



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

MAY 03 2007

Ms. Karen Patterson, Chair
Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board
1103 Conger Drive
Aiken, South Carolina 29803

Dear Ms. Patterson:

SUBJECT: Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation Number 244 – Department of Energy (DOE) Budget Formulation and Stakeholder Participation (Your letter, 3/27/07)

Thank you for your recommendation regarding stakeholder participation in the budget formulation process. My responses to the five parts of Recommendation 244 are as follows:

Part 1 – DOE-Savannah River Operations Office (SR) provide a briefing to the Savannah River Site (SRS) CAB in April on the Continuing Resolution (CR) and its potential impact. As stated in the DOE's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Program Planning and Budget guidance, the briefing should include "a synopsis of the previous year's performance to include information such as carryover amounts, actual versus planned expenditures, and baseline performance metrics." Specifically, the SRS CAB is interested in the impacts that the CR has on the Salt Waste Processing Facility (SWPF) schedule and regulatory commitment funding.

DOE-SR will provide a briefing for the Strategic & Legacy Management Committee on the CR, including impacts of the CR on SWPF schedule and regulatory commitment funding at their next scheduled meeting on May 1, 2007. Fiscal Year (FY) 2006 funding and baseline performance metrics information will be also be included in this presentation.

Part 2 - By May 22, 2007, DOE-SR provide to the SRS CAB a timeframe with specific dates to allow review and input in a timely manner of all components of the SRS budget process.

DOE-SR will provide to the full SRS CAB during the May 22 meeting a time-line consistent with Environmental Management-Headquarters (EM-HQ) direction that will include specific dates detailing when the CAB will have opportunities to provide input to the budget processes (to include the FY 2009 process).

Part 3 - By May 22, 2007, DOE-SR clarify the budget embargo dates and identify a time (date) where it can share funding performance measures (i.e., fully funded, partially funded, fund reductions, non-funded, etc.) with the SRS CAB for FY 2008, FY 2009, and each successive budget year.

Consistent with EM-HQ policy guidance, DOE-SR will clarify the budget embargo dates and provide the requested information (i.e., fully funded, partially funded, fund reductions, non-funded, etc.) to the full SRS CAB during the May 22 meeting.

Part 4 - DOE-SR provide a formal presentation on the reasons behind the extension of the projected cleanup closure completion dates for SRS and what assurances are available to ensure that the dates do not continue to slip.

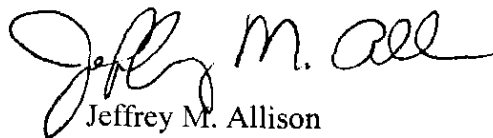
DOE-SR will provide a presentation to the Strategic & Legacy Management Committee to explain the reasons for the change in the completion date from 2025 to 2031 for the SRS-EM Cleanup Project. The presentation will include a discussion of how the various projects at SRS are linked, and the actions we take to monitor and manage potential schedule impacts.

Part 5 - DOE-SR ensure that all budget presentations to SRS CAB committees are clearly identifiable and that information presented is comparable and equivalent between budget presentations.

DOE-SR will ensure future presentations to CAB committees are clearly identified as budget briefings and are consistent between presentations with understandable explanations.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me or Sarah Blanding, of my staff, at (803) 952-6564.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey M. Allison". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jeffrey" being more prominent and the last name "Allison" following in a similar style.

Jeffrey M. Allison
Manager

BD-07-0011