

Department of Energy

Field Office, Savannah River P.O. Box A Aiken, South Carolina 29802

APR 2 3 1998

Ms. Ann Loadholt, Chair Citizens Advisory Board P.O. Box 365 Barnwell, SC 29812

Dear Ms. Loadholt:

SUBJECT: Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation Number 54 - SRS Beneficial Reuse Program

Thank you for your recommendation regarding the reuse of Radioactive Scrap Metals (RSM).

In response to paragraph 1 of your recommendation, SRS is evaluating total costs (including procurement and waste disposal) as part of its decision-making process on the potential reuse or free release of RSM. We are evaluating the feasibility of fabricating 300 new heavy water drums from either standard metal or RSM on a life-cycle cost basis.

In response to paragraph 2, SRS is working to identify markets within the DOE for its RSM. One area we are evaluating is the potential to use RSM for shielding blocks for the Accelerator Production of Tritium. We are also working with the DOE's National Metals Recycle Program in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, to find other methods for useful disposition of this metal.

In response to paragraph 3, SRS is evaluating alternatives for dealing with the excess reactor water heat exchangers. Through a formal "Request for Information," we are seeking the advice of private industry on how to best process the metal. We will use this information to determine the best path forward for the heat exchangers.

We will keep the CAB apprised of our progress in implementing this recommendation. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me or Karen Hooker at (803) 725-9615.

Sincerely,

Greg Rudy Acting Manager

OB-98-020