



Department of Energy  
Washington, DC 20585

JAN 11 1995

John Newman

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The Honorable Richard Arrington, Jr.  
710 N. 20th Street  
Birmingham, Alabama 35203

Dear Mayor Arrington:

Secretary of Energy Hazel O'Leary has announced a new approach to openness in the Department of Energy (DOE) and its communications with the public. In support of this initiative, we are pleased to forward the enclosed information related to the former Southern Research Institute site in your jurisdiction that performed work for DOE's predecessor agencies. This information is provided for your information, use, and retention.

DOE's Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) is responsible for identification of sites used by DOE's predecessor agencies, determining their current radiological condition and, where it has authority, performing remedial action to cleanup sites to meet current radiological protection requirements. A conservative set of technical evaluation guidelines is used in these investigations to assure protection of public health, safety and the environment. Where DOE does not have authority for proceeding, the available site information is forwarded to the appropriate Federal or State Agency.

DOE studied the historical records of the former Southern Research Institute site, and it determined that it did not have the authority to perform remedial action at the site. This conclusion is derived from the fact that the facility was licensed to handle nuclear materials.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 301-427-1721 or Dr. W. Alexander Williams (301-427-1719) of my staff.

Sincerely,

James W. Wagoner II  
Director  
Off-Site/Savannah River Program Division  
Office of Eastern Area Programs  
Office of Environmental Restoration

Enclosures

cc:  
Dr. John W. Rouse, Birmingham, AL  
A. Goodwin, State of Alabama

