



2600 Bull Street
Columbia, SC 29201-1708

January 4, 2007

Mr. Larry W. Camper, Director
Division of Waste Management and
Environmental Protection
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
And Safeguards
United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop T7-J08
Washington, DC 20555-0001

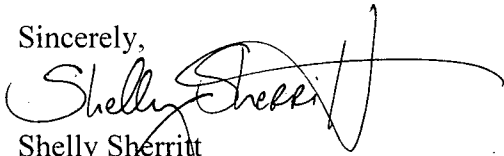
Dear Mr. Camper:

As you are aware, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) expects the Department of Energy (DOE) to meet scheduled closure dates for high-level radioactive waste tanks located at the Savannah River Site (SRS). These scheduled closure dates are included in the Federal Facilities Compliance Agreement and reflective of the need to reduce risk posed by storage of approximately 37 million gallons of toxic and radioactive waste in aging SRS tanks. As part of the closure process, DOE must complete a Waste Determination as prescribed by Section 3116 of the 2005 National Defense Authorization Act, which includes consultation with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

Members of your staff have been working diligently with DOE and SCDHEC to develop processes that will help expedite the consultation while maintaining the integrity of participation by the NRC. This continued effort has been referenced in presentations made by the NRC. In order for SCDHEC to have a clear record as we move forward in making future permit or closure plan decisions regarding high-level radioactive waste management at SRS, please provide an indication of NRC's willingness to work with DOE and SCDHEC in continued efforts to implement Section 3116 in a manner that supports the FFA closure schedule. SCDHEC believes that the Section 3116 process can be conducted in an innovative manner that incorporates lessons learned, supports the FFA schedule and continues to honor the responsibilities of the agencies involved.

Thanks to you and your staff for the NRC's contribution to this effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Shelly Sherritt". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Shelly Sherritt
Federal Facilities Liaison
Environmental Quality Control Administration

cc: David Wilson, SCDHEC
Keith Lindler, SCDHEC
Rick Caldwell, SCDHEC
Ben Rusche, GNAC
Terry Spears, SRS
Frank Marcinowski, DOE
Karen Patterson, SRS CAB