



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

FEB 25 2000

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

Dear Ms. Loadholt:

SUBJECT: Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation Number 112 "Selection of High Level Waste (HLW) Salt Processing Alternative"

Thank you for submitting the subject recommendation regarding selection and implementation of a technology for processing the salt fraction of HLW at the Savannah River Site (SRS).

The U. S. Department of Energy agrees that a timely and cost effective solution for this issue is of critical importance. Removal and stabilization of the liquid waste in our aging tanks is a regulatory commitment and one of the highest priorities at SRS. The Department has determined that a thorough understanding and resolution of technical uncertainties is necessary before any process can be successfully implemented. Therefore the path forward includes continued research and development activities to resolve areas of technical risk prior to making a decision on the specific process that will be deployed. Utilization of the CAB as an aid in keeping stakeholders informed is a major part of the overall Salt Process Alternative selection effort. We look forward to providing information as it becomes available on a continuing basis through interaction with the Salt Processing Focus Group, the Waste Management Committee, and the Full CAB. The first information update is expected to be provided on or before the March 15, 2000, date requested in the recommendation.

Should you have any additional questions or desire further information, please call me or John Reynolds at (803) 557-5144

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Rudy".

Greg Rudy
Manager

PB-00-0025