



**Department of Energy**  
Savannah River Operations Office  
P.O. Box A  
Aiken, South Carolina 29802  
**OCT 07 2019**

Mr. Gil Allensworth, Chairperson  
Savannah River Site, Citizens Advisory Board  
P.O. Box A  
Aiken, South Carolina 29802

Dear Mr. Allensworth:

SUBJECT: Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation #363 Preferred H-Canyon Future Operations Options, (Your letter dated, 05/15/19)

Thank you for your recommendation on Preferred H-Canyon Future Operations Options. The Department of Energy Savannah River Operations Office (DOE-SR) accepts this recommendation and provides the following responses.

**CAB Recommendations:**

1. Operate the H-Canyon at full capability and capacity until all Spent Nuclear Fuel (SNF) in the Savannah River Site (SRS) inventory is dissolved, and properly disposed of.
2. Pursue new technologies to dissolve non-Al-clad SNF in anticipation that such material has no other reliable disposition path.

The Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management (EM) established in April 2019, an Integrated Project Team (IPT) to evaluate operational rates and missions in H-Canyon. Your recommendation has been shared with the IPT team for consideration. The IPT's report along with its recommendation was received August 30, 2019. Once the report has been provided to the Department, and decisions regarding the IPT team's recommendation(s) are made DOE-SR will provide the CAB with a presentation addressing the IPT team recommendation, and any Departmental decisions associated with that report regarding H-Canyon operational rates/missions. The Department values the CAB's position on the SRS programs, and when possible factors those opinions into Departmental decisions.

If you have any questions please contact me, or have your staff contact Maxcine Maxted, of my staff, at (803) 208-0506.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael D. Budney".

Michael D. Budney  
Savannah River Site Manager

NMPD-20-0002

cc:

David Borak, EM-4.32  
James Folk, DDFO  
Michael Mikolanis, DDFO  
Rick Toomey, SCDHEC  
Trey Glenn, EPA  
Mark Williams, GADNR