

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. 138 High-Level Waste (HLW) Tank Closure Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

Thank you for your recommendation on the HLW Tank Closure Draft EIS. The Preliminary Final EIS will be completed by SRS and delivered to the Department of Energy (DOE) Headquarters (HQ) by the end of May 2001. Subsequently, DOE-HQ will issue the Final EIS. We will keep you informed of progress.

As discussed at the recent CAB meeting on April 24, 2001, the Department's proposed Fiscal Year 2002 budget is being considered by Congress. Once the budget is finalized, the Savannah River Operations Office will provide a schedule relative to the HLW tank closure program. We appreciate the continued interest and support of the CAB for the Savannah River Site HLW tank closure program.

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

Sincerely,

Greg Rudy Manager

OB-01-024