

Nancy Morris

Dear To Whom It May Concern,

Thank you for accepting my comments on the Holistic Settlement Agreement. After four years of closed-door negotiations, I expected a robust public involvement plan that was created with input from groups and entities working on Hanford, materials that are transparent and easy to understand, enough time to review documents, and an opportunity to comment and table at public meetings in major cities. I am incredibly disappointed. You need to do better.

For all major comment periods in the future:

- **GET INPUT EARLY AND OFTEN:** Consult with groups, organizations, and Tribal Nations on your public involvement plans for materials, public meeting design/timing/location, and presentations. Use that input to improve the plan.
- **DESIGN FOR MEANINGFUL INVOLVEMENT:** Design regional public meetings with an open house where all interested parties can table, provide information and chat with attendees, incorporate time for a local perspective to provide an alternate viewpoint, and schedule meetings in the fall and spring for maximum participation.
- **USE PLAIN LANGUAGE, PLEASE:** Use plain language in your presentations and materials to provide a high-level overview of the cleanup work the administrative tool (in this case, the Consent Decree & Tri-Party Agreement) covers, instead of overly focusing on the intricacies of the administrative tool itself.
- **BE TRANSPARENT:** If there is important information buried in your materials and presentations, bring it forward and make it transparent. For example, plainly state how much liquid tank waste you are planning to grout and plainly state that instead of delaying cleanup now, cleanup milestones will be delayed in the future. Plainly state when those delay decisions are anticipated as well as what the public process will look like that accompanies those decisions.
- **STOP PUSHING YOUR CRITICS AWAY:** Instead of running from critical feedback and responding with defensive/avoidant behavior, invite your critics to the table and make time to learn from their feedback.

Thank you for considering my comment. To Tri-Party Agencies:

I have been involved in commenting on Hanford nuclear waste cleanup since the late 1980's onward to present. Cleanup should be much further along than it is now. Truly the 177 underground leak-prone tanks holding 56 million gallons of high-level waste are a serious threat to human health now and generations to come, the entire environment at Hanford and all its surrounds, and the Columbia River. The First Nations people of the 'Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation' and the 'Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation' should have had more involvement and need to be involved to insure a better schedule and prognosis than has been offered by the Tri-Party Agreement Agencies of the Dept of Ecology, EPA Region 10, and the USDOE. Generations are at risk beyond your lifetimes. Time to stop passing this horrific toxic legacy to your

children and grandchildren and focus needed funding, research, and political will to cleanup the most toxic area in North America. Stop the continued delays.

Sincerely,
Nancy Morris