

## Savannah River Site

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

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November 18, 2003

Mr. Jeffrey M. Allison, Manager  
U. S. Department of Energy  
Savannah River Operations Office  
P. O. Box A  
Aiken, SC 29808

Subject: Legacy PUREX

Dear Mr. Allison:

Based upon the presentation by Mike Simmons to the Waste Management Committee on October 16, 2003, concerning the legacy PUREX waste treatment status, we are very pleased to hear that significant strides are being made to treat this waste. The opportunity for success has dramatically improved, especially for the PUREX aqueous waste, thanks to the combined efforts of Savannah River Site (SRS) and South Carolina Department of Environmental Control (SCDHEC) staff.

It had been previously reported that the preferred on-site treatment option for the PUREX aqueous waste had reached several regulatory and technical obstacles. We were disappointed that treatment of this legacy PUREX waste would not be accomplished in FY 03 as indicated by Mr. Greg Rudy back in May 2002. However, we are pleased to see an additional focus to find both on-site and off-site treatment options for this waste. We hope that you will commit to have the PUREX aqueous waste treated before the end of FY 04 and request that you accelerate the PUREX organic waste solidification commitment date in the Site Treatment Plan.

Please extend our appreciation to your staff for their efforts in working with SCDHEC to move forward with the treatment options. We will supply a copy of this letter to SCDHEC to show our appreciation for their willingness to keep additional regulatory options available for consideration. We commend both of you for working together to resolve the disposition of the legacy PUREX waste.

Sincerely,



Mr. Wade Waters  
CAB Chairperson