



Department of Energy
Savannah River Operations Office
P.O. Box A
Aiken, South Carolina 29802
SEP 09 2014

Dr. Marolyn Parson, Chairperson
Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board
P.O. Box A
Aiken, South Carolina 29802

Dear Dr. Parsons:

SUBJECT: Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation Number 319 – Planning for Disposition of Savannah River Site (SRS) Canisters and L-Basin Materials, (Your letter, 07/23/14)

Thank you for your recommendation on Planning for Disposition of SRS Canisters and L-Basin Materials. Your recommendation requested:

- 1) Department of Energy (DOE) develop a plan for pilot testing of used nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste as a basis for establishing the variable handling, shipping, and storage requirements for permanently disposing of such materials in a deep geologic repository.
- 2) DOE include in the plan's preliminary/pilot tests the utilization of SRS Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF) canisters and L-Basin materials (both foreign and domestic).

The Department cannot accept your recommendation.

Regarding recommendation #1, it is premature to develop a plan for a facility that has not been identified nor had any technical design work completed. The plan details would be elementary at best and would probably require substantial revision once information on the repository became available. With the limited funding available for completion of site missions such as tank cleanup and closure, the Department cannot proceed with development of a plan.

Regarding recommendation #2, as you are aware, the DOE Office of Environmental Management (EM) is not responsible for interim or final repositories for High Level Waste and Spent Nuclear Fuel (SNF). DOE EM will continue to provide information regarding our materials destined for the repository to the DOE Office of Nuclear Energy (or any future responsible organization).

The Department values the CAB's position on the SRS programs and understands the CAB's desire to expedite removal of the SRS High Level Waste and SNF from the SRS; however, DOE EM is limited in what it can do to expedite development of a federal repository.

Dr. Parson

2

SEP 09 2014

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David C. Moody". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David C. Moody
Manager

NMPD-14-0076

cc:

Kristen Ellis, (EM-3.2), DOE-HQ
David Borak, (EM-3.2), DOE-HQ
Jeff Williams, (NE), DOE-HQ
Christopher Hansen, (NE), DOE-HQ
Gary Deleon, (EM-22), DOE-HQ
Sandra Waisely, DDFO, DOE-SR
Angela Adams, DDFO, DOE-SR
Catherine Templeton, SCDHEC
Gwen Keys, U.S. EPA
Sean Hayes, GADNR