



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

OCT 10 1996

Mr. Robert Slay
P. O. Box 192
Beech Island, South Carolina 29842

Dear Mr. Slay:

SUBJECT: Alternative Saltstone Disposal Method

I am pleased to accept the Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board's Recommendation 24, pertaining to the design of an alternative Saltstone disposal method. We fully support the continued evaluation of an alternative Saltstone disposal method such as an engineered industrial landfill similar to a municipal landfill.

We are still in the pre-conceptual design of alternative disposal methods. At this time, further design work is on hold pending the resolution of the Fiscal Year 1997 budget availability. However, we will continue design work and make a final decision prior to when we need to begin construction of the next Saltstone vault. As we move forward, we will review our plans for determining and evaluating alternative designs with the SRS Citizens Advisory Board. Our plans will include an appropriate level of timely input from non-SRS sources, and we will review these plans with you as they are developed.

If you have any questions regarding this response, or would like to discuss the matter further, please contact me or A. Lee Watkins, Assistant Manager for High Level Waste, at (803) 208-6053.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "M. Fiori", is written over the typed name.

Mario P. Fiori
Manager

PA-97-0002