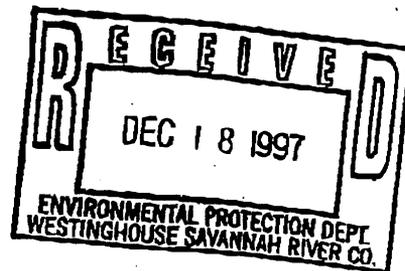




South Carolina Department of Health
and Environmental Control

Lower Savannah Environmental Quality Control District
George P. Nelson Building, 206 Beaufort Street NE
Aiken, SC 29801
803-841-7870 Fax 803-641-7875

serving
Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell,
Calhoun and Orangeburg Counties



December 15, 1997

Mr. J. W. Cook, Manager
CERCLA, Geological and Permitting Section
Environmental Protection Department
Westinghouse Savannah River Company
Building 742-A
Aiken, SC 29808

Re: Tank 17 Closure Approval
SRS/F-Area

Dear Mr. Cook:

On Thursday, December 11, 1997, this office inspected Tank 17, a High Level Waste storage tank in F-Area. Based on this inspection and documentation submitted by C. R. Hayes of your section, it is apparent that Tank 17 has been filled with grout and is no longer operational. Please accept this letter as final approval on the completed closure activities. This approval is issued under the following conditions:

1. Any activities which were performed in order to meet the performance objectives shall be discussed in the closure plans for future tanks.
2. The Department recognizes that the state has not been delegated authority to regulate the disposal of high level waste. This authority remains with the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). Departmental approval for the closure of Tank 17 does not in any way grant authorization to exempt the residual material in the tank from the high level radioactive waste requirements of 10 CFR Part 60. Authorization for the incidental waste classification must be obtained from the United States NRC. Any closure activities which were performed without this approval were done so at the risk of the United States Department of Energy.
3. Once the final tank from this four-pack is closed out, the FFA Section of the Bureau of Land and Waste Management will make a determination on the need for groundwater monitoring, soil assessment, and a cap.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (803) 641-7670.

Sincerely,

Betsy Malpass
District Engineer Associate
Lower Savannah EQC

cc: Industrial, Agricultural, & Stormwater Permitting - SCDHEC