Department of Energy

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

AUG 0 5 2003

Mr. Wade Waters, Chair
Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board
308 Pinewood Drive
Pooler, GA 31411

Dear Mr. Waters:

SUBJECT: Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation Number 167-Savannah River Site (SRS) Environmental Management Integrated Deactivation and Decommissioning (D&D) Plan (Your letter 7/23/03)

Thank you for your support of and recommendations on the SRS Environmental Management Integrated D&D Plan. DOE-SR accepts your recommendations and will further expand on them in the upcoming revision of the plan. Responses are as follows:

1. DOE-SR will use the Ranking and Sequencing Model briefly described in Section 3.2 of the plan, and more specifically in Appendix F, to determine the scope of the D&D Program. While footprint reduction is the desired end state, appropriate focus is still maintained on risk reduction and mitigation as interim conditions. The model, which is based on widely accepted Decision Analysis methods, considers three factors in determining scope; risk to the environment, safety and health of the public and site workers, economics (costs), and programmatic risk. We are focused on end states that close whole areas. While this sometimes eliminates buildings with low risk, it is more cost effective and frees up funds to do further risk reduction.

2. DOE-SR will continue to focus on risk reduction and elimination in activities conducted during operations shutdown and transition to D&D. The primary goal of these activities, especially during the deactivation phase, is to reduce or eliminate hazards, including source term removal.

3. DOE-SR will continue to request funding to support the D&D Program. The timeline for facility D&D described in the plan reflects the funding profiles contained in the revised contract through November 2006.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Dennis Godbee of my staff at (803) 952-7919.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey M. Allison
Manager