



# Environmental Bulletin

Volume 12, Number 11  
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*from the Savannah River Site*

## RCRA proposed plans available to the public

The Department of Energy (DOE), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and South Carolina Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) have reviewed the risks associated with the L-Area Burning/Rubble Pit (LBRP), Gas Cylinder Disposal Facility (GCDF) and L-Area Rubble Pile (LRP) operable unit at the Savannah River Site (SRS) and are recommending the following actions:

- (1) LBRP source unit: No further action.
- (2) GCDF source unit: No further action.
- (3) LRP source unit: Removal and disposal of contaminated soils/debris. After removal, institutional controls including long term site maintenance will be implemented
- (4) Groundwater: Groundwater Mixing Zone/Monitored Natural Attenuation (GMZ/MNA) with institutional controls will be implemented as long as groundwater concentrations exceed regulatory standards.

The LBRP was a shallow, unlined excavation measuring approximately 29 feet wide, 230 feet long, and 10 feet deep, and was used from 1951 to 1978 as a waste burning and burial pit. The GCDF is located adjacent the LBRP and was a 14 feet wide, 27 feet long and 3 feet deep trench, used in the mid- to late 1970s for the venting and disposal of gas cylinders. The cylinders contained hazardous gases such as ammonia and chlorine. In 1997, a removal action was implemented with the primary objective of removing all principal threat waste (i.e. batteries) from the pit and GCDF. Subsequently, soil samples from the base of the excavation confirmed that no contamination remained in the LBRP and GCDF. Both areas were backfilled to grade with clean soil.

The LRP is approximately 500 feet long and 120 feet wide, consisting of rubble and soil piles randomly scattered throughout the area. It is not known when disposal activities at the unit occurred or what type and volume of waste were disposed. A removal action in 1997 removed and disposed of approximately 250 cubic yards of non-hazardous and hazardous waste from the site. However, confirmatory sampling of the area showed that although the action had removed the principal threat waste, contaminants still remained above remedial goals.

The LBRP, GCDF and LRP are located in an area that has been recommended for industrial use by the SRS Citizens Advisory Board (CAB). The *Savannah River Site Future Use Report Stakeholder Recommendations for SRS Land and Facilities* (DOE 1996) includes the recommendation that "residential uses of SRS land should be prohibited", and the *Federal Facility Agreement Implementation Plan* (WSRC 1996) designated this area as an industrial zone. The planned future use of the LBRP, GCDF and LRP by DOE is continued industrial usage.

The public comment period is scheduled for August 1, 2001 to September 14, 2001. Comments on the Proposed Plan are requested by

September 14, 2001. Upon completion of the public comment period, a Responsiveness Summary will be prepared which addresses public comments. The Responsiveness Summary will be made available with the Record of Decision, and will be sent to each person who submits comments.

Copies of the Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan are available in the administrative record, which also contains the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) report for these units. The administrative record is available in the following information repositories:

- DOE Public Reading Room at the Gregg-Graniteville Library at the University of South Carolina-Aiken campus in Aiken, SC;
- Thomas Cooper Library Government Documents Department at the University of South Carolina in Columbia, SC.

Hard copies of the Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan are available at the following:

- Reese Library at Augusta State University in Augusta, GA; and
- Asa H. Gordon Library at Savannah State University in Savannah, GA.

The Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan is also available on the Internet in the SRS Home Page under (<http://www.srs.gov>), under "Happening Now," (<http://www.srs.gov/general/srs-home.htm>) and on the SRS Environmental Restoration Home Page, under "Public Involvement," (<http://www.srs.gov/general/srenviro/erd/pub/pubinv.html>).

Copies of the draft Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) permit modification/s are available for review at SCDHEC during regular business hours, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays, and at SCDHEC, Bureau of Land and Waste Management, 8901 Farrow Road, Columbia, South Carolina 29203; Phone: (803)896-4000, or SCDHEC, Lower Savannah District, Environmental Quality Control Office, 218 Beaufort St., N.E., Aiken, SC 29802; Phone: (803) 641-7670

If there is interest in discussing this recommended remedial approach, a public hearing may be requested. Comments on the draft RCRA Permit modification and requests for public hearings of the Draft RCRA Permit modification should be sent to SCDHEC, Attn: John Litton, P.E., Director, Division of Waste Management, Bureau of Land and Waste Management, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, SC 29201 (803) 896-4000

Comments on the Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan and requests for public meetings may be sent to Jim Moore, Westinghouse Savannah River Company, Savannah River Site, Building 742-A, Aiken, SC 29808, 1-800-249-8155, [jim02.moore@srs.gov](mailto:jim02.moore@srs.gov)

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## The SRS

### Environmental Bulletin

For more information on this or other  
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[http://www.SRS.GOV/general/srenviro/  
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