



MAY 20 2011

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

Mr. Drew Persinko, Deputy Director
Environmental Protection and
Performance Assessment Directorate
Division of Waste Management
and Environmental Protection
Office of Federal and State Materials
and Environmental Management Programs
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
11545 Rockville Pike, Mail Stop T8F5
Rockville, MD 20852-2738

Dear Mr. Persinko:

SUBJECT: Second Request for Additional Information on the 2009 Performance Assessment for the Saltstone Disposal Facility at the Savannah River Site (SRS)

References: 1. Letter, Gutmann to Persinko dated April 21, 2011
2. Letter, Skeen to Gutmann dated December 15, 2010.

Reference 1 provided a partial response to comments (19 of 55) identified in Reference 2. The responses in Reference 1 as well as the strategy to resolve the balance of the comments identified in Reference 2 were the subject of a public meeting held between our agencies on April 27, 2011 in Aiken, South Carolina. This strategy includes DOE performing additional modeling through a deterministic sensitivity (Case K) evaluation to support a subsequent response package. Subsequent to this public meeting members of our staffs, as well as SRS contractor technical staff, participated in a series of five conference calls over the period May 3, 2011 to May 19, 2011 to continue technical discussion of the Reference 1 responses, the proposed modeling evaluation, and the additional planned responses. The excellent, professional engagement exhibited by your staff during these conference calls is greatly appreciated.

The enclosed table describes the parameters associated with the proposed Case K evaluation derived from the discussions between our technical staffs. Your confirmation that the enclosure sets forth an acceptable approach toward resolving the remaining open questions to support NRC completion of a Technical Evaluation Report (TER) would be much appreciated. The courtesy of a response by June 10, 2011 is respectfully requested to support DOE's submittal of a revised, complete response to the Reference 2 request in the September 2011 timeframe to support NRC's completion of a TER in the December 2011 timeframe.

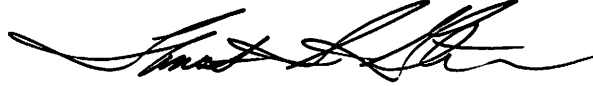
I look forward to our conference call planned for June 2, 2011 to inform the public of the above activities and path forward for resolving the Reference 2 request.

MAY 20 2011

2

Please contact me at (803) 208-7408 or Patricia Suggs (803) 208-6804 if you have questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,



Thomas S. Gutmann, Director
Waste Disposition Programs Division

WDPD-11-65

Enclosure:
Model Parameter Changes from Case
A to Implement Sensitivity Case K

cc: w/encl
Nishka Devaser, NRC