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Savannah River Site

CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

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

November 16, 2005

EPA Docket Center (EPA/DC) Air and Radiation Docket Environmental Protection Agency EPA West, Mail Code 6102T 1200 Pennsylvania Ave, N.W. Washington, DC 20460

RE: Attention Docket ID Number OAR-2005-0083

The Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) is extremely interested in your ongoing activities with regard to our country's deep underground repository for High Level Waste (HLW) at Yucca Mountain in Nevada. A CAB representative attended the recent public hearing on October 11 in Washington and presented remarks summarizing our interest and making known our position regarding your proposed amendments for Public Health and Environmental Radiation Protection Standards for Yucca Mountain.

This letter formalizes those comments and states our position regarding the proposed standards. We have reviewed those standards and find them equitable to all interested parties and responsive to the public needs regarding the disposal of HLW in the Repository at Yucca Mountain. We have consistently, over the past several years, made the Department of Energy (DOE) aware of our firm support for the timely opening of this repository. We have a very acute need for this repository to be in operation so that our extensive inventory of HLW can be disposed of in a safe, effective, and efficient manner.

Accordingly, we recommend that these proposed standards be approved and a final rule be expeditiously established to guide subsequent DOE actions to license, construct, and operate the Repository.

Sincerely,

Jean Sulc Chairman

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cc: James A. Rispoli, DOE EM-1

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Ben Rusche, Governor Nuclear Advisory Council

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