



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

February 9, 2022

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

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

Dear James Folk:

By letter dated July 6, 2020, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) submitted the DOE 2020 Savannah River Site Saltstone Disposal Facility Performance Assessment to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System [ADAMS] under Package Accession No. Main Library [ML] ML20190A055). The 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 the 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 those TRRs will be issued at the same time as the TER is issued.

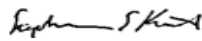
On March 1, 2021, the NRC issued the First Set of RAI Questions for those TRRs related to Biosphere; Inventory; Inadvertent Human Intruder; and Site Stability under ADAMS Package Accession No. ML21062A214. On June 3, 2021, the NRC issued the Second Set of RAI Questions for those TRRs related to Infiltration and Erosion Control; Model Integration; Radionuclide Release; and Far-Field Flow and Transport under ADAMS Package Accession No. ML21133A293. On December 14, 2021, the NRC issued the Third Set of RAI Questions for those TRRs related to Near-Field Flow and Transport; Composite Barriers and Drainage Layers; Radionuclide Release; and Sensitivity and Uncertainty Analysis. The NRC has enclosed the Fourth Set of RAI Questions for those TRRs related to Conceptual Models and Future Scenario Uncertainty; and Infiltration and Erosion Control. 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 calendar days of the date of this letter. If it would be useful to the DOE, the NRC is willing to host a virtual meeting with the DOE to discuss the NRC RAI Questions and/or the preliminary DOE Responses.

In accordance with Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* 2.390, "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 ADAMS. ADAMS is accessible from the NRC Web site at <http://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,



Signed by Koenick, Stephen
on 02/09/22

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:
Fourth Set of Request for
Additional Information
Questions

Fourth Set of RAI Questions for U.S. DOE 2020 SRS SDF Performance Assessment DATE February 9, 2022

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