



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

DEC 07 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 201 – Repackaging of Transuranic (TRU) Waste Black Boxes (Your letter, 11/17/04)

Thank you for your recommendation regarding the repackaging of TRU waste black boxes. The presentation given to the CAB on November 15, 2004, provided the results of a successful pilot project to repackage 2 black boxes in an existing Savannah River Site (SRS) facility (F-Canyon). The pilot project demonstrates SRS can use existing site facilities to safely perform TRU waste repackaging and avoid costly capital expenditures on new facilities. The Department of Energy (DOE) shares the CAB's desire to evaluate the use of H-Canyon and other SRS facilities to repackage TRU waste to continue the acceleration of TRU waste disposition at SRS.

On Recommendation 201, the CAB identified three parts that I would like to address:

Parts 1 and 2 request DOE evaluate H-Canyon or another appropriate existing facility to repackage high activity TRU waste black boxes and continue to use E-Area to repackage low activity TRU waste black boxes.

DOE agrees and will provide a status update to the CAB by February 28, 2005.

Part 3 requests DOE provide an update and timeline by February 28, 2005, to assure the CAB that the entire inventory of legacy TRU waste is removed by 2008.

DOE will provide an update and timeline to the CAB by February 28, 2005.

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, reading "Jeffrey M. Allison", is positioned above the printed name.

Jeffrey M. Allison
Manager

WDPD-05-038