



Department of Energy
Carlsbad Area Office
P. O. Box 3090
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221

JAN 11 1996

Mr. Bob Slay
P.O. Box 192
Beech Island, SC 29842

Ms. Mildred McClain
720 Maupas Avenue
Savannah, GA 31401

Dear Mr. Slay and Ms. McClain:


Thank you for your letter of December 11, 1995, enclosing the Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board recommendation that the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Disposal Phase Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) address environmental issues associated with not operating WIPP (i.e. environmental impacts at the Savannah River Site) and that the schedule for waste removal be published in future WIPP documents.

The Carlsbad Area Office plans to evaluate the environmental impacts of leaving transuranic waste at the generator sites (including Savannah River) under the no-action alternative and an alternative that would involve continued storage in state-of-the-art monitored retrievable storage facilities. In addition, the alternatives that involve disposal of transuranic waste at WIPP will examine the impacts of waste retrieval, packaging, processing and treatment at the generator sites. The Department will consider these impacts, along with transportation impacts and the environmental impacts at the WIPP site in making its decision whether to commence the WIPP disposal phase.

The proposed schedule for removal of waste from Savannah River for disposal at WIPP will be made public when that schedule is determined.

I appreciate your interest in the WIPP SEIS and have added your names to the distribution list for the SEIS. If you do not believe the plans for addressing impacts at Savannah River in the SEIS are responsive to the Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board recommendation, please let me know.

Sincerely,


For George E. Dials
Manager

cc:
Dennis Hurtt
Ann Marshall
Glen Hanson



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