



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

February 12, 2001

Luther Gibson
Chair
Oak Ridge SSAB
PO Box 2001
EM 90
Oak Ridge, TN 37831

Dear Mr. Gibson,

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of your comments on the *Draft Long-Term Stewardship Study*. We received 49 sets of comments from the Department's stakeholders across the United States. These comments made a valuable contribution to the development of the Final Study. We plan to publish the comments in a comment-response document along with the Final Study.

The Department has incorporated Draft Study comments to the extent practical in the Final Study. As we discussed in the Draft Study, this document is not the appropriate mechanism for addressing site-specific issues. Where site-specific comments address general issues for long-term stewardship, the Department has attempted to communicate these issues in the study. We have forwarded site-specific comments to long-term stewardship representatives at the appropriate sites.

We have updated the study based upon comments received, and the document is presently undergoing a final internal DOE review. When the Final Study is approved and released, a Notice of Availability will be published in the *Federal Register*. We will be sure to send you a copy of the final study when it becomes available.

We thank you for your attention and commitment to long-term stewardship issues.

Sincerely,

Letitia O'Connor
Office of Long-Term Stewardship
Long-Term Stewardship Study Program Manager