



## Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

December 13, 2001

The Honorable John T. Conway  
Chairman  
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board  
625 Indiana Avenue, NW  
Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20004-2901

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that one action identified in the Implementation Plan for Recommendation 2001-1, High-Level Waste Management at the Savannah River Site, was completed by the Department of Energy (DOE) in December 2001. The completed action is:

Commitment 2.4 - Issue Request for Proposals (RFP) for up to two Engineering, Procurement, and Construction Contractor(s) – November 2001. The Salt Waste Processing Facility Final RFP was issued on December 5, 2001. A copy of the DOE News Release is enclosed. The issuance of the final RFP was delayed a few days in order to address final DOE comments.

This action is a key step in acquiring the capability for salt processing. If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 586-7710.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Golan".

Paul Golan  
Chief of Staff  
Office of Environmental Management

Enclosure

cc:  
G. Rudy, SRS  
M. Whitaker, S-3.1



# DOE NEWS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY • SAVANNAH RIVER SITE • AIKEN, SC 29808

**NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:**  
**Bill Taylor, 803/725-1288**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**December 5, 2001**

## **DOE ANNOUNCES AVAILABILITY OF FINAL RFP FOR SRS SALT PROCESSING FACILITY**

**Aiken, SC** -- Today the Department of Energy (DOE) made available the Final Request for Proposals (RFP) for the acquisition of services to design, construct, and commission a facility to process the salt portion of high-level radioactive waste currently stored in underground tanks at the Savannah River Site (SRS).

The Salt Waste Processing Facility Final RFP (DE-RP09-02SR22210) is available at the DOE Public Reading Room at the Gregg-Graniteville Library at the University of South Carolina-Aiken in Aiken, South Carolina, or via the Internet at <http://e-center.doe.gov>.

The Final RFP identifies Caustic Side Solvent Extraction as the preferred technology for the cesium separation process, consistent with the *Savannah River Site Salt Processing Alternatives Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement* and the subsequent Record of Decision issued in October 2001.

The Department is seeking to award two Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contracts for the conceptual design of a Salt Waste Processing Facility based on the Caustic Side Solvent Extraction technology. After conceptual design, DOE will select one of these EPC contractors to perform the remaining design, procurement, construction, and commissioning of the facility.

Following a DOE review of all proposals, the Salt Waste Processing Facility contract is anticipated to be awarded in May 2002.

**-DOE-**

**SR-01-13**