



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

DEC 20 2007

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

Dear Ms. Patterson:

SUBJECT: Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation Number 251 - Accelerate the Transuranic (TRU) Waste Disposition Program (Your letter, 11/28/07)

Thank you for your recommendation on accelerating the Savannah River Site (SRS) TRU waste disposition program. As noted in your recommendation, SRS has been very successful with reducing the legacy TRU waste inventory and has dispositioned approximately 25,600 drums and 1,200 cubic meters of boxed TRU waste to date. The Department of Energy (DOE) views the SRS TRU waste program a significant success for the Site and the DOE complex-wide as a whole. DOE is also in agreement with the CAB that completing the disposition of the legacy TRU waste inventory at SRS would be a major accomplishment and a huge success. My responses to the two parts of Recommendation #251 are as follows:

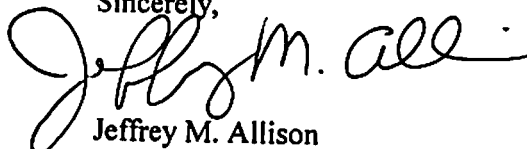
- 1. Part 1 - Commit in writing to the SRS CAB and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) that all legacy TRU waste will be removed from SRS by fiscal year (FY) 2013.**

As part of the dispute resolution with SCDHEC concerning the extension of closure dates for SRS waste tanks 18 and 19, DOE has agreed to have good faith discussions with SCDHEC beginning in January 2008 to establish disposition dates for removal of legacy TRU waste from SRS. The intent of these discussions is to incorporate agreed upon dates as written commitments into appropriate regulatory mechanisms. DOE will keep the CAB informed of progress in establishing disposition dates for legacy TRU waste and will brief the CAB on the resulting disposition schedule when completed.

- 2. Part 2 - Increase the SRS target funding level for FY 2009 to a level that continues to accelerate the legacy TRU waste disposition activities and ensure that future funding requests are adequate to complete the removal of all legacy TRU waste no later than 2013.**

SR remains committed to accelerating the disposition of the legacy TRU waste inventory at SRS and will continue to request funding at levels that support early completion. DOE will continue to update the CAB on funding for TRU waste disposition as appropriate during briefings on SRS Project Baseline Summary - 013, "Solid Waste Disposition."

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

Sincerely,

Jeffrey M. Allison
Manager