



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

JUN 28 2005

Ms. Jean Sulc, Chair  
Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board  
24 Harbor River Circle  
St. Helena Island, South Carolina 29920

Dear Ms. Sulc:

SUBJECT: Savannah River Site (SRS) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation  
Number 214 - Plutonium Disposition Options

Thank you for your recommendation concerning the disposition of plutonium at SRS. My response to each part of your recommendation is as follows:

**Part 1. Send no additional shipments of Department of Energy (DOE) excess weapons grade plutonium to SRS until five percent of the existing quantities of plutonium at SRS has been dispositioned successfully.**

While I understand the CAB's desire for an SRS path forward, I can only accept a portion of this recommendation at this time. Currently, DOE has a high-level management strategy team working on determining a DOE-wide solution for our excess plutonium. As the Department solidifies its strategy for a complex-wide disposition plan, we will keep the CAB apprised of Departmental plans.

**Part 2. Not rely solely on the Plutonium Vitrification Facility to process the excess plutonium, but pursue options to process plutonium in H-Area.**

We will continue to work to establish viable disposition paths for all of our excess nuclear materials and will explore a range of options for the Office of Environmental Management's excess plutonium with the safety of Site workers, the public, and the environment constantly in mind.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Sachiko McAlhany, of my staff, at (803) 208-3972.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey M. Allison", is written over a horizontal line.

Jeffrey M. Allison  
Manager