



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

NOV 13 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 298 – Trial Disposition Program for Savannah River Site (SRS) High Level Waste Canisters

Thank you for your recommendation, "Trial Disposition Program for SRS High Level Waste Canisters." As you know, during the October Site Specific Advisory Board Chairs Meeting, the Chairs approved a similar recommendation requesting that the Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management (EM-1) consider a test project for the Savannah River Site Defense Waste Processing Facility canisters at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in New Mexico. That recommendation also has been endorsed by the SRS CAB, and will be conveyed to Headquarters for consideration as it reviews the Chairs recommendation to EM-1.

By way of update on the status of discussions regarding the disposition of high level waste, the Department has evaluated the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission (BRC) regarding long-term waste storage and disposal. The Administration is in the process of finalizing its implementation strategy for the BRC Report. Once that is published, DOE will be working with the Administration and the Congress to implement the agreed-to strategy. You will be kept informed of progress as this process moves forward.

As always, DOE welcomes your input 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,

  
David C. Moody  
Manager

WDPD-13-05

cc:  
Frank Marcinowski, EM-30  
Mark Senderling, EM-32