

September 13, 2012

MEMORANDUM TO: Gregory Suber, Chief  
Low-Level Waste Branch  
Environmental Protection  
and Performance Assessment Directorate  
Division of Waste Management  
and Environmental Protection  
Office of Federal and State Materials  
and Environmental Management Programs

FROM: Nishka Devaser, Project Manager */RA/*  
Low-Level Waste Branch  
Environmental Protection  
and Performance Assessment Directorate  
Division of Waste Management  
and Environmental Protection  
Office of Federal and State Materials  
and Environmental Management Programs

SUBJECT: AUGUST 6, 2012, PUBLIC MEETING SUMMARY: MEETING TO  
DISCUSS WASTE DISPOSAL AT THE SAVANNAH RIVER SITE IN  
ACCORDANCE WITH THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION  
ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005, DOCKET NUMBER PROJ0734

On August 6 2012, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) held a public meeting where both the NRC and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) provided presentations to interested members of the public in Aiken, South Carolina concerning DOE's disposal activities at the Saltstone Disposal Facility (SDF) and the NRC's monitoring of these activities in accordance with Section 3116 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005 (NDAA). NRC and DOE then discussed DOE's path forward for disposal actions at the SDF to address the NRC's concerns identified in the April 30, 2012, Technical Evaluation Report.

Enclosure:  
Meeting Summary  
with Attachments

CONTACT: N. Devaser, FSME/DWMEP  
(301) 415-5196

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**ML1233A205**

<b>OFC</b>	DWMEP	DWMEP	DWMEP	DWMEP	DWMEP
<b>NAME</b>	NDevaser	TMoon	CMcKenney	GSuber	NDevaser
<b>DATE</b>	8/21/12	8/28/12	8/28/12	9/12/12	9/13/12

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Public Meeting Summary: Meeting to Discuss Waste Disposal at the Savannah River Site in Accordance with the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005

August 6, 2012

The meeting was transcribed by a Court Reporter (see Attachment 2). Thus, this summary is only intended to include information on the background and agenda of the meeting with any additional information available in the transcript for the meeting. References in this document are provided as document accession numbers to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC's) Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

Background:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) began preparing an update to the "Performance Assessment for the Saltstone Facility at the Savannah River Site" (PA) in 2007 and provided the document to the NRC in November 2009 (ML101590008). Following extensive discussions with DOE and two rounds of NRC questions (round 1: ML100820097, round 2: ML103400571) and DOE responses (round 1: ML102090664, round 2: ML111180128), the NRC completed its review and issued the Technical Evaluation Report (TER) on April 30, 2012 (ML121020140). In this TER, the staff concluded that it did not have reasonable assurance that the performance objective in §61.41 would be met. The staff concluded, that the rest of the performance objectives (§61.42, §61.43, and §61.44) are met. Concurrently with the TER, NRC issued a "Letter of Concern" (Type IV) to DOE and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (ML120650576). Since publication of the TER, DOE has provided three submittals to NRC on June 13, July 12, and July 26, 2012:

1. June 13, 2012: Submittal (**Submittal 1**): A package of DOE research results, related to the Saltstone Disposal Facility (SDF) and a revised probabilistic model for the SDF developed between August 2011 and April 2012 [ML12171A270],
2. July 12, 2012: Submittal (**Submittal 2**): Partial response to Type IV letter and a revised sensitivity analysis [ML12198A258], and
3. July 26, 2012: Submittal (**Submittal 3**): Full response to TER and Type IV letter, which includes a matrix of NRC's concerns identified in TER and respective DOE actions to account for those concerns. Note that this submittal had not yet been evaluated by the NRC prior to this meeting and was not addressed at this meeting [ML12215A081].

Agenda:

- Meeting Opening and Introductions
- NRC Presentation to the Public on Project History, NRC Role at the SDF, and summary of recent events
- DOE Presentation to the Public on Project History at the SDF and summary of recent events
- Questions or Comments from Attending Members of the Public
- DOE Presentation to NRC on DOE Path Forward to Resolve NRC Concerns (interspersed with NRC questions and DOE answers to the questions)
- Questions or Comments from Attending Members of the Public

## Summary

The NRC presentation provided details of the NRC's review and conclusions regarding the 2009 Saltstone PA. The DOE presentation focused on the review process, schedule, and technical overview of the saltstone facility and process, including an explanation of DOE Submittals 1 and 2. There was one question from a member of the public at this time related to the dose limit referenced in NDAA (i.e., from 10 CFR Part 61) [page 48 of Attachment 2].

## Attachments:

This summary has the following five attachments:

- Attachment 1. List of Meeting Attendees
- Attachment 2. Public Meeting Transcript [ML12230A191]
- Attachment 3. "*Overview of NRC Monitoring Activities at the Saltstone Disposal Facility at the Savannah River Site*" Presentation by Nishka Devaser and Christianne Ridge, NRC [ML12230A183]
- Attachment 4. "*DOE Environmental Management - Savannah River Site Saltstone Disposal Facility Performance Assessment*" Presentation by Sherri Ross and Linda Suttora, DOE [ML12233A109]
- Attachment 5. "*Path Forward to Resolve NRC Concerns, SRR-CWDA-2012-00122*" Presentation by Kent Rosenberger, SRR [ML12233A117]

Meeting Attendees

George Alexander	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Nishka Devaser	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Harry Felsher	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Lisa London	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Karen Pinkston	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Christianne Ridge	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Gregory Suber	U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Brenda Hays	U.S. Department of Energy - Savannah River
Sherri Ross	U.S. Department of Energy - Savannah River
Linda Suttora	U.S. Department of Energy
Nancye Bethurem	Savannah River Remediation
Thomas England	Savannah River Remediation
Victor Franklin	Savannah River Remediation
Kim Hauer	Savannah River Remediation
Barry Lester	Savannah River Remediation
Kent Rosenberger	Savannah River Remediation
Mark Schmitz	Savannah River Remediation
Richard Sheppard	Savannah River Remediation
Malcolm Smith	Savannah River Remediation
Steven Thomas	Savannah River Remediation
Justin Koon	South Carolina Department of Environmental Health and Control
Scott L. Simons	South Carolina Department of Environmental Health and Control
Shelly Wilson	South Carolina Department of Environmental Health and Control
Roger Seitz	Savannah River National Laboratory
Karen Patterson	Member of the Public (South Carolina Governors Nuclear Advisory Council)