



## Department of Energy

Oak Ridge Office  
P.O. Box 2001  
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831

July 12, 2006

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

Dear Mr. Trammell:

### **SITE SPECIFIC ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDATION ON THE NATURAL RESOURCE DAMAGE ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

I would like to thank you for your interest in the Oak Ridge Reservation Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) activities. Your letter on this subject recommended that the Department of Energy and other NRDA trustees be especially vigilant in the application of the NRDA process as additional Records of Decision (RODs) are signed addressing ecological risk assessment. As we move forward to complete the cleanup of the Oak Ridge Reservation, we will be issuing final RODs that will address ecological risks. If the selected remedy results in residual injuries to natural resources, then those injuries will be addressed through the NRDA process.

Over the next few months we expect to resolve comments received from NRDA Trustees on the Black Oak Ridge Conservation Easement valuation study, which could lead to resolution of NRDA liabilities established by the Lower Watts Bar Lake Record of Decision. I have asked David Adler to keep you informed on any significant developments on this matter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact him at 576-4094.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen H. McCracken".

Stephen H. McCracken  
Assistant Manager for  
Environmental Management