



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 4  
SAM NUNN ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET, S.W.  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

November 9, 2005

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

SUBJECT: Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board  
Recommendation #222  
Classified Information Issues in DOE-EM Cleanup Activities

Dear Ms. Sulc:

Thank you for your recommendation concerning classified information in environmental management cleanup activities at the Savannah River Site (SRS). The recommendation requests that EPA Region 4 inform the SRS Citizen's Advisory Board (CAB) of how classified information is being and will be disseminated to facilitate proper management review of SRS Decommissioning and Deactivation (D&D) activity and cleanup projects. Most D&D and environmental cleanup documents are written without the need to include classified information. It is often possible to summarize the classified information in an unclassified manner to suit the regulators' requirements without actually providing the classified information. However, if it is necessary to create a classified document, DOE may separate out the classified portions into attachments, appendixes, or supporting documents.

If part of the regulatory review requires reviewing classified information, EPA has employees at all levels (staff through senior management) within the agency that are cleared to review classified information. The CAB noted that of particular interest is how uncleared directors, bureau chiefs, and others in the direct management line are made aware of significant or pertinent classified information, which is known and managed by cleared staff members under them. When issues arise that require management review of classified information, EPA staff have the responsibility to make the requirement known and ensure that the classified information is managed and handled in an appropriate manner, including making sure that only personnel that have proper clearances review such information. This has not been an issue for EPA Region 4 in the past but we are prepared, up to the senior management levels, to review classified information, if necessary.

As an aside, I have a clearance to review classified information at SRS, if necessary. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Dawn Taylor of my staff at (404) 562-8575 or by email at [taylor.dawn@epa.gov](mailto:taylor.dawn@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ken Lapierre", is written over the typed name.

Kenneth R. Lapierre, Chief  
Federal Facilities Branch  
Waste Management Division

cc: Shelly Sherritt, SCDHEC  
Dawn Haygood, WSRC