

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SITE-SPECIFIC ADVISORY BOARD

**Hanford
Oak Ridge**

**Idaho
Paducah**

**Nevada
Portsmouth**

**Northern New Mexico
Savannah River**

July 26, 2012

David Huizenga
Senior Advisor for Environmental Management
U.S. Department of Energy, EM-1
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Mr. Huizenga:

The Environmental Management Site Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB) is grateful for the support we receive from the highest levels of the DOE-EM organization. We are also very cognizant of the budget constraints that EM and the entire country are facing. That being said, we respectfully request that you continue the commitment you have made through adequate funding levels for the EM SSAB and the local boards which facilitate open and transparent public participation at the community level.

The EM SSAB is a conduit for local communities and stakeholders to bring their concerns and values to their specific sites. The EM SSAB works in collaboration with the U.S. DOE, EPA and other regulators to help set cleanup priorities and reach decisions that are sustainable. These all-volunteer organizations spend many hours to review, study, and gather input from other stakeholders in their respective, affected communities. These committed board members develop thoughtful, comprehensive advice and recommendations regarding a broad spectrum of cleanup issues. They also provide an avenue for community members to bring their concerns and receive information on environmental issues.

The monetary value of the time spent and recommendations submitted by each local board to their respective decision makers is incalculable. There have been minimal dollars spent on EM SSAB administration and support. The U.S. Department of Energy receives a huge return in creative solutions and community outreach for the cleanup programs locally and complex-wide.

We look forward to continuing the collaborative work between the boards, DOE, regulators and the public.



Kathleen Bienenstein, Chair
Nevada SSAB



Willie Preacher, Chair
Idaho National Laboratory
Site EM Citizens Advisory
Board



Susan Leckband, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board



Ralph Phelps, Chair
Northern New Mexico
Citizens' Advisory Board



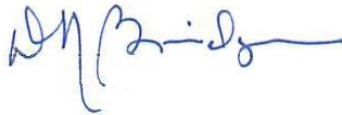
Margaret Owen, Chair
Oak Ridge SSAB



Ralph Young, Chair
Paducah Citizens
Advisory Board



Richard Snyder, Chair
Portsmouth SSAB



Donald Bridges, Chair
Savannah River Site
Citizens Advisory Board

cc: Melissa Nielson, EM-3.2
Catherine Alexander, EM-3.2