

SRS Citizen's Advisory Board

Recommendation No. 109

January 25, 2000

DOE and South Carolina Agreement on Removal of High Level Vitrified Waste from SRS

Background

The SRS Citizens Advisory Board is in the process of forwarding its comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Yucca Mountain, Nevada repository and is urging the opening of that site for the disposition of nuclear materials and high level waste (HLW) from South Carolina and the other nuclear facilities. Discussions of the Yucca document have included consideration of the Statement of Principles for South Carolina that was signed by Secretary Richardson and Governor Hodges on September 9, 1999.

The SRS CAB is aware that the Federal Facilities Agreement and the SRS Site Treatment Plan mandate specific dates for the completion of the removal of HLW from the HLW tanks, followed by the formal closure of the HLW tanks. However, these documents do not address the removal of the vitrified HLW from the site. Thus, as long as the vitrified HLW is stored safely at SRS, the storage will comply with all existing agreements signed with South Carolina.

Recommendation

The CAB recommends that, in implementation of the Statement of Principles, DOE work with the Governor's office to establish a schedule for removing vitrified high level waste from the state.

CC: Governor Jim Hodges John Clark, Governor's Office SCDHEC

Agency Responses

Department of Energy-SR