

Hanford Cleanup Budget Priorities

U.S. Department of Energy Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Submittal Comment Period

COMMENT DEADLINE: Wednesday, July 15 2020

Send Comments by July 15, 2020 to: BudgetPriorities@rl.gov

CC Hanford Regulators:

- **WA State Dept. of Ecology Nuclear Waste Program Manager:** Alex.Smith@ecy.wa.gov and John.Price@ecy.wa.gov and Stephanie.Schleif@ecy.wa.gov
- **Environmental Protection Agency Manager Dave Einan:** Einan.David@epa.gov and Environmental Scientist, Emy Laija: Laija.Emerald@epa.gov

Sample Comments Prepared by Hanford Challenge

To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the fiscal year 2022 Hanford field office budget submittal. I am writing because I care about efforts to protect human and environmental health. As a taxpayer, I support fully-funding Hanford cleanup.

Thank you for considering my comments:

- **Request Compliant Cleanup Funding:** Make a FY22 budget request that ensures cleanup deadlines can be met and keeps cleanup on track. Include the funding you need to meet the obligations in the Tri-Party Agreement and Consent Decree.
- **Increase Transparency:** Open up the budget planning process for the public and regulators and share preliminary budget number detail.
- **Delay Tank Closure:** Delay tank closure at Hanford until the safe and effective treatment to immobilize Hanford tank waste in glass has been achieved.
- **Accelerate Work to Remove Cesium and Strontium Capsules to Dry Storage:** Request funding to complete the work of removing cesium and strontium capsules from the Waste Encapsulation and Storage Facility to dry storage ahead of schedule. The 2025 milestone for this action is not soon enough.
- **Safely Complete Removal of Contaminated Soil Beneath the 324 Building:** Request funding that allows for the 324 Building B-cell contamination to be removed safely and on schedule.
- **Fund Vapor Mitigation:** Request funding to implement toxic tank vapor mitigation strategies as outlined in the Sept. 2018 tank vapor settlement agreement.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]