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Promoting Health, Protecting the Environment

May 2, 1995

Mr. Bob Slay
P.O. Box 192
Beach Island, SC 29842

Dear Mr Slay:

Thank you for your letter of March 31, 1995 regarding the recommendation adopted by the Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) at their March 28, 1995 meeting. It is encouraging to know that citizens such as yourself and other members of the CAB are willing to give their time to discuss and make recommendations to solve some of the many complex environmental issues at the Savannah River Site.

The CAB recommendation adopted March 28, 1995 involved an Independent Scientific Peer Review of the groundwater remediation activities for the F and H areas and the A and M areas. The recommendation also involved DOE and the regulators setting the scope of work for the peer review. The review would consider benefits of the remediation activities related to their costs. The CAB also recommended that the conclusions of the peer review be incorporated into the post-closure permit which is currently on public notice until May 17, 1995.

The Department believes the permit requirements to date are technically appropriate. The Department will certainly consider any new information presented during the public comment period and will make appropriate changes to the permit in response to that new information. If new information becomes available after the public comment period and issuance of the permit we will consider that information in deciding if modifications to the permit are necessary. We feel that the review should be conducted independently, and therefore do not plan to participate in defining the scope of work for the peer review.

The Department encourages public involvement in the permitting process and would be pleased to review and consider any additional information provided by the Independent Scientific Peer Review.

Sincerely,


Douglas E. Bryant
Commissioner

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