



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

MAY 10 2018

Mr. Gil Allensworth, Chairperson
Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board
P.O. Box A
Aiken, SC 29802

Dear Mr. Allensworth:

SUBJECT: Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation Number #353 – Defense Waste Processing Facility Additional Failed Equipment Storage (Your letter, dated 11/14/2017)

Thank you for your recommendation regarding additional failed equipment storage for the Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF) at the Savannah River Site. The Department of Energy, Savannah River Operations Office (DOE-SR) partially accepts your recommendations and submits the following responses to each recommendation subpart,

CAB recommendation:

1. *Initiate the budget for the construction of Failed Equipment Storage vault for melter numbers 3 and 4.*

We accept this subpart. During the budget formulation process, DOE-SR identifies and submits funding requests in the Integrated Priority List needed to meet all Minimum Safe and Regulatory Compliance scope requirements.

2. *Develop design of the Failed Equipment Storage.*

We cannot accept this subpart. DOE Order 413.3B, *PROGRAM AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT FOR THE ACQUISITION OF CAPITAL ASSETS*, provides the program and project management direction for the acquisition of capital assets within the Department. DOE O 413.3B requires approval of multiple critical decisions before design of a capital asset can begin. DOE-SR will follow the budget formulation process as stated in recommendation #1 above. However, until a capital line item project has been approved by Congress and critical decision #1 (CD-1) has been approved by the appropriate project management executive (PME), DOE-SR cannot commit design funds.

3. *Start the construction to keep the construction cost low, and it should be completed as soon as possible so that it does not impact HLW disposition schedules.*

We cannot accept this subpart. DOE Order 413.3B, *PROGRAM AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT FOR THE ACQUISITION OF CAPITAL ASSETS*, provides the program and project management direction for the acquisition of capital assets within the Department. DOE O 413.3B requires approval of multiple critical decisions before construction of a capital asset can begin. DOE-SR

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will follow the budget formulation process as stated in recommendation #1 above. However, until a capital line item project has been approved by Congress and critical decision #3 (CD-3) has been approved by the appropriate project management executive (PME), DOE-SR cannot commit construction funds.

As always, DOE welcomes input from the public as we continue to work on cleanup and waste disposition activities at the Savannah River Site.

If you have questions, you can contact me or contact Roberto Gonzalez, of my staff, at (803) 208-6168.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. D. Budney", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael D. Budney
Savannah River Site Manager

WDPD-18-24

cc:

Kristen Ellis, EM-5.31

Susan Clizbe, OEA

David Borak, EM-4.32

Jim Folk, DDFO, DOE-SR

Michael Mikolanis, DDFO

David Wilson, SCDHEC

Gwen Keys, EPA

Mark Williams, GADNR