

Oregon Hanford Cleanup Board

LIGO Hanford Observatory Richland, Washington

October 10, 2023

Meeting Summary Notes

Members In Attendance:

Jeff Wyatt, Chair

Steven Bedrick, Vice Chair

Marylou Schnoes(virtual)

Laura Feldman

Miya Burke

Tom Roberts

Tim Seymour, Manager, Oregon Department of Water Resources

Maxwell Woods, Assistant Director, Oregon Department of Energy

Rep Gamba

Sen. Gorsek (virtual)

ODOE Staff:

Tom Sicilia

Sara Lovtang

Matt Hendrickson

Mark Reese

Public and Invited Guests

Dan Solitz (virtual)

Liz Mattson(virtual)

Elijah Close (virtual)

Mike Freeman (virtual)

Susan Coleman

Shelley Cimon

Wendy Gibson

April McDonald

Dan Seres (virtual)

Host Facility

Amber Strunk, Cal Tech LIGO

Tri-Party Agencies:

Mat Irwin, U. S. Department of Energy, Acting Assistant Manager for the Waste Treatment, and Immobilization Plant

Paul Schroder, U.S. Department of Energy, Deputy Assistant Manager, Tank Farms

Erik Nelson, U.S. Department of Energy Tank Farms Project

Bibek Tamang, U.S. Department of Energy Tank Farms Project

Tashina Jasso, U.S. Department of Energy Tank Farm Project

Jason Gunter, Washington River Protection Solutions Tank Integrity Team

Dan Blaide, Washington River Protection Solutions, Deputy Chief Engineer

Gary Younger, Communications, DOE-RL

Stephanie Schleif, Washington State Department of Ecology

Annette Carlson, Washington State Department of Ecology

Ryan Miller, Washington State Department of Ecology

Geoff Schramm, U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA

Link to meeting materials:

[State of Oregon: Safety & Resilience - Oregon Hanford Cleanup Board Meetings](#)

Refer to the meeting YouTube files for further details and discussions.

Administrative

Roll call and opening remarks.

Chair Wyatt opened the meeting at 2 p.m.

After Board and staff introductions, the meeting summary from the May 2023 meeting was approved.

Laura Feldman then gave a Land Acknowledgement.

[Board opening and meeting recording](#)

October meeting theme: New Cleanup Technology

Research, development, and deployment of innovative and cutting-edge technology is an important aspect of the Hanford clean-up mission. The US government invests many millions of dollars annually in advancing technology that is used to cleanup Hanford and similar sites across the country; technology advancements lead to a more thorough cleanup, protect human safety, monitor equipment, and can achieve results that might not have been possible in the past. US DOE, and the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) are leaders in cleanup technology research and development. The Oregon Hanford Cleanup Board is pleased to welcome presentations and discussion on this theme.

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (“PNNL”): Advancements in Nuclear and Chemical Cleanup Technologies

Tom Brouns, PNNL, provided an overview of cleanup technologies that have been developed by PNNL for use at the Hanford site.

U. S. Department of Energy

The Department of Energy provided an update on how technology helps in its Hanford Site cleanup mission. DOE provided a discussion of waste from the tanks to the tank-side cesium removal system and on to the melters and the waste treatment and immobilization plant. Erik Nelson, DOE, and Jason Gunter, Washington River Protection Solutions, described work done to maintain tank integrity and technologies involved in that process. Bibek Tamang described the TSCR process and how waste is pre-treated by removing cesium and solids. Mat Irwin, DOE, discussed the melter and how it is integral to the waste treatment process.

Washington State Dept. of Ecology

Annette Carlson, Permitting and Project Manager, presented information to the board about the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

Board Business (Board and ODOE Staff)

- **Discussion of Board priorities for upcoming year:** Chair Wyatt led this discussion. He began by recognizing outgoing board member MaryLou Schnoes for her service on the OHCB.
- **Updating Bylaws:** Vice Chair Bedrick will work with Tom Sicilia, ODOE staff, to update the Bylaws and to also define when and how the OHCB acts like comment letters.
- **Current vacancies and pending appointments:** ODOE staff Mark Reese advises that there are currently two applicants for the OHCB.
- **Confirm date and location of the next Board meeting:** The next meeting will be a virtual meeting on January 16th, 2024.

Public Comment Opportunity

The public was offered an opportunity to make comments or ask questions.

There were no questions or comments from the public.

Adjourn for the Day

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.