



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

APR 11 2000

Ms. Karen Patterson, Chair  
Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board  
1103 Conger Drive  
Aiken, SC 29803

Dear Ms. Patterson:

**SUBJECT:** Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation #117 - Alternatives for On-Site Disposal of Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) Waste

Thank you for submitting the subject recommendation regarding Alternatives for On-Site Disposal of CERCLA Waste.

The Department of Energy (DOE) does not currently plan to remove and dispose of low-level radioactive soils from any operable unit listed in the Federal Facility Agreement.

As discussed with the Environmental Remediation Committee on March 27, the TNX Outfall Delta does comprise several acres of soils, contaminated with low levels of radioactive substances, in the Savannah River Swamp, a wetland habitat. We are completing the investigation of the extent of contamination now, and beginning to identify our preliminary cleanup objectives and likely response actions. Remediating these soils in place would represent the best balance between environmental protection and risk reduction, and be the most cost-effective option.

We will be pleased to provide a briefing on this subject at an upcoming Environmental Remediation Committee meeting.

It is DOE's position that the CAB must be informed and involved in issues early during the decision-making process when its recommendations are most useful. It remains our goal to afford the CAB this level of involvement in the issues on which you advise us and our regulators.

If you have any questions, please call me or Brian Hennessey at (803) 725-7032.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Rudy", is written over the typed name.

Greg Rudy  
Manager

OD-00-034