

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

AUG 15 2005

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 217 – Additional Transuranic (TRU) Waste Shipments from Mound (Your letter, 7/27/05)

Thank you for your recommendation regarding TRU waste from the Department of Energy (DOE) Mound site. DOE appreciates the CAB's continued support for the planned shipments of TRU waste from Mound and notes the importance of the Mound Agreement. For Recommendation 217, the CAB identified three parts that I would like to address:

Part 1 requests DOE assure that the Savannah River Site (SRS) send four shipments of TRU waste to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) (of equal volumetric quantities to incoming Mound shipments) for every one shipment of Mound waste received at SRS.

As of August 3, 2005, SRS has shipped 612 cubic meters (versus the 400 required by an Agreement between DOE and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control) of TRU waste to WIPP in Fiscal Year 2005. Mound has made one shipment of 16.4 cubic meters and plans to make a final shipment of approximately 15 cubic meters later this month. Upon completion, DOE estimates Mound will only ship 30-35 cubic meters of the 100 cubic meters capacity granted in the Agreement to SRS.

Part 2 requests DOE notify the SRS CAB as soon as possible if it is sending any additional TRU waste from other DOE sites to SRS.


DOE will notify the SRS CAB as requested.

Part 3 notes DOE could expect equity considerations before any additional TRU waste shipments from other DOE sites are received at SRS.

DOE understands the CAB's position and will consider the suggested equity considerations identified in Recommendation 217. DOE will work with the CAB to ensure their input is considered before any additional TRU waste shipments from other DOE sites are received at SRS.

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

Sincerely,


Jeffrey M. Allison
Manager

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