with the other local chapters of the EM SSAB across the DOE EM complex. Beginning in Fiscal Year 2027, DOE intends to implement a new membership and operating structure for the HAB consistent with the EM SSAB Charter. DOE intends to offer liaison positions to the Washington State Department of Ecology and the

Addressees
26-MGR-0016

-2-

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to ensure a mechanism for continued involvement in HAB activities. DOE plans to share additional information on these changes in the coming months.

DOE remains committed to working with the Tri-Party Agencies to support the continued involvement of the Hanford community in the cleanup process.

If you have any questions, please contact me, or you may contact Meegan Tripp, Deputy Designated Federal Officer, Hanford Office of Communications, at (509) 376-2403.

Sincerely,

OCC:MDS

Raymond M. Geimer
Manager

cc: K. K. Snyder, DOE (EM-2.33)