



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

JUL 1 2005

Mr. Scott C. Flanders, Director
Environmental and Performance
Assessment Directorate
Division of Waste Management and Environmental Protection
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, D.C. 20555-0001

Dear Mr. Flanders:

Reference: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's Requests for Additional Information on the Draft Section 3116 Waste Determination for Salt Waste Disposal at the Savannah River Site (Reference Letter, Flanders to Gilbertson, May 31, 2005)

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has prepared responses to a significant number of requests for additional information (RAI's) contained in the referenced letter. Enclosure 1 contains a list of the responses that are forwarded with this letter. Enclosure 2 contains those specific responses for your use in completing the consultation process on the Draft Section 3116 Determination for Salt Waste Disposal at the Savannah River Site (Salt WD), transmitted to you on February 28, 2005. DOE will provide the remainder of responses to the RAIs in the near future.

Many of our responses rely upon a Special Analysis (SA) for the Saltstone Disposal Facility completed in 2005 that documents analyses based on revisions to models used in the Saltstone Performance Assessment and a Special Analysis completed in 2002. This new SA addresses many of the RAIs and is a key reference in many RAI responses. In order to facilitate NRC's review of this information, DOE has developed a new document, the Performance Objectives Demonstration Document (PODD), which clearly and concisely summarizes the data necessary to demonstrate compliance with these performance objectives of 10 CFR 61, *Licensing Requirements for Land Disposal of Radioactive Waste*. The PODD is also a key reference in a number of our RAI responses. The SA and the PODD are included as Enclosures 3 and 4.

My staff as well as Savannah River Site personnel are available to provide clarification or additional information on any of the RAI responses that you may need.



If you have any further questions, please call me at 202-586-7709 or Mr. Mark Gilbertson, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Environmental Cleanup and Acceleration, at (202) 586-0755.

Sincerely,


for Mark A. Gilbertson
Deputy Assistant Secretary for
Environmental Cleanup and Acceleration
Office of Environmental Management

4 Enclosures

cc: D. Wilson, SCDHEC