

## **ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SITE-SPECIFIC ADVISORY BOARD**

---

**Hanford  
Oak Ridge**

**Idaho  
Paducah**

**Nevada  
Portsmouth**

**Northern New Mexico  
Savannah River**

---

May 21, 2009

Inés R. Triay  
Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management  
U.S. Department of Energy, EM-1  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Assistant Secretary Triay:

The eight local boards that make up EM's Site Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB) welcome you to your new position as Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management (EM). We look forward to continuing the positive, collaborative working relationship the EM SSAB, has with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

Each local board provides advice or recommendations on policy issues that affect their respective sites. We are committed to providing DOE EM with clear, concise advice that reflects the values of those representatives sitting on the board and to a limited extent a larger segment of the public. We are a sounding board for the public policy necessary to support sustainable remediation decisions.

The EM SSAB chairs' meetings provide representatives from around the complex an opportunity to obtain programmatic information from DOE EM staff and to exchange that information. The open discourse that takes place in these meetings not only serves to help DOE EM understand stakeholder concerns but can provide insight to assist the DOE in designing public meetings where complex issues need to be clearly presented to the larger public for discussion and input. The institutional knowledge and experiences that the EM SSAB brings to the table are invaluable. The recommendations the EM SSAB has provided to DOE are a reflection of the richness of the dialogue between the local boards, various stakeholders and DOE.

We look forward to a continuation of the improvement initiatives implemented prior to your appointment as Assistant Secretary; requiring high standards of project management skills for EM projects across the DOE complex; actively seeking young technical staff capable of assuming the responsibilities of retiring employees; and sharing real project budgets and cleanup schedules with stakeholders in time to get valuable input and others.

We firmly believe that citizen involvement and community investment are critical elements in achieving successful DOE EM site cleanup. This "fourth leg of the stool" along with our government, scientific and regulatory communities strengthens the common goal of reaching more cost effective and sustainable clean-up decisions. We

encourage you to continue supporting a strong commitment to informing the public and providing opportunities for people to participate in their own future.

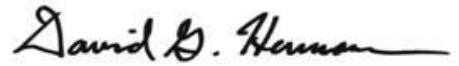
We are hopeful that this exchange of ideas and values will continue to grow and flourish as more cleanup decisions are developed, implemented and completed throughout the DOE complex.



Susan Leckband, Chair  
Hanford Advisory Board



R. D. Maynard, Chair  
Idaho National Laboratory  
Site EM Citizens Advisory  
Board



David G. Hermann, Chair  
Community Advisory Board  
for Nevada Test Site Programs



J.D. Campbell, Chair  
Northern New Mexico  
Citizens Advisory Board



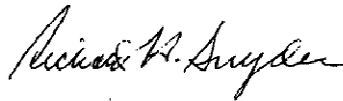
Steve Dixon, Chair  
Oak Ridge SSAB



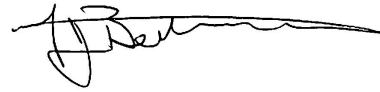
Bobby Ann Lee, Chair  
Paducah Gaseous  
Diffusion Plant SSAB



Val Francis, Co-Chair  
Portsmouth Gaseous  
Diffusion Plant SSAB



Richard Snyder, Co-Chair  
Portsmouth Gaseous  
Diffusion Plant SSAB



Manuel Bettencourt, Chair  
Savannah River Site's  
Citizen's Advisory Board

cc: Melissa Nielson, EM-13  
Catherine Brennan, EM-13