



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

DEC 08 1998

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

Dear Mr. Loadholt:

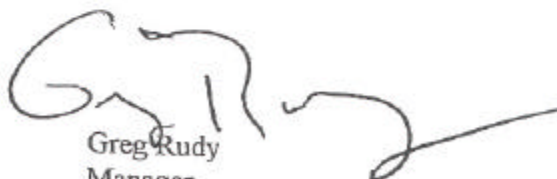
SUBJECT: Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation Number 73 - National Academy of Sciences (NAS) Study of Treatment Options

Thank you for the subject recommendation and request regarding NAS's independent evaluation of aluminum clad spent nuclear fuel treatment options. The observations of relevance the CAB described in the recommendation are also very important to the Department of Energy (DOE). Spent nuclear fuel management is an important mission for the Savannah River Site (SRS) and preparing spent nuclear fuel for ultimate disposition is a key element of that mission. DOE has reviewed the NAS report and will be considering the Academy's recommendations during the preparation of the Draft SRS Spent Nuclear Fuel Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and the process that will result in decisions on the management of aluminum-based spent nuclear fuel at the SRS.

A 45-day public comment period for the Draft EIS will begin with the publication of a Notice of Availability in the Federal Register. DOE expects that notice will be issued late December 1998. Public meetings for the Draft EIS will be held in January and February 1999. During the public comment period and at the CAB's convenience, DOE would be happy to discuss the recommendations of the NAS and how these recommendations will be considered. We look forward to discussing this subject with you in the near future.

If you have any questions, please call me or Marc Woodworth at (803) 952-2025.

Sincerely,

  
Greg Rudy  
Manager

UD-99-0014