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January 10, 2000

Ms. Ann Loadholt
Chairperson
Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board

Dear Ms. Loadholt:

Attached are the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control responses to Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board recommendations # 96, 104, and 106. Should you have any questions or comments, please contact Ann Clark at 803-898-3973 or Shelly Sherritt at 803-896-4181.

Sincerely,

R. Lewis Shaw

R. Lewis Shaw, PE
Deputy Commissioner
Environmental Quality Control

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION NUMBER 106 FROM THE SAVANNAH RIVER SITE CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

The clean up standards for remediation of the groundwater contamination at the Burial Ground Complex (BGC) have been set in the hazardous waste permit modification issued September 30, 1999 for the Mixed Waste Management Facility (MWMF) at the Savannah River Site (SRS). The corrective action plan for fulfillment of the permit standards is currently being drafted by SRS. Although the remediation standards are not open for revision at this time, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (Department) is willing to participate in a meeting to discuss groundwater remediation. The SRS has taken the lead in setting up this meeting by March 8, 2000 and will be assisted by the Department.

The Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) has requested provision of the following informational elements during the meeting: 1) a list of the adverse health effects, 2) the criteria that determine these health effects, 3) justification of the costs and benefits of the remediation, 4) a determination of the inventory of contaminants in the groundwater today and at the end of institutional control using computational models, and 5) a comparison of the remediation costs and benefits based on the above defined inventories. Provision of all of these informational elements is not within the scope of Department resources nor required as a part of each specific regulatory decision. Some of these types of informational elements are considered generally in the development of regulatory standards, which are then used in specific decisions. Such was the case for the BGC groundwater; duly promulgated regulatory standards were used to make a specific clean up decision. The Department is willing to discuss these informational elements at the meeting to be scheduled.