



Department of Energy
Savannah River Operations Office
P.O. Box A
Aiken, South Carolina 29802
SEP 21 2017

Mrs. Nina Spinelli
Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board
P.O. Box A
Aiken, South Carolina 29802

Dear Mrs. Spinelli:

SUBJECT: Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation 347 – Curation Facility (Your letter, dated 07/25/17)

Thank you for your recommendation on the Curation Facility. The Department of Energy Savannah River Operations Office (DOE-SR) partially accepts your recommendation and submits the following responses to each recommendation subpart.

CAB Recommendation:

1. Continue to expand tours of the curation center to interested members of the public.

DOE-SR accepts this sub-part. The 2017 revision of the Programmatic Agreement (PA) between DOE-SR and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) includes a significant increase in public outreach activities over the previous PA. In support of that change, two historic tours of the Site were held this spring, and two more are scheduled for October 2017, with plans to increase the number of historic tours in 2018. The historic tours include the 315-M Curation Facility. The 315-M Curation Facility is not a museum, but it does house historic artifacts to support local museums and extend public outreach. In addition, the Savannah River Site (SRS) Museum (located in Aiken, South Carolina) and DOE-SR have an agreement for public tours of Ellenton, South Carolina. The SRS Museum has conducted a handful of tours to date with future plans to increase tour frequency as the robustness of museum operations is improved.

2. Work with the SRS Heritage Foundation to provide materials for exhibits at their museum.

DOE-SR accepts this sub-part. The revised PA between DOE-SR and SHPO specifically mentions support of the SRS Museum, as well as other museums in the Central Savannah River Area (CSRA). The limiting factor on artifact loans to the SRS Museum has not been DOE-SR's willingness to lend items for display. The SRS Museum is located in the Dibble Building on Laurens Street in Aiken, South Carolina. The building is a 70-plus-year-old former library and county records storage space. It required numerous modifications to meet the Department of Interior standards for housing artifacts. Artifact loans are planned for the fall of 2017, now that the SRS museum building upgrades are complete.

The Cold War History Program is also digitizing the photo and film archives with plans for public access via the SRS Museum, other museums, as well as the Internet.

In June, the Cold War History Program researched, designed, and provided a panel to the SRS Museum to support a delegation of Russian visitors engaged in the Plutonium Production Reduction Agreement. The panel is remaining at the SRS Museum to tell that part of Cold War history.

3. *Work with SRNS and the curation subcontractor to develop a plan to allow for greater public participation. At this time, the facility is housed within the site boundaries and tours of the facility require a lengthy vetting process.*

DOE-SR partially accepts this sub-part. The Site Security Plan does not allow public access to the 315-M Curation Facility and, at this time, there is no capability to expand that access. However, sharing the collection of artifacts via the SRS Museum is possible, and plans are in place to make the extensive photographic records available on line.

4. *Work with the local school districts to establish a traveling curriculum and display that can be incorporated by local schools.*

DOE-SR accepts this sub-part. The SRS Museum has plans for a robust partnership with local school districts. The SRS Cold War History Program will support the SRS Museum with material and resources as the SRS Museum programs mature.

In 2017, the DOE-SR Cold War History Program is supporting a robotics display and demonstration during Nuclear Science Week (October 16 through October 21, 2017) at the SRS Museum, in partnership with the Savannah River National Laboratory and C&C Engineering and Technology, a non-profit operated by a teacher from North Augusta, South Carolina who is advocating science, technology, engineering, and mathematics in CSRA schools.

5. *Continue to work with local community partners who have a vested interest in site history to develop a strategic plan for community displays and participation.*

DOE-SR accepts this sub-part. The 2017 revision of the PA between DOE-SR and SHPO includes telling the site history through the exhibits at the SRS Museum, increased availability to the public of expended SRS histories via the Internet, and continued leadership of quarterly meetings with the Heritage Tourism Community in the CSRA.

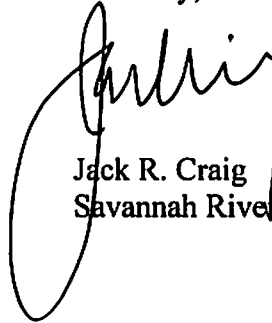
In addition, the SRS Cold War History Program is working closely with the City of Aiken, the SRS Community Reuse Organization, and the SRS Museum to expand Nuclear Science Week activities to include SRS history. Nuclear Science Week 2017 (October 16 through October 21, 2017) will include events in Aiken, South Carolina, including a ribbon cutting for a new kiosk planned for the Park Avenue Park Fall Out Shelter (half a block from the SRS Museum), daily events at the SRS Museum, and a block party (Atoms in the Alley) on Saturday October 21, 2017. The SRS Cold War Program is researching and developing content for the Fall Out Shelter, as well as fabrication of the panels. Dozens of resources from SRS are involved in planning of both the robotics exhibits and demonstrations as well as the "Atoms in the Alley" event.

Mrs. Spinnelli

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If you have any questions, please contact me or have your staff contact Avery Hammett, of my staff, at (803) 952-7805.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack R. Craig". The signature is stylized with a large, looping initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jack R. Craig
Savannah River Site Manager

AMIES-17-016

cc:

David Borak, EM-4.32
Kristen Ellis, EM-5.31
Michael Mikolanis, DDFO
Pamela Marks, DDFO
David Wilson, SCDHEC
Gwen Keyes, EPA
Mark Williams, GADNR