

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

AUG 01 1997

Ms. Ann Loadholt, Chairperson
Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board
P. O. Box 365
Barnwell, S. C. 29812

Dear Ms. Loadholt:

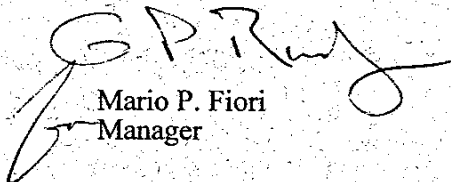
**SUBJECT: Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation
Number 40 Regarding the Savannah River Operations Office (SR) Fiscal Year
(FY) 1999 Budget Prioritization**

The Department of Energy (DOE) SR accepts the CAB recommendation on FY 1999 budget prioritization guidelines and your related suggestions for improvement as detailed in your Recommendation Number 40. These guidelines have been incorporated into the prioritization of the FY 1999 work activities which SR has forwarded to DOE Headquarters and recommended as the basis for initial development of the FY 1999 DOE budget.

1. DOE SR continues to evaluate its allocation decisions to ensure high risk activities are funded.
2. The SR budget prioritization process results in placing highest priority on reducing risks to the health and safety of the public, workers, and environment.
3. Nuclear material stabilization has been given a higher priority than spent fuel shipments, receipt, and storage.
4. Evaluation of spent nuclear fuel alternative technologies has been given a lower priority on the SR priority list until higher risk activities have been completed.
5. SR agrees that new missions must be financed by the mission sponsors and the priority list reflects this as an underlying assumption.

Thank you for the SRS CAB input in all matters as we work together to accomplish the SRS missions. Questions concerning this response may be directed to me or Jim Buice of my staff at (803) 725-2263.

Sincerely,


Mario P. Fiori
Manager

TB-97-0120