



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

FEB 04 2002

Mr. Wade Waters, Chair
Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board
308 Pinewood Drive
Pooler, GA 31322

Dear Mr. Waters:

SUBJECT: Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation Number 146 - Plutonium Uranium Extraction Process (PUREX) Recovery Alternatives

Thank you for your recommendation regarding PUREX Recovery Alternatives. As discussed with the Consolidated Incineration Facility Focus Group in their December 2001 meeting, the team of individuals working on the disposition of the in-process Canyon PUREX solvents is working closely with the Waste Management Division in determining their disposition options for the legacy PUREX solvents. This is being performed as a joint effort to maximize our existing resources and to ensure that the technology options are being shared across the organizations at the Savannah River Site. As suggested in your recommendation, we intend to perform a cost benefit analysis within the PUREX Treatment Alternatives Study to determine if it is cost effective to decontaminate the solvent, begin use of commercial vendor disposition options, or follow the PUREX Treatment Alternatives Study options currently being evaluated. Unfortunately, the timing of this analysis will not support your April 23, 2002, request; however, we will be glad to brief you of our progress at that time.

Over the next year, we will be performing more detailed solvent analyses that will further inform our alternatives evaluation. All these analyses are part of a systems engineering approach that should result in a cost effective treatment and disposal solution for both legacy and future PUREX wastes.

Thank you for your continued interest, we will keep the CAB informed of our progress.

Sincerely,

Greg Rudy
Manager

UC-02-043