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## Savannah River Site

# CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

A U.S. Department of Energy Site-Specific Advisory Board

July 23, 2002

The Honorable, Spencer Abraham  
Secretary  
U. S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue  
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Secretary Abraham:

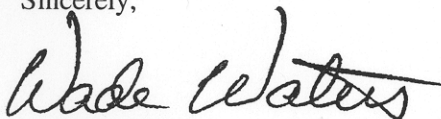
The Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) was extremely pleased to hear that the Department is setting aside \$216 million under the Accelerated Cleanup Reform Account for SRS. These funds will go a long way to reduce risks and accelerate cleanup. Furthermore, it will help SRS complete its Environmental Management mission by 2025.

The SRS CAB was skeptical about the Top-to-Bottom review and the Cleanup Reform Appropriation process. However, to the credit of SRS, opportunities for stakeholder involvement started early and continued through a series of public meetings on the Performance Management Plan. While not always agreeing on specific issues, the SRS CAB does believe it is an integral part of the overall process and SRS should be commended for its effort.

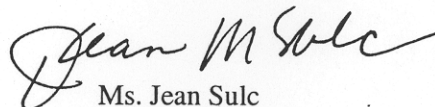
The SRS CAB, however, does take issue with the length of time it took to receive the funding notice. It was especially frustrating to hear that other sites within the DOE complex had learned about their potential funding months ahead of SRS. This leads to the perception of an unlevelled playing field. As the Cleanup Reform Appropriation process continues to be refined, the SRS CAB hopes to see a common start and end date established for all sites within the DOE complex.

We will continue to monitor the progress toward accelerating cleanup and reducing risks at SRS and will keep our focus on achieving cleanup by 2025 if not earlier. Furthermore, we will continue to advocate additional CRA funding for the programs at SRS that we believe are critical.

Sincerely,



Mr. Wade Waters  
CAB Chair



Ms. Jean Sulc  
Vice Chair