STATES OF ME

Department of Energy

Savannah River Operations Office P.O. Box A Aiken, South Carolina 29802 JUN 1 9 2012

Dr. Donald N. Bridges, Chairperson Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board P.O. Box A Aiken, SC 29802

Dear Dr. Bridges:

SUBJECT: Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation Number 286 - Yucca

Mountain as Interim Storage Site, and Recommendation Number 290 – Assess Feasibility of Disposition of SRS (Savannah River Site) Canisters to

WIPP (Waste Isolation Pilot Plant)

Thank you for your recommendations, "Yucca Mountain as Interim Storage Site" and "Assess Feasibility of Disposition of SRS Canisters to WIPP." As a whole, the Department of Energy Savannah River Operations Office (DOE-SR) acknowledges the comments made within your recommendations. In response to the items listed in the recommendations, the Department offers the following:

The Department is currently evaluating the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission (BRC) regarding long-term waste storage and disposal. Repository and interim storage sites will be considered in accordance with a consent-based process as outlined by the BRC. Additionally, the Department's experiences at WIPP are being considered as part of the assessment to respond to the BRC. The Administration's strategy regarding these matters is expected to be delivered to Congress by the end of July 2012.

Once the strategy is submitted to Congress, DOE-SR will make arrangements for the CAB to be briefed at a future meeting.

As always, DOE welcomes input from the public as we continue to work to disposition radioactive waste. If you have any questions, you can contact me or Terrel Spears, of my staff, at (803) 208-6072.

Sincerely Duril . Mary

David C. Moody

Manager

WDPD-12-53

cc:

Frank Marcinowski, EM-30
Phil Niedzielski-Eichner, NE-1
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