

SRS Citizen's Advisory Board

Recommendation No. 89

May 25, 1999

SRS Technology Integration

Background:

The purpose of the Savannah River Site Technology Integration Plan (TIP) (Ref. 1) is to describe major technology activities at SRS and to link them to the strategic commitments and budgets made by the SRS operating divisions. It tiers off two DOE-HQ plans (Ref. 2 and 3). The TIP aims to show the importance of implementation of and support for key technologies at the appropriate time in the process of meeting commitments. Technologies are adapted from external locations and developed at the Savannah River Technology Center if not available elsewhere. The purpose of this motion is to provide recommendations/comments on the Technology Integration Plan.

Part I is the Technology Management Plan (TMP). The TMP identifies end users (those with the commitments) and their top technology priorities which are then discussed in the plan. These end uses are: High Level Waste Division, Environmental Restoration Division, Solid Waste Division, Spent Fuel Storage Division, Nuclear Materials Stabilization and Storage Division, and Facilities Deactivation Division. Tritium Operations is also briefly discussed. Roadmaps are currently under development to show the time phase of the projects and the insertion points for new technologies.

Part II is the Technology Program Plan (TP). It provides sections on Program Objectives, Technology program, Planning and Baseline (budgets), Information Management, Roles and Responsibilities, Communications, Expectations and Measures of Success.

The Technology Integration Plan is in the process of development; an incomplete copy was provided for CAB review. It is scheduled for publication toward the end of June 1999.

Recommendation

The SRS Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) believes that there has to be a strong link, programatically and financially, between technology and timely cost effective accomplishment of missions. The TIP intends to do this but it can be further strengthened. The following major recommendations/comments on the SRS Technology Integration plan are provided to help in improving the TIP:

- 1. The plan gives the appearance of a miscellaneous collection of information from other sources. Strengthen it by providing specific commitments on technology development, adaptation, implementation, financing and life cycle costs.
- 2. The plan should be formally approved by the Westinghouse Savannah River Company (WSRC) Division Managers and the Director of the Savannah River Technology Center.
- 3. For environmental remediation projects DOE should initiate dialogue with EPA and SC DHEC to build consensus for the technology planned for implementation at an early stage so that no regulatory roadblock develop. For technologies being adapted and implemented from other states, those states regulatory approval documents should be used as a basis for SC DHEC approval where applicable. These items should be addressed in the TIP.
- 4. The CAB believes that technology development and implementation is a key to timely, cost effective accomplishment of SRS missions. In this country incentives are used to encourage such accomplishments and we believe that incentives should be addressed in the annual performance contracts.

References

1. Savannah River Site Technology Integration, Draft issued for Citizens Advisory Board, April 28, 1999.

- 2. Environmental Management Strategic Plan for Science Technology, U. S. Department of Energy, November 1998.
- 3. Environmental Management Research and Development Program Plan Solution-Based Investments in Science and Technology, U. S. Department of Energy, November 1998.

Agency Responses

Department of Energy-SR