



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

NOV 27 2017

Mr. David W. Swindle, Jr.
Chairman
Environmental Management Advisory Board
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Mr. Swindle:

Thank you for your September 29, 2017, letter transmitting recommendations from the Fall 2017 Environmental Management Advisory Board (EMAB) public meeting. I highly value EMAB's guidance and believe that the Office of Environmental Management (EM) will benefit from the Board's insight.

The three recommendations provided regarding 1) the definition of High Level Waste in the National Waste Policy Act; 2) the post-cleanup visions for the Hanford Reach and Hanford River Corridor; and 3) closure of Hanford "C" tank farm, all offer excellent concepts for consideration. I have asked Ms. Betsy Connell, Director for Regulatory, Intergovernmental, and Stakeholder Engagement to work with you to explore the topics you raised in your recommendations and discuss opportunities for EMAB to provide further input on these recommendations as well as identify other potential topics for the Board.

I appreciate your commitment to the success of the EM program and look forward to our future collaboration. If you have any questions, please contact me or Ms. Jennifer McCloskey, EMAB Designated Federal, at (301) 903-7427.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James M. Owendoff".

James M. Owendoff
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for
Environmental Management

