



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

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

Dear Mr. Allensworth:

SUBJECT: Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation 367 – Stakeholder Awareness Study (Your letter, dated November 19, 2019)

Thank you for your recommendation concerning stakeholder awareness of Savannah River Site (SRS) Environmental Management (EM) activities. The Department of Energy (DOE) Savannah River Operations Office (SR) accepts this recommendation and provides the following response.

CAB Recommendation

The CAB recommends that DOE-SR fund a scientifically valid and reliable baseline survey of the stakeholder population in order to ascertain its understanding of SRS EM activities, to measure its interest in and concerns about SRS, and to determine efficient and effective channels for SRS EM outreach to stakeholders.

Given the importance of confidence in the findings, i.e., achieving scientific validity and reliability, the survey should be designed (with substantial CAB and DOE-SR input) and fielded by a credible research organization (such as a local university) and employ a sample and sample size that will yield a useful margin of error (e.g., +/- 5 percentage points) and confidence interval.

DOE-SR agrees that the timely and frequent engagement with stakeholders is crucial to our success. In order to do that effectively, we need to understand what stakeholders know, and do not know, about the site, as well as what outreach methods are effective. While we have done studies in the past and believe that we have a robust community outreach program, we agree that a current survey could help us understand what outreach methods work best in today's environment and ultimately help improve community and stakeholder awareness about the site and EM activities.

The Department thanks you for your recommendation and values the CAB's position on SRS programs and, when possible, factors those opinions into Department decisions.

Mr. Allensworth

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If you have any questions, please contact me or Amy Boyette, of my staff, at (803) 761-3897.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Budney
Savannah River Site Manager

OEA-20-1009

cc:

Kelly Snyder, Acting DFO
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