

Glenna Cole Allee

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Dear U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and Washington Department of Ecology,

Thank you for inviting public commentary on the Holistic Settlement Agreement. As an artist who has researched the Hanford site for many years, I'm extremely concerned about the toxic waste at the site and the danger it poses to the entire northwest. I feel it is imperative that the cleanup be expedited, safely. Please add my concerns, below, to the public record.

1. The USDOE must commit to immediate action to stop the leaks from single shell tanks, and dramatically increase the pace of waste retrieval. They need to construct new tank space much faster than the proposed date in the current agreement, listed as 2040, and they must provide much more tank space than the current proposed amount of one million gallons.
2. The removal of waste from tanks in the 200 West Area (where tanks are currently known to be leaking) needs to be accelerated, but the waste must be treated and solidified into a grout before being transported. If disposed offsite, it needs to be placed in licensed facilities that have no groundwater.
3. Before finalizing any decisions about the grouting processes, all Test Bed Initiative results and any other relevant information need to be assessed and considered, and made available for public review. A public comment period must be provided. The date mentioned for New Interim Milestone M-062-64 must be changed. The current date is Dec 2024: this is before the results from the Test Bed Initiative can be considered. Please see that the date in the agreement is changed to read: "Within 12 months of receiving all relevant information from the 2,000 gallon Test Bed Initiative."
4. Before any decisions are finalized about shipping grouted waste, communities along potential transportation routes who might be impacted must be provided with transparent plans and options for the shipment. There needs to be ample public input to finalize any plan.
5. Please strengthen the language re the re-classification of waste. It needs to state a clear commitment, in binding language, that high-level waste will not be re-classified.
6. Before the Holistic Settlement Agreement is finalized, all environmental impact analyses and all projected cleanup costs must be made available for public review. There must be a transparent process, with ample time for public commentary and input, particularly for local Tribal Councils to offer input.

Thanks for entering my comments into the record,
Glenna Cole Allee