



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

FEB 26 2007

Mr. James I. Palmer, Jr., Regional Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4  
61 Forsyth Street, SW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960

Dear Mr. Palmer:

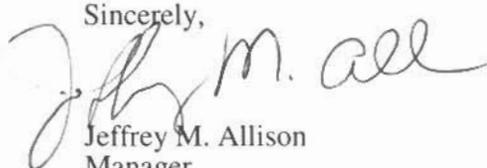
**SUBJECT:** Notice of Unacceptability for all Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) Off-Site Rule Units, Savannah River Site (SRS), Aiken, South Carolina (Your letter, 2/16/07 and letter, Hennessey to Hill, 2/20/07)

We have received your letter declaring unacceptable the receipt of wastes generated as a result of CERCLA response actions for all units at SRS that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4 (EPA-4) previously determined to be acceptable for that purpose under the Off-Site Rule. The Department of Energy Savannah River Operations Office (DOE-SR) requests that an informal conference be held to discuss the basis for that determination. Because there is the potential that the unavailability of certain of these disposal options could adversely affect DOE's ability to comply with various groundwater monitoring CERCLA Record of Decision commitments, DOE seeks to begin discussions with EPA-4 as soon as practicable.

In addition, DOE-SR is interested in gaining a better understanding of EPA-4's basis for determining that the E-Area Slit Trenches should be rendered immediately unacceptable for the receipt of CERCLA wastes. While DOE will undertake a site evaluation pursuant to Section X of the Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) (letter, Hennessey to Hill, dated February 20, 2007), DOE-SR presently has no information indicating that an extraordinary emergency or like circumstance exists [Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 300.440(d)(9)] that warrants rendering these trenches immediately unacceptable.

DOE-SR looks forward to the opportunity to discuss these CERCLA off-site disposal issues with you in the near future, and I am hopeful that these discussions will result in the agencies' reaching an agreement on an approach that will resolve these concerns.

Please contact me or have your staff contact Mr. Brian Hennessey, DOE-SR FFA Project Manager, at (803) 952-8365 to coordinate the conference.

Sincerely,  
  
Jeffrey M. Allison  
Manager

SGP-07-004

cc: Arthur Collins, EPA-Atlanta  
Dawn Taylor, EPA-Atlanta  
Robert Pope, EPA-Atlanta  
Keith Lindler, SCDHEC-Columbia  
Don Siron, SCDHEC-Columbia  
Shelly Sherritt, SCDHEC-Columbia

Mr. James I. Palmer, Jr.,

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bc: Martin Letourneau (EM-11), HQ  
Steven Golian (EM-22), HQ  
Steven Miller (GC-51), HQ  
Helen Belencan, FCP  
Brian Hennessey, SGP  
Brenda Hays, OCC  
Howard Pope, WDPD  
Jeanie Jones (WSRC Administrative Records File)  
MGR Reading File  
OCC Reading File  
AMCP Reading File  
SGP Reading File  
FCP Reading File  
ECATS  
File Code: