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

March 5, 2026

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 14 (SEMS Number: ~~23~~ 89 3/5/2026)

On March 5, 2026, 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 14. Enclosed is a copy of the presentation entitled "Proposal to Cease Waste Removal Activities in Tank 14 and Enter Sampling and Analysis Phase" (SRMC-CWDA-2026-00017, Revision 0, March 5, 2026).

Based on the enclosure and our discussion, your concurrence to cease waste removal and proceed to the sample and analysis phase of the closure processes for Tank 14 is requested. The "Consolidated General Closure Plan for F-Area and H-Area Waste Tank Systems" (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 14 accomplishes the second of two tanks committed for calendar year 2027. Early delivery of this portion of the 2027 FFA commitment is an example of DOE-SR's acceleration to complete tank closure at Savannah River Site. In 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 14. 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 FFA.

The effort and time that the South Carolina Department of Environmental Services (SCDES) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have contributed on this subject are appreciated.

Questions from you or your staff may be directed to me at (803) 952-6211, or Mr. Joel Maul at (803) 208-7424.

Sincerely,

MATTHEW BAKER

Digitally signed by MATTHEW BAKER
Date: 2026.03.05 09:56:34 -05'00'

Matthew Baker
Acting FFA Project Manager
Department of Energy Savannah River Operations Office
Remediation, Deactivation and Decommissioning Division

RDDD-26-134

Enclosure:
Presentation: "Proposal to Cease Waste Removal Activities in Tank 14 and Enter Sampling and Analysis Phase" (SRMC-CWDA-2026-00017, Revision 0, March 5, 2026)

cc w/enclosure:
S. French, SCDES - Columbia
M. Reece, SCDES – Columbia
H. J. Porter, SCDES – Columbia
J. Blalock, SCDES - Columbia
M. Mehta, SCDES – Columbia
G. R. Stewart, SCDES – Columbia
H. Cathcart, SCDES – Columbia
G. O'Quinn, SCDES – Midlands Aiken Environmental Affairs Office
C. Robertson, SCDES – Midlands Aiken Environmental Affairs Office
T. G. Corley, 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.