



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

DEC 12 2013

Dr. Donald N. Bridges, Chairperson  
Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board  
P.O. Box A  
Aiken, SC 29802

Dear Dr. Bridges:

SUBJECT: Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation Number 312 – Liquid Waste Treatment Maximization (Your letter dated, September 25, 2013)

Thank you for your recommendation on “Liquid Waste Treatment Maximization.” The Department of Energy (DOE), Savannah River Operations Office accepts your recommendation and provides the following responses to the recommendation:

1. *The DOE review the available technologies for liquid waste treatment and any feasible technological improvements and determine the optimal way to allocate resources to reduce risk most rapidly until the SWPF facility can be completed.*

DOE agrees with the CAB that technological improvements have potential to facilitate liquid salt waste processing prior to SWPF operations, and if successful, may leverage future SWPF operations as well. As briefed to the CAB last August, during 2013, activities were performed to allow radioactive demonstration of the Next Generation Solvent in the Modular Caustic Side Solvent Extraction Unit (MCU) process during early 2014. DOE would appreciate the opportunity to brief the CAB on the results of this demonstration in early summer (projected for June 2014 time frame).

2. *The DOE report to the CAB by January 2014 on their findings if an approach is determined to be available that can reprioritize resources to reduce risk more rapidly.*

The Liquid Waste System Plan is the method used to document planned approaches to liquid waste processing. DOE would appreciate the opportunity to brief the CAB on the Revision 19 Liquid Waste System Plan in the April-May 2014 time frame in lieu of January 2014.

The 2014 demonstration of the Next Generation Solvent in MCU will complete after publication of the Liquid Waste System Plan, Revision 19. The results of the demonstration, if successful, will inform possible future approaches to apply the Next Generation Solvent for optimized and accelerated risk reduction via salt processing. DOE plans to keep the CAB informed of technology evaluations and system plan changes as they evolve, and greatly appreciates the interest and support of the CAB for this area.

Mr. Bridges

2

DEC 12 2013

As always, DOE welcomes input from the public as we continue to work on cleanup and waste disposition activities at the Savannah River Site. If you have any questions, you can contact me or Terry Spears, of my staff, at (803) 208-6072.

Sincerely,



David C. Moody  
Manager

WDPD-14-12

cc:

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