



SRS Citizen's Advisory Board

Minority Report to the Recommendation
Passed July 24, 2001 by the SRS CAB Regarding the
Old Radioactive Waste Burial Ground Focus Group's Final Report
Dated July 16, 2001

William Willoughby II, PE
SRS CAB Member
July 26, 2001

I could not support the CAB's recommendation on the ORWBG FG's final report in that CAB's recommendation as passed specifically omitted the ORWBG FG's recommendation #1. There is no significant benefit to the health and safety of the public by the continued collection of tritium-containing ground water and irrigation of the forest. This collection and irrigation is a continuing expense for SRS when the money could be better spent elsewhere on a real health and safety problem. I concur with all seven (7) of the ORWBG FG's recommendations and therefore the CAB's recommendation #2 provided it were amended to include ORWBG FG's recommendation #1.

The present groundwater if allowed to enter 4 Mile Branch and subsequently the Savannah River will have negligible effect on the public water systems down stream on the river. Tritium levels in the river water at the Port Wentworth water system intake is already at less than 0.065% of the drinking water tritium MCL (Reference Section 9 of the ORWBG FG report).

The tritium-containing ground water collection and forest irrigation will not in fact reduce the tritium releases from SRS. It only transfers a water stream release to an atmospheric release. This atmospheric release will expose a larger number of people to tritium. It has the potential for giving the SRS workers a disproportionate share of the dose commitment from the tritium moved from the water stream to the atmosphere.

Respectfully submitted,
William Willoughby II
CAB Member