



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

May 3, 2001

Ms. Karen Patterson, Chairperson
SRS Citizens Advisory Board
1103 Conger Drive
Aiken, SC 29803

Dear Ms. Patterson:

Subject: Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation No. 137 - Salt Processing Alternatives Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS)

Thank you for your recommendation on the Salt Processing Alternatives Draft SEIS. The salt processing alternative technology selection is a critical priority with the Department and the process remains on schedule for a June 2001 decision date. With respect to the National Environmental Policy Act Salt Processing Alternatives SEIS schedule, the Final SEIS will be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency and the Notice of Availability (NOA) published in the Federal Register in late June 2001. The Record of Decision would follow 30 days after the NOA for the Final SEIS. The timing of the Final SEIS and Record of Decision will be integrated with the technology down-selection process.

As discussed at the recent CAB meeting on April 24, 2001, the Department's Fiscal Year 2002 budget is being considered by Congress. The high-level waste tank closure progress and associated regulatory commitments will be taken into consideration in the process of determining final allocations and schedules.

If you have any questions, please call me or Larry Ling at (803) 208-8248.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Rudy", is written over a horizontal line.

Greg Rudy
Manager

OB-01-025