



Recommendation No. 91

May 25, 1999

FY2001 Budget Summary Impacting SRS Nuclear Material Activities

Background:

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2001 Environmental Management (EM) target budget for the Savannah River Site (SRS) with focus on nuclear material activities was presented to the SRS Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Subcommittee on May 20, 1999. This current FY2001 target case budget is \$1.22 billion, which is level with the FY2000 budget request. SRS has requested \$1.52 billion in the FY2001 planning case to support critical work. This request will allow SRS to meet regulatory agreements, maintain 94-1 Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) commitments, support stabilization of Rocky Flats plutonium residues, and the receipt and storage of spent nuclear fuel. While the target budget is level with the FY 2000 budget, there is an increase in the SRS EM work activities including nuclear materials work requirements.

Recommendation:

After a review of the FY 2001 Integrated Priority List, the SRS Citizens Advisory Board (CAB), endorses the activities for nuclear materials stabilization and storage that are currently planned to be included within the target budget.

However, the CAB is concerned as to whether the FY 2001 target budget would be adequate to allow SRS to meet all of the activities planned for the site. Specifically, CAB strongly recommends that FY 2001 budget include funding for all activities with priorities currently falling below the target line but within the planning case, including the following nuclear material activities:

- HB-Line Security upgrades for plutonium and neptunium solutions stabilization
- Operation of H-Canyon and storage facilities to stabilize at-risk SNF
- Stabilization of plutonium residues from F-area through HB-line and H-canyon
- Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) Critical Infrastructure needs
- Actinide Packaging and Storage Facility construction

Additionally, any insufficient funding now will increase the total costs of Nuclear Material Integration cross cutting efforts and stabilization activities by pushing out the scope of work into future years.

The SRS CAB is aware that near term insufficient funding on committed projects may well increase the ultimate total costs of stabilization and storage of nuclear materials at SRS and possibly interfere with the timely disposition of the materials currently stored at or destined for the site.

DOE should aggressively work with the State of South Carolina, regulators and elected officials to ensure nuclear material stabilization goals for SRS are in accordance with expectations of the state and stakeholders, particularly in terms of funding and funding schedules.

Agency Responses