

# SAVANNAH RIVER SITE CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

P.O. Box A ♦ Building 730-B, Room 1184 ♦ Aiken, SC 29802



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January 28, 2014

Dr. David Moody, Site Manager  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Savannah River Operations Office  
P. O. Box A  
Aiken, SC 29802

Dear Dr. Moody,

The recent government shutdown was fraught with potentials for the Savannah River Site (SRS), as well as all other sites in the Department of Energy (DOE) complex. In a general sense what were the lessons learned from this particular period of constrained budgets?

The SRS Citizens Advisory Board (CAB), in preparation for the November 18-19 Full Board, anticipated a pre-approved presentation addressing how SRS programs and projects were monitored and maintained during the government shutdown, what the impact of the government shutdown was on SRS programs and projects, and what the status of the programs and projects were following the shutdown. The intent of the request was constructive consideration of such issues as:

- Were there any indications from the downsizing experience that money can be saved for some programs or projects?
- Were there any indications that some programs or projects were at risk for a worst-case scenario as a result of the downsizing to a skeletal staff and security detail?
- In such a worst-case scenario, what resolutions were developed to control the risks
- As a result of the worst-case scenario, what plans were developed to inform the public of the possible risks and what actions were to be taken for and by the public?

At a minimum, the answers to the questions that the CAB asks can be used to help inform the Congress and Administration of the impacts and risks posed by a government shutdown at SRS and potentially all other sites in the DOE nuclear complex. These same answers can also be used to inform inquiring members of the public. Therefore, we are making a formal request to DOE for a response to these questions, along with another request that the presentation prepared by Maxine Maxted for the November 18-19 CAB Full Board meeting be given at the subsequent Full Board meeting. We are aware that the presentation given by Doug Hintze at the November 18-19 meeting addressed ramifications of the shutdown. However, it is the consensus of the CAB Executive Board that additional questions may develop as a result of the presentation which Mrs. Maxted was scheduled to present. There is still much to consider that may be useful as SRS programs and projects push forward in the complex cleanup effort and in preparation for future challenges such as budget reductions or another government shutdown.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Donald Bridges".

Dr. Donald Bridges, Chairperson  
SRS Citizens Advisory Board

cc:  
Kristen Ellis, EM-3.2, DOE-HQ  
Catherine Alexander, EM-3.2, DOE-HQ  
Terry Spears, Acting Deputy Manager, DOE-SR  
Sandra Waisley, DDFO, DOE-SR  
Angelia Adams, DDFO, DOE-SR  
Catherine Templeton, SCDHEC  
Sean Hayes, GADNR

The CAB's purpose is to provide advice and recommendations on environmental restoration, waste management, and related activities to DOE.

If you have questions or comments, please contact us at:  
Phone: 803-952-7884 • Toll Free: 1-800-249-8155 • Fax: 803-952-9228  
Email: [srscitizensadvisoryboard@srs.gov](mailto:srscitizensadvisoryboard@srs.gov)

For more information about the CAB, visit us at <http://cab.srs.gov>