



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

FEB 24 2004

Ms. Jean Sulc, Chair
Savannah River Citizens Advisory Board
24 Harbor River Circle
St. Helena Island, South Carolina 29920

Dear Ms. Sulc:

SUBJECT: Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation Number 181 – High Level Waste (HLW) Tank Longevity Versus Expected Lifetime (Your letter, 01/28/04)

Thank you for your Recommendation regarding HLW Tank Longevity versus Expected Lifetime. We appreciate your support in desiring tangible, near-time progress toward HLW disposition and tank closure. The U.S. Department of Energy Savannah River Operations Office (DOE-SR) will update you on our understanding of the issues surrounding waste removal from the HLW Tanks by May 24, 2004.

DOE is working with the State of South Carolina to resolve issues regarding the Waste Incidental to Reprocessing process. Disposal limits for salt waste cannot be established until these issues are resolved. By May 24, 2004, DOE will update you on the status of these efforts.

DOE agrees that tank closure activities should be pursued expeditiously and is working to establish a path forward. DOE will brief you by July 26, 2004, on the progress of these activities.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me or Charles Hansen, of my staff, at (803) 208-6072.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeffrey M. Allison".

Jeffrey M. Allison
Manager