



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

March 01, 2021

Mr. James L. Folk, Jr.
Assistant Manager Waste Disposition
U.S. DOE Savannah River Operations Office
P.O. Box A
Aiken, SC 29802

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING THE 2020
SAVANNAH RIVER SITE SALTSTONE DISPOSAL FACILITY
PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

Dear Mr. Folk:

By letter dated July 6, 2020, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) submitted the 2020 DOE Savannah River Site Saltstone Disposal Facility Performance Assessment to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) (NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System [ADAMS] under Package Accession No. Main Library (ML) ML20190A055). That DOE Submittal to the NRC was under Section 3116(b) of the Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005 (NDAA) (i.e., NDAA Monitoring). By letter dated July 10, 2020 (ADAMS Accession No. ML20148M201), the NRC acknowledged receipt of that DOE Submittal.

By letter dated October 5, 2020 (ADAMS Accession No. ML20254A003), the NRC provided a preliminary review of the DOE Submittal along with NRC Request for Supplemental Information (RSI) Comments. In the NRC Preliminary Review Letter, the NRC indicated plans to prepare Technical Review Reports (TRRs) on specific technical review subjects and issue Request for Additional Information (RAI) Questions, if needed, when drafting those TRRs. Thus, there would be multiple sets of RAI Questions. The NRC Technical Evaluation Report (TER) will reference all those TRRs and the TRRs will be issued at the same time as the TER.

The NRC has enclosed the first set of RAI Questions for those TRRs related to Biosphere, Inventory, Inadvertent Human Intruder, and Site Stability. The NRC needs responses from the DOE before the NRC can complete its TRRs. As the NRC continues its review of the DOE documents, the DOE responses to the NRC RSI Comments, and the DOE responses to the NRC RAI Questions, the NRC may develop additional RAI Questions for which the NRC will need a response from the DOE.

The NRC requests that the DOE provide responses to the enclosed RAI Questions by 60 days of the date of this Letter. If it would be useful to the DOE, then the NRC is willing to virtually meet with the DOE to discuss the NRC RAI Questions or the DOE responses to the NRC RAI Questions.

In accordance with 10 *Code of Federal Regulations* 2.390 of the NRC's "Agency Rules of Practice and Procedure," a copy of this letter will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the Publicly Available Records component of NRC's ADAMS. ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

If you have any questions, then please contact Mr. Harry Felsher of my staff at 301-415-6559 or by e-mail, Harry.Felsher@nrc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stephen S. Koenick".

Stephen S. Koenick, Branch Chief
Low-Level Waste and Projects Branch
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery
and Waste Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards

Enclosure:
Request for Additional Information Questions

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION QUESTIONS FOR THE 2020 SAVANNAH RIVER SITE SALTSTONE DISPOSAL FACILITY PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT. Date: March 01, 2021.

DISTRIBUTION:

G. Alexander, NMSS
 H. Arlt, NMSS
 S. Dembek, NMSS

ADAMS Accession No.: ML21040A492

*concur via e-Concurrence

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