



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

APR 29 2004

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

Dear Ms. Sulc:

SUBJECT: Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation Number 187 – Savannah River Site (SRS) Transuranic (TRU) Waste Program Acceleration (Your letter, 3/24/04)

Thank you for your recommendation regarding the SRS acceleration of the TRU Waste Program. The acceleration of TRU waste shipments from SRS to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) is one of the Site's highest priorities that has shown tremendous success. In March 2004, the Site completed several interim milestones that exemplify the success the TRU Program has achieved. They include:

- Reduced legacy TRU waste volume by 25 percent (from 12,000 cubic meters to 9,000 cubic meters).
- Shipped the 10,000th TRU waste drum to WIPP on March 6, 2004.

The U.S. Department of Energy Savannah River Operations Office (DOE-SR) continues to aggressively pursue the removal of TRU waste at SRS and support the "Maximum Case" under the Westinghouse Savannah River Company (WSRC) contract. DOE will continue to brief the CAB on the progress of the TRU Waste Program and related matters that have a significant impact to our TRU Program.

The CAB identified five parts to Recommendation 187 that I would like to address:

Parts 1 through 3 – DOE-SR will provide the CAB a response by September 27, 2004.

Part 4 - DOE is aggressively pursuing the delivery and startup of the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) glovebox at SRS. The delivery of the glovebox has slipped and is on critical path for WSRC drum remediation needs. DOE-SR expects the LANL glovebox will be operable in early Fiscal Year (FY) 2005 to support the completion of drum remediation activities in FY 2006.

Part 5 - DOE views the SRS TRU Waste Program as one of the Site's highest priorities and will make every effort to continue to fund the removal of TRU waste. It is important the CAB understands the removal of all legacy TRU waste by 2006 is a goal and not a DOE commitment.

Ms. Sulc

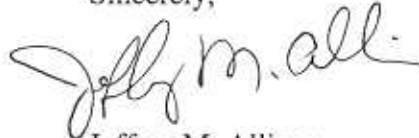
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DOE plans to aggressively pursue the "Maximum Case," but must prioritize the TRU Program funding level within the overall Site cleanup mission and the inevitable uncertainties associated with the Federal Budget process.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Charles Hansen at (803) 208-6072.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff M. Allison". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jeff" and last name "Allison" clearly distinguishable.

Jeffrey M. Allison
Manager

DD-04-052

cc: D. Haygood, WSRC (CAB Files)