



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

FEB 23 2009

Mr. Steve Dixon, Chairman
Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board
Post Office Box 2001
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830

Dear Mr. Dixon:

The Oak Ridge Office recently provided me a copy of Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board (OR SSAB) recommendation #171, regarding the Waste Information Management System (WIMS). I appreciated the opportunity to discuss WIMS with the OR SSAB in January 2008. I am pleased to respond to your recommendation, and I very much appreciate the OR SSAB's support for my office's efforts in this.

The Office of Disposal Operations has recently completed collection of updated data for WIMS, and we are presently reviewing this data to identify and address any data gaps and issues. We plan to provide the updated data to Florida International University (FIU) for posting in WIMS just as soon as the data review is complete. We expect to have this publicly available in April 2009. The data will continue to be updated annually to inform our planning efforts.

This year we have asked for additional information in our data call to inform our planning. Some of the new information we have asked for are: 1) better linkage to generation or managing project baseline summaries; and 2) more information on the nature of disposition risk, impacts and mitigation. We also plan to identify the commercial facilities currently planned to receive the waste in WIMS this year.

Your input has been very valuable to our annual update. We are continuing our effort, by working with the FIU, to provide useful and comprehensive information on the WIMS. We will continue to keep you informed of our progress. I look forward to our continuing dialogue on waste challenges.



If you have any further questions, please contact me at (301) 903-1669, or Melissa Nielson, Director of the Office of Public and Intergovernmental Accountability, at (202) 586-0356.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christine Gelles', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Christine Gelles
Director
Office of Disposal Operations

cc: S. McCracken, OR
M. Nielson, EM-13