



Department of Energy

Oak Ridge Office of Environmental Management
P.O. Box 2001
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831

August 5, 2014

Mr. David Hemelright, Chair
Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board
Post Office Box 2001
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831

Dear Mr. Hemelright:

**RESPONSE TO YOUR LETTER DATED MAY 19, 2014, RECOMMENDATION 222:
RECOMMENDATION ON ADDITIONAL OFF-SITE GROUNDWATER MIGRATION
STUDIES**

Reference: May 19, 2014, Letter from David Hemelright to Susan Cange, *Recommendation 222:
Recommendation on Additional Off-site Groundwater Migration Studies.*

We appreciate the recommendations provided by the Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board regarding additional off-site groundwater migration studies. The Department of Energy (DOE) has proceeded with the off-site groundwater migration study and is working with the State of Tennessee and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to ensure project completion and success. DOE has also planned budgets for three years to aid in project studies, and in follow-on years for additional activities from these studies. The funding is included in DOE's annual budget request, and while the first three years are expected to be funded due to regulatory commitments, follow-on years may be prioritized based on mission needs.

As for the ranking of the on-site groundwater plumes, this effort was accomplished by a series of workshops with individuals from DOE, the State of Tennessee, and EPA in which each plume was analyzed for potential migration, concentrations, contaminants of concern, and potential health risks (to both humans and the environment). While the rankings may seem to be subjective, they result from a process agreed to by all three agencies involved, and may be revisited based on conclusions from the off-site migration studies. DOE acknowledges the recommendation for the ranking of on-site plumes; however, at this time DOE will proceed with the efforts agreed to by the State and EPA, as these address the potential of migration, and DOE believes that these rankings are the best at this time based on available information.

If you have questions or if we can be of any further assistance, please contact me at (865) 576-0742 or Dave Adler at (865) 576-4094.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan M. Cange".

Susan M. Cange, Acting Manager
Oak Ridge Office of Environmental Management

See cc's listing on page 2

D. Hemelright

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cc:

David Borak, EM-3.2, FORS
Fred Butterfield, EM-13, FORS
Kristof Czartoryski, TDEC, Oak Ridge
John Owsley, TDEC, Oak Ridge
Connie Jones, EPA Region 4
Terry Frank, Anderson County Mayor
Mark Watson, Oak Ridge City Manager
Ron Woody, Roane County Executive
Dave Adler, EM-90
Steven Clemons, EM-91
William McMillan, EM-90
Jay Mullis, EM-90
Melyssa Noe, EM-92