



## Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

JUL 15 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:

- References: (1) Response to Request for Additional Information on the Draft Section 3116 Determination for Salt Waste Disposal at the Savannah River Site (Reference letter, Gilbertson to Flanders, July 1, 2005)
- (2) U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) Request 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)
- (3) U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Schedule for Review of Draft Waste Determination for Salt Waste Disposal at the Savannah River Site (Reference letter, Flanders to Gilbertson, July 11, 2005)

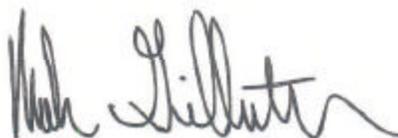
Reference 1 provided the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) response to the majority of the NRC requests for additional information (RAIs) on the Draft Waste Determination for Salt Waste Disposal contained in Reference 2. Responses for RAIs 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 37, and 57 were held at that time for further DOE evaluation and revision. DOE review has been completed and these remaining RAI responses are enclosed for your use in completing the NRC consultation process on this Draft Section 3116 Determination.

Reference 3 stated that because DOE provided an incomplete set of RAI responses and in recognition of the volume of new information submitted with Reference 1, NRC would not be able to complete its technical evaluation and issue its Technical Evaluation Report (TER) within two months of DOE's submittal of its initial responses on July 1, 2005. We encourage the NRC to endeavor to complete its review of the responses and issue its TER within the general two-month timeframe, identified in our Interagency Agreement, after receipt of these responses, by September 15, 2005.



DOE personnel are available to provide clarification or additional information on any of the RAI responses that you may need. If you have any questions, please call me at (202) 586-0755.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark A. Gilbertson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mark" being particularly prominent.

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

Enclosure

cc: D. Wilson, SCDHEC