

February 23, 2023

Dr. Gregg R. Murray, Chairperson Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board P.O. Box A Aiken, South Carolina 29802

Dear Dr. Murray:

SUBJECT: Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation #373 - Plutonium Downblend Acceleration (Your letter dated, September 27, 2022)

Thank you for your recommendation regarding Plutonium Downblend Acceleration. The Department of Energy Savannah River Operations Office (DOE-SR) partially accepts this recommendation and provides the following response.

CAB Recommendation:

1. Recommends that Department of Energy (DOE) give priority and support sufficient to meet the statutory requirement of removing 9.5 metric tons of plutonium by 2037 from the State of South Carolina.

The disposition of surplus plutonium within the K-Area Complex is an integrated effort between DOE's Office of Environmental Management and the National Nuclear Security Administration and is one of DOE-SR's highest priorities.

The DOE-SR values the CAB's position on the SR programs and, when possible, factors those opinions into departmental decisions.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Herbert Crapse, of my staff, at (803) 208-8404.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Budney Manager Savannah River Operations Office

cc: Kelly Snyder, DFO Amy Boyette, DDFO