



## Department of Energy

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

September 13, 2011

Mr. Ron Murphree, Chair  
Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board  
Post Office Box 2001  
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830

Dear Mr. Murphree:

### **RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 201: RECOMMENDATION ON THE LIQUID LOW-LEVEL WASTE PIPELINES NORTHERN CHARACTERIZATION STUDY AREA**

Thank you for your recommendation concerning the liquid low-level waste pipelines northern characterization area. As you may be aware a Federal Facility Agreement milestone for a remedial action work plan for this area is due to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) on March 30, 2012. This work plan will address requirements for management of pipelines within the footprint of this excavation activity. The specific approach for managing these pipelines cannot be finalized until this work plan has been approved by EPA and TDEC. However, please be assured that the Department will employ methods that comply with the existing Bethel Valley Record of Decision, and that contamination associated with these pipelines will be controlled both before and after excavation completion.

While the Department would prefer to complete excavation of the Northern Characterization Study Area after ongoing activities associated with the Tank W1A site are completed, sufficient funding is not available to fund excavation of this additional area. If this proves to be the case, excavation of this area will probably be combined with future soils cleanup activities for the Central Campus area of Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

If you have questions, or if we can be of any further assistance, please contact me at 576-4095.

Sincerely,

David G. Adler  
Alternate Deputy Designated Federal Official

cc:

Connie Jones, EPA  
John Owsley, TDEC  
Cate Brennan, EM-13, FORS  
Melissa Neilson, EM-13, FORS