

Department of Energy Savannah River Operations Office P.O. Box A Aiken, South Carolina 29802 JUN 1 6 2005

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 Number 213 - Proposed Plutonium Vitrification Facility at the Savannah River Site (SRS)

Thank you for the CAB's interest in plutonium disposition and your recommendations on our Plutonium Vitrification initiative. We are currently in the very early stages of formulating the requirements for this project and hope to have Secretary of Energy approval to proceed with Conceptual Design (CD-0) sometime this summer. As part of the Conceptual Design phase, we will explore your capability and programmatic recommendations and develop alternatives. These alternatives will be evaluated once the project reaches CD-1, which will be late 2006 or early 2007. My Assistant Manager for Nuclear Material Stabilization Project will provide you status updates as the project progresses, and we will provide the CAB a comprehensive briefing as we reach the alternative and cost determination stages.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Sachiko McAlhany of my staff at (803) 208-3972.

Sincerely,

m. all

Jeffrey M. Allison Manager

NMPD-05-092