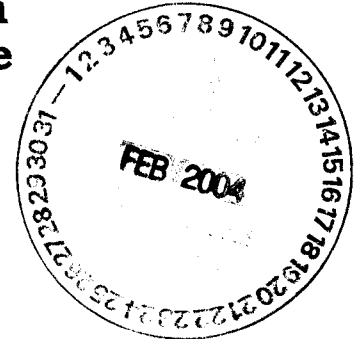




**Oak Ridge Reservation
Local Oversight Committee**

January 30, 2004

Mr. Ray Lee
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Mail Code 6608J
Washington, DC 20460



Subject: Proposed approval of DOE's Remote-Handled (RH) Transuranic (TRU) Waste Characterization Plan and Waste Characterization Program Implementation Plan (WCPIP) (Revision 0D) for disposal of waste at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP)

Dear Mr. Lee:

The Citizens' Advisory Panel (CAP) of the Oak Ridge Reservation Local Oversight Committee, Inc. (LOC) concurs with the proposed approval of DOE's RH TRU Waste Characterization Plan and WCPIP (Rev. 0D) by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The Oak Ridge Reservation has the largest inventory by curies of RH TRU in the DOE complex that is scheduled to be disposed of at WIPP. Because our site receives 55 inches of precipitation per year, this waste will be much safer disposed at WIPP than if stored on our site. In the past couple of years, a small additional RH TRU waste stream (196.6 cubic meters of contaminated soil) has been identified during the course of remediation activities. The CAP is pleased that this revision to the RH TRU waste inventory will be evaluated during the recertification process.

The LOC is a non-profit regional organization funded by the State of Tennessee and established to provide local government and citizen input into the environmental management, decision-making and operation of the U.S. Department of Energy Oak Ridge Reservation. The Board of Directors of the LOC is composed of elected and appointed officials from the City of Oak Ridge and the seven counties surrounding and downstream of the ORR, and the chair of the CAP. The CAP is a stakeholder organization with up to 20 members with diverse backgrounds who represent the greater ORR region; the CAP supports Board interests by reviewing and providing recommendations on DOE decisions and policies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Norman A. Mulvenon".

Norman A. Mulvenon
Chair, LOC Citizens' Advisory Panel



Anderson • Meigs • Rhea • Roane • City of Oak Ridge • Knox • Loudon • Morgan

cc: LOC Register

LOC Board

LOC CAP

Gerald Boyd, Manager, DOE ORO

Steve McCracken, Assistant Manager for EM, DOE ORO

Pat Halsey, FFA Coordinator, DOE ORO

Jeff Crane, FFA Project Manager, EPA Region 4

Frank Marcinowski, Director, Radiation Protection Division, EPA HQ

John Owsley, Director, TDEC DOE-O

Steve Zappe, NMED

Manager, DOE Carlsbad Field Office

Amy Fitzgerald, City of Oak Ridge

David Mosby, Chair, ORSSAB