



U.S. Department of Energy Hanford Site

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10



December 22, 2025

25-HOC-0037

Ms. Susan A. Coleman, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board
1177 Jadwin Avenue, Suite 102
Richland, Washington 99352

Dear Ms. Coleman:

RESPONSE TO HANFORD ADVISORY BOARD ADVICE #322 – 324 BUILDING REMOVAL AND REMEDIATION

Thank you for providing your Consensus Advice #322, Path Forward for the 324 Building Removal and Remediation, adopted August 13, 2025. The Hanford Advisory Board's (HAB) engagement on the 324 Building and 300-296 waste site activities is appreciated by the Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order (Tri-Party Agreement) Agencies.

Your advice highlights a number of important considerations, including:

- The need to move forward with the removal and remediation work in a manner that is protective of the environment, workforce, and surrounding community.
- Support for developing or updating site-specific plans—including the Remedial Design/Remedial Action Work Plan, Removal Action Work Plan, and Waste Management Plan—prior to initiating physical cleanup actions.
- Emphasis on incorporating public comments received during the Proposed Plan comment period.
- Valuable operational insights, including lessons learned from prior removal activities across the Hanford Site and other U.S. Department of Energy, Hanford Field Office (HFO) projects.
- A strong call to ensure contingency planning, proper waste classification, appropriate disposal pathways, and robust air monitoring and health and safety protocols throughout implementation.


The Tri-Party Agreement Agencies are committed to transparent, effective, and protective cleanup strategies. Additionally, prior to making the final decision on the preferred cleanup option, HFO and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) continue to consider public input, including the advice provided by the HAB. As part of the Record of Decision (ROD) Amendment process, HFO and EPA are drafting responses to the public's comments and advice. The responses will be included in the ROD Amendment, which is anticipated to be approved and publicly released in 2026.

As we move forward, HFO will continue to coordinate closely with EPA to ensure that public input and perspectives are considered in the next phases of the 324 Building and 300-296 cleanup. The Tri-Party Agreement Agencies remain committed to providing timely updates and opportunities for continued engagement with the public throughout this process.

Once again, thank you for your comments. Your input helps shape not only site-specific actions, but also broader values and priorities that ensure the cleanup work we do today benefits future generations.

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

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Raymond M. Geimer
Manager
Hanford Field Office
U.S. Department of Energy

Laura C. Buelow
Hanford Program Manager
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

HOC:MAT

cc: S. N. Schleif, Ecology