



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

APR 12 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 Number 119 -
Compacted Versus Non-compacted Waste Disposal in the E-Area Trenches

Thank you for submitting the subject recommendation regarding our plans to evaluate the need for waste compaction prior to waste disposal in the E-Area trenches.

As part of the annual systematic evaluation of low-level waste disposal, we will evaluate the need to compact waste planned for trench disposal. Technical, operational, cost effectiveness, protection of human health and the environment, as well as other factors will be considered in this evaluation. Technical concerns including impact on closure, subsidence potential, and impact to the Performance Assessments and Composite Analysis will be included in the evaluation. The results of this evaluation will be included in the Fiscal Year 2001 update of the System Plan for the Solid Waste Division. As we further evaluate the results from the System Plan and identify the waste streams that could be disposed without compaction and the benefit/impact of doing so, we will present the information to you. This presentation will be scheduled for the summer of 2001.

If you have any questions, please call me or Virgil Sauls at (803) 725-4505.

Sincerely,

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

Greg Rudy
Manager

OC-00-065