



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

DEC 16 2024

**Ms. Susan B. Fulmer, P. G., Manager
Federal Remediation Section
Division of Site Assessment,
Remediation and Revitalization
Bureau of Land and Waste Management
South Carolina Department of Environmental
Services
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201**

**Mr. Jon Richards
Savannah River Site Remedial Project
Manager
Superfund and Emergency Management Division
United States Environmental Protection
Agency, Region 4
61 Forsyth Street, Southwest
Atlanta, Georgia 30303**

Dear Ms. Fulmer and Mr. Richards:

SUBJECT: Request for Concurrence to Cease Waste Removal and Proceed to Sample and Analysis Phase of the Tank Closure Process for Tank 4 (SEMS Number: 23)

On December 16, 2024, the United States (U.S.) Department of Energy provided a briefing to your agencies which described our proposal to enter the sampling and analysis phase of the closure process for Tank 4. Enclosed are copies of the presentation entitled "Proposal to Cease Waste Removal Activities in Tank 4 and Enter Sampling and Analysis Phase" (SRMC-CWDA-2024-00092, Revision 0, December 2024).

Based on the enclosure and our discussion, your concurrence to cease waste removal and proceed to the sample and analysis phase of the closure process for Tank 4 is requested. The "Consolidated General Closure Plan for F-Area and H-Area Waste Tank Systems" (CGCP) (SRR-CWDA-2017-00015, Revision 1, April 2017) describes our agreement for documenting the three agency decisions to meet the Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) Appendix L, Statement of Resolution of Dispute Concerning Extension of Closure Dates for Savannah River Site High-Level Radioactive Waste Tanks 19 and 18, Item 9.b.

Cease waste removal for Tank 4 accomplishes a third cease waste removal milestone delivery for calendar year 2024. This third milestone is an example of our acceleration to complete tank closure at Savannah River Site. This milestone along with cease waste removal for Tank 9 completes two of the three cease waste removal milestones due by December 31, 2025. In

DEC 16 2024

Ms. Fulmer and Mr. Richards

2


keeping with this agreement, the concurrence requested by this letter is a preliminary, non-binding concurrence based on the qualitative information available at this time.

The results of the sample and analysis phase will support preparation of a Closure Module covering Tank 4. These results are expected to provide the information necessary to justify that waste has been removed to the extent that is technically practicable from an engineering perspective. This justification will also address programmatic aspects such as technology capabilities, schedule impacts, and a quantified cost, risks, and benefits analysis. The Closure Module will be prepared and provided for your agency's review and comment in accordance with the CGCP.

The effort and time that the South Carolina Department of Environmental Services and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency have contributed on this subject are appreciated. Questions from you or your staff may be directed to me at (803) 952-7805, or Mr. Joel Maul at (803) 208-7424.

Sincerely,

KAREN MORROW  Digitally signed by KAREN MORROW
Date: 2024.12.16 08:39:48 -05'00'

 Avery G. Hammett
FFA Project Manager
Department of Energy Savannah River
Operations Office
Remediation, Deactivation, and
Decommissioning Division

RDDD-25-111

Enclosure:

Presentation: "Proposal to Cease
Waste Removal Activities in Tank
4 and Enter Sampling and Analysis
Phase" (SRMC-CWDA-2024-00092,
Revision 0, December 2024)

cc w/enclosure:

S. French, SCDES - Columbia

M. Reece, SCDES – Columbia

H. J. Porter, SCDES – Columbia

J. Blalock, SCDES - Columbia

G. K. Taylor, SCDES – Columbia

G. R. Stewart, SCDES – Columbia

H. Cathcart, SCDES – Columbia

G. O'Quinn, SCDES – Midlands Aiken Environmental Affairs Office

E. Downing, SCDES – Midlands Aiken Environmental Affairs Office

H. Herlong, SCDES – Midlands Aiken Environmental Affairs Office

J. Dawson, EPA - Atlanta

M. McRae, TechLaw, Inc.