



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

OFFICE OF  
**ENVIRONMENTAL  
MANAGEMENT**

# Environmental Management Advisory Board

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Regulatory Reform Subcommittee  
Recommendation

September 2018

# Background

- December 7, 2017 Memorandum for Heads of Departmental Elements on the subject of Federal Advisory Committees and Regulatory Reform from Energy Secretary Perry
- Regulatory Reform Subcommittee compiled several ideas for consideration at May 16, 2018 Environmental Management Advisory Board meeting.
- Assistant Secretary White requested a pilot project suggestion related to regulatory reform in partnership with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

# Background

- Regulatory reform in partnership with EPA centers on shared momentum of both federal agencies.
- EPA has a wealth of cleanup experience across the nation.
- EPA is a consistent player in tri-party cleanup agreements with DOE and states.
- EPA has a shared goal of better, faster, community embraced cleanup with reduced burden, reflected in EPA's Superfund Task Force Review.
- DOE and EPA are both participants in the National Dialogue, along with host states, convened by the Environmental Council of the States.

# Two Possibilities for Pilot

- Partnering Pilot at Hanford
- Community Visioning at Hanford

# Partnering

## Charleston Naval Complex Partnering Success Story

Collaboration between Navy, DHEC RCRA and Brownfields programs, and property developers was a key to the success.



- Charleston Naval Complex BRAC 1993 (Closed in 1996 – 1,400 acres)
- Finding of Suitability for Early Transfer signed 2003
- Coordinated RCRA Permit with Voluntary Cleanup Contracts to promote beneficial reuse

Google earth

- Several discussions involving
  - Paul Leonard and Greg Gervais, EPA
  - Betsy Connell, Rob Seifert, and Alexandra Gillam, DOE
  - Jane Hedges and Shelly Wilson, EMAB
  - Carolyn Hanson, ECOS
- Partnering is a structured team approach for reaching consensus decisions on agreed upon schedule.
- Partnering requires
  - Willingness
  - Significant initial investment of resources for team foundational training and facilitation
  - Ongoing dedication of team resources

- Tools for Hanford Pilot
  - Willingness – Contacts on previous slide confirmed openness to partnering on the part of EPA Region 10, Washington Department of Ecology and DOE at Hanford.
  - Draft Model Partnering Agreement – Product of ECOS National Dialogue
  - Experience depth at EPA with DOE and DoD– consultation from Paul Leonard and Greg Gervais
  - EPA recommended facilitators – Several contract facilitators have extensive experience in setting up and training highly functioning teams
  - Liaison from EMAB – some EMAB members could provide consultation based on Hanford, partnering or cleanup experience

- Hanford Pilot Partnering Scope
  - Pilot project scope should be a partnering team decision.
  - Some of the pilot project initial thoughts included:
    - Acquisition of the future Richland Hanford Central Plateau cleanup contract
    - Work in the 200 Area
    - Closure of C Tank Farm
    - Permitting of TSCR
    - However, ownership of the pilot project scope does need consensus support from the partnering team.



# Next Steps for Partnering Pilot

- Should DOE choose this pilot, next steps could be:
  - DOE reach out to EPA and Washington Department of Ecology to formally suggest partnering pilot. Offer contacts as resources for parties consideration.
  - Meet with parties to discuss scope and partnering team agreement and structure.
  - Consult with EPA and EMAB as desired.

# Community Visioning

- EMAB had previously discussed the value of further aligning stakeholder cleanup vision at the Hanford site in its September 12, 2017 meeting.
- Several Superfund Task Force Recommendations (36, 38 and 40) related to community training, assistance, and visioning for alignment of end state cleanup goals.
- EPA contact is Frank Avvisato, Superfund Redevelopment Initiative Project Manager.

# Community Visioning

- EPA has approximately 20 years of experience in assisting communities and sites develop a realistic vision for end state and reuse.
- EPA provides training and education for community members to enable vision development and help gauge reasonable reuse and cleanup expectations.
- EPA helps communities and sites reach a mutually supportable end state vision by bringing in their experts in the areas of facilitation, mediation, social equity and public outreach.
- Part of past EPA experience includes working with Tribal Nations.

# Community Visioning

- EPA Community Visioning Assistance includes:
  - Situation Assessment
    - A Situation Assessment involves gathering of key players (DOE, EPA, State of Washington, tribes, local government and community representatives), review of site documents, and results in a report of preliminary reuse considerations and follow up recommendations.
  - Redevelopment Assessment
  - Redevelopment Plan
  - All steps above involve community engagement
  - More info available at <https://semspub.epa.gov/work/HQ/100001460.pdf>

# Next Steps Community Visioning

- Should DOE choose this pilot, next steps could be:
  - Discussion with Frank Avvisato about feasibility of a Situation Assessment at all or part of Hanford
  - Determine whether Situation Assessment aspects and goals should be modified based on Hanford specific conditions and goals
  - Consult with EMAB as desired

# Recommendation

**DOE consider one or both of the projects below as a pilot.**

- **1) Initiate a partnering team to include DOE, EPA and Washington Department of Ecology for a pilot project to further cleanup at the Hanford site. Draw upon EPA experience to set up the team with appropriate training, structure, and facilitation to support collaboration. EMAB has members that can also provide consultation.**
- Investment in structured, consensus building, team development contributes to a culture of finding mutually supportable cleanup decisions to further progress.
- **2) Engage with EPA to initiate EPA planning services for an initial Situation Assessment at part or all of Hanford. A Situation Assessment involves gathering of key players (DOE, EPA, State of Washington, tribes, local government and community representatives), review of site documents, and results in a report of preliminary reuse considerations and follow up recommendations.**
- Alignment of end-state vision among all stakeholders is key to reaching reasonable cleanup decisions that are widely supported. EPA facilitated community engagement is a key part of the Situation Assessment.