

Department of Energy

Savannah River Operations Office P.O. Box A Aiken, South Carolina 29802 NOV 1 4 2012

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

Dear Dr. Bridges:

SUBJECT: Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation Number 295 – Implementation of Spent Nuclear Fuel Exchange Program with Idaho, Your letter, 09/27/12

Thank you for your recommendation on evaluating the feasibility of reinstituting the Used Nuclear Fuel (UNF) Exchange. We cannot accept this recommendation as a Savannah River action at this time since a decision has not been made on processing of UNF in H-Canyon. Without a decision to process the aluminum clad UNF in H-Canyon, it is not in the Department's best interest to consider transfers around the country of UNF.

In regards to the recommendation requests to inform Headquarters (HQ) on the economics and technical capabilities of H-Canyon, HQ is well aware of the economics and H-Canyon's capabilities, and these are being factored into the National Environmental Policy Act decision regarding processing.

The Department understands the CAB's position of wanting to process the UNF, but as you are aware until a Record of Decision regarding processing is made anything else done in that regard could prejudice the decision. Once a decision is made we will brief the CAB on that decision, and could reconsider your recommendation at that time if the CAB so desired.

If you have any questions, please contact me, or have your staff contact Patrick McGuire at (803) 208-3927.

Sincerely,

David C. Moody

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Manager

NMPD-13-0003

Dr. Bridges 2 NOV 1 4 2012

cc:

Mclissa Nielson. (EM-3.2), DOE-HQ Catherine Alexander. (EM-3.2), DOE-HQ Edgardo Deleon, (EM-22), DOE-HQ Mark Senderling, (EM-32), DOE-HQ Catherine Templeton, SCDHEC Gwen Keyes, EPA Franklin Hill, EPA Albert Frazier, GADNR