

Department of Energy Savannah River Operations Office P.O. Box A Aiken, South Carolina 29802 APR 0 8 1996

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Mr. Robert H. Slay, Chairperson Citizens Advisory Board Post Office Box 192 Beech Island, South Carolina 29842

Dear Mr. Slay:

SUBJECT: Citizens Advisory Board Recommendation Number 17

The Department of Energy (DOE) Savannah River Operations Office (SR) appreciates the Citizens Advisory Board's involvement in the Savannah River Site's budget prioritization process. Due to constrained budget targets, SR will have to continue to carefully assess and prioritize its mission requirements to ensure that the limited resources are applied to those activities with the highest priority.

Even though we have to deal with constrained budget targets, SR will continue to exert its best efforts to ensure full funding is obtained to meet all its mission and regulatory mandates. This will include, if necessary, formal budget requests to DOE Headquarters at levels exceeding budget targets.

To mitigate the impacts of constrained budget targets, SR has made substantial progress in the past several years in implementing operational cost efficiencies and identifying additional funding sources to assure the funds necessary to operate the Site. These efforts will continue.

Once again, we appreciate the input of the Citizens Advisory Board and look forward to working with the Board in the future.

Sincerely,

Cl Chopser

Mario P. Fiori Manager

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