



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

May 23, 2007

The Honorable Nick Lampson
Chairman, Subcommittee on Energy and Environment
Committee on Science and Technology
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is in response to your May 16, 2007 letter to Secretary Bodman that, among other things, sought "all records" that were "generated or received" by the Department since August 1, 2006 regarding the Savannah River Ecology Laboratory. Your letter also requested a briefing on this subject for the staff of the Subcommittee on Energy and Environment and the staff of the Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight. The letter asked that the briefing be conducted by May 25, 2007, and the requested records be produced by May 30, 2007. Your letter also sought advice from the Department, by May 23, 2007, regarding its current funding of the Laboratory.

The advice by the Department about funding matters is being provided to the Subcommittees today under separate cover. The Department is working to provide the requested briefing by the date specified in your letter, May 25, 2007. Because many of the Departmental officials sufficiently informed about this matter to conduct the requested briefing also are necessary participants in the Department's task of identifying and collecting all the requested records, however, it is unlikely that all such records can be provided by May 30, 2007. The Department will, nonetheless, respond to the Subcommittees' request for records as soon as possible.

Should the Subcommittees wish for the Department to revise the priority of its efforts and defer the requested briefing in order to expedite production of the requested records, please advise me or have the Subcommittees' staff contact Dirk Bartlett, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs, at (202) 586-5450.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Hill".

David R. Hill
General Counsel



cc: The Honorable F. James Sensenbrenner
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight

The Honorable Bob Inglis
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Energy and Environment

The Honorable Bart Gordon
Chairman
Committee on Science and Technology

The Honorable Ralph Hall
Ranking Member
Committee on Science and Technology

The Honorable John Barrow
U.S. House of Representatives