



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

DEC 22 2003

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 178 - "Savannah River Site (SRS) Visitor Center and Museum" (Your letter, 11/19/03)

Thank you for your recommendation on SRS's efforts to comply with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The Department of Energy Savannah River Operations Office (DOE-SR) has and will continue to involve the stakeholders in the NHPA compliance activities at SRS. The information gained from recent public meetings was integrated into the draft Programmatic Agreement (PA). My response to the CAB's recommendation is as follows:

1. DOE-SR should identify a contact person immediately and provide timely support to the Citizens for Nuclear Awareness (CNTA) development of a strategic plan and scope of work for a museum at SRS, or another appropriate site, and an SRS Visitor Center.

Response #1:

- a. The DOE-SR point of contact for NHPA activities is John Knox. John will also serve as a liaison with CNTA. John can be reached by phone at (803) 952-7235 or email at john.knox@srs.gov.
 - b. If the final PA includes an evaluation for a Historic Center, when it is signed, DOE-SR will support CNTA in their development of a strategic plan.
2. DOE-SR should work with CNTA to facilitate CAB, SRS, and general public review of the strategic plan.

Response #2: If the final PA includes an evaluation for a Historic Center, DOE-SR will support CNTA in their development of a strategic plan. DOE-SR will assist in obtaining appropriate SRS reviews.

3. DOE-SR should schedule a site visit for CNTA representatives of the Pile Physics Laboratory (Building 777-10A) before December 8, 2003, to review the historical value of the building and its artifacts (as referenced in the Cultural Resources Management Plan [CRMP], Section 3.4.6.1, Page 3-93, Revision 3), and the possible need to extend the deactivation and decommissioning timeline.

Mr. Wade Waters

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05/12/2003

Response #3: A tour which included the ground level floor of Building 777-10A was completed on December 9, 2003. Mr. Walt Joseph, our CNTA point of contact, was able to participate in this tour, but Mayor Young of Augusta, Georgia was available for only part of the day and missed the Building 777-10A portion of the tour. We plan to schedule Mr. Joseph, Mayor Young, and others with CNTA for a more extensive walk-through of Building 777-10A in January 2004.

4. DOE-SR should grant "Consulting Party" status to CNTA, as defined by the NHPA, in regard to historic preservation at SRS. This should be with an understanding that CNTA's involvement and response must be timely and not impede on the progress of the actions covered under the PA.

Response #4: DOE-SR has granted "Consulting Party" status to CNTA. A CNTA representative attended the meeting to discuss the draft PA and draft CRMP on December 10, 2003.

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

Sincerely,



Jeffrey M. Allison
Manager



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