

Department of Energy

Savannah River Operations Office P.O. Box A Aiken, South Carolina 29802 JUN 2 5 2004

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

Dear Ms. Sulc:

SUBJECT: Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation 189, Performance Management Plan 2004

Thank you for your recommendation regarding the Savannah River Site (SRS) Environmental Management (EM) Program Performance Management Plan (PMP). The site continues to pursue accelerated completion of the EM cleanup mission at SRS and this execution plan is a critical tool in this effort. The Savannah River Operations Office (SR) revised the PMP to employ a project approach and encompass all work scope required to complete the EM mission at the SRS. SR also used the latest available planning assumptions and guidance. I assure you that SR is very committed and accountable for execution of the EM cleanup at SRS.

The CAB identified four parts of the recommendation that I would like to address:

Parts 1 and 3 – As part of the final PMP, SR will provide a discussion on accountability and alternatives for the identified assumptions: Yucca Mountain and plutonium 238 disposal alternatives. For those assumptions that a change could significantly impact the EM cleanup mission, risk mitigation strategies will be provided. SR will revalidate the planning assumptions as part of our annual review of the PMP.

Part 2 – The Department of Energy has been working with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission on Yucca Mountain activities since its inception. We will continue to pursue aggressively a schedule for shipments from SRS to Yucca Mountain and will provide you a copy of the implementation plan when it is developed.

Part 4 – SR continues to internally evaluate disposal alternatives for plutonium 238 transuranic waste. SR plans to provide the requested information to the CAB by September 27, 2004.

Again, we appreciate your support of this effort, including your willingness to host a workshop dedicated to discussing the PMP with the CAB and other stakeholders.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Virginia Kay at (803) 952-6674.

Sincerely, . all. Jeffrey M. Allison

Manager

HA-04-0045

cc: D. Haygood, WSRC (CAB Files)