



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

JUL 3 2006

Ms. Karen Patterson, Chair
Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board
1103 Conger Drive
Aiken, South Carolina 29803

Dear Ms. Patterson:

SUBJECT: Response to Recommendation 231, Integrated Management Approach (Your letter, 5/25/06)

I have reviewed the subject recommendation regarding the integration of Savannah River Site's (SRS's) liquid radioactive waste treatment and disposal system. I accept the recommendation and my response to the two parts of Recommendation 231 is as follows.

- 1. Provide the SRS Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) with the method the Department of Energy (DOE) uses to ensure that all pertinent testing and design information/data (in addition to appropriate lessons learned from operational experience) are shared between the two contractors and that existing contracting constraints do not interfere with the interactions and dissemination of information between the two contractors.**

The DOE Savannah River Operations Office serves as the integrator between Washington Savannah River Company (WSRC) and Parsons Infrastructure and Technology Group (Parsons) and is responsible for ensuring that contractual issues do not impede the flow of technical information between the two. DOE's responsibilities are specifically delineated in the Parsons contract. In addition, the Salt Waste Processing Facility project has an Interface Management Plan (V-ESR-J-00025), specifically prepared to support the flow of technical data. The plan is signed by DOE, WSRC, and Parsons.

DOE, through the use of its integrated project teams and the Federal staff of the Salt Processing Division, ensures that testing and design information developed by one contractor is shared with the other contractor. There are regularly scheduled meetings involving all three organizations that take place weekly, monthly, and as needed depending on the topic. In fact, there have been two special meetings held in the past month to review the most recent contractor test data.

As Parsons conducts additional large scale tests later this year and as WSRC brings the Actinide Removal Process and the Modular Caustic Side Solvent Extraction Unit facilities into operation in 2007, DOE will ensure this steady flow of information between the two contractors continues unimpeded.


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2. **Explain to the SRS CAB how the hazard analysis process is being used to evaluate the hazards between existing and new facilities within the same general area and how the hazard analysis process can be implemented across a more integrated system-wide basis. The SRS CAB wants to know the schedule for implementation and who at DOE Headquarters (HQ) is responsible to ensure that the more integrated management approach is utilized.**

As noted during the April 11, 2006, presentation to the Waste Management Committee, policy and guidance has been drafted regarding this subject. The Office of Environment, Safety, and Health (EH) is the HQ organization responsible for developing those draft documents. A reorganization of EH is currently underway, and DOE will provide more details concerning this subject once that reorganization is complete.

Thank you for your recommendation on these very important activities at SRS. If you have any questions, please contact me or Mike Mikolanis at (803) 208-1223.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey M. Allison". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jeffrey" being more prominent and the last name "Allison" following in a similar style.

Jeffrey M. Allison
Manager

WDED-06-43