



Environmental Bulletin

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from the Savannah River Site

K-Area Sludge Land Application Site and Par Pond Sludge Land Application Site Operable Unit

The United States Department of Energy (DOE) will release a Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan on December 12, 2005, describing the proposed remedial approach for the K-Area Sludge Land Application (KSLAU) Site and Par Pond Sludge Application (PSLAU) Site Operable Unit (OU) at the Savannah River Site (SRS). The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) will also release a draft Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) permit modification for the proposed remedial action for this unit. These documents will be available for public review and copying at the locations listed below. The public comment period is scheduled for December 12, 2005, to January 25, 2006. DOE, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and SCDHEC have reviewed the risks associated with this unit and have evaluated cleanup alternatives.

The preferred alternative for the KSLAU and PSLAU OU is:

No Action is the preferred alternative because the site poses no risk to human health and the environment based on unrestricted land use. No Action is protective of human health and the environment.

The KSLAU is located in the central portion of SRS, near K Area and south of Road B. It was originally a borrow pit of about 17 acres and was reclaimed beginning in 1980. In that year, about 300,000 gallons of liquid sludge from the Augusta (Georgia) Wastewater Treatment Plant was applied to the unit. Sludge was injected 5 to 8 inches below the surface. In 1981, loblolly pines and hardwood trees were planted on the unit. In 1988, about 210 tons of sanitary sewage sludge from the Central Shops (CS) Sewage Sludge Lagoon was spread over the surface of 14 acres of the unit.

The KSLAU is a mixture of pine forest and open land. The land surface within the KSLAU slopes gently to the southeast; ground elevations range from a high of 230 ft at the northwest corner to 190 ft at the southeast corner. The water table is about 20 to 60 ft below the surface, and groundwater flow is toward the south or southeast in the direction of Pen Branch. The groundwater is not a source of drinking water.

The PSLAU is located in the eastern portion of SRS, between Road B and Par Pond. It was originally a borrow pit of about 31 acres and was reclaimed beginning in 1980. In that year, about 300,000 gallons of liquid sludge from the Augusta (Georgia) Wastewater Treatment Plant was applied to the unit. Sludge was injected 5 to 8 inches below the surface. In 1981, loblolly pines and hardwood trees were planted on the unit. In 1988, 340 tons of sanitary sewage sludge from the CS Sewage Sludge Lagoon was spread over the surface of 22 acres of the unit.

The PSLAU is a mixture of pine forest and open land. The land surface within the PSLAU is rather flat; ground elevations range from a high of 230 ft at the southern boundary to 210 ft at the northwest corner. The water table is about 20 to 40 ft below the surface, and groundwater flow is toward the southeast. The groundwater is not a source of drinking water.

Comments on the Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan and the draft RCRA permit modification are requested by January 25, 2006. Upon completion of the public comment period, a Responsiveness Summary that addresses public comments will be prepared. The Responsiveness Summary will be made available with the Record of Decision and the final RCRA permit decision and will be sent to each person who submits comments. (continued on page 2)

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Copies of the Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan are available in the administrative record, which also contains the RCRA Facility Investigation/Remedial Investigation with Risk Assessment Report for this unit. The administrative record is available in the information repositories listed below:

- 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.

Copies of the draft 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, at the following locations:

SCDHEC
Bureau of Land and Waste Management
8911 Farrow Road
Columbia, South Carolina 29203
Phone: (803)896-4000
or
SCDHEC
Region 5
Aiken Environmental Quality Control Office
206 Beaufort St., N.E.
Aiken, SC 29801
Phone: (803) 641-7670

If there is interest in discussing this recommended remedial approach, a public hearing may be requested. Comments on the Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan should be sent to Mr. Jim Moore and Mr. John Litton. Comments on the draft RCRA permit modification or requests for a public hearing should be sent to Mr. John Litton. For additional information or to request a public meeting contact:

Jim Moore
Westinghouse Savannah River Company
Savannah River Site
Building 730-1B
Aiken, SC 29808
1-800-249-8155
jim02.moore@srs.gov
or
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

DOE makes temporary authorization request to add treatment capacity for macroencapsulation of waste at the Hazardous Waste Storage Facility (HWSF)

The Department of Energy (DOE) at the Savannah River Site is requesting from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) temporary authorization to add treatment of waste by macroencapsulation at the HWSF. The HWSF is currently permitted to treat waste by compaction, absorption, pH adjustment and filtration.

SRS currently stores legacy low level mixed waste (LLMW) on site due to the lack of commercial facilities for treating radioactive waste to required Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) regulatory standards for disposal. The temporary authorization will allow the HWSF facility to re-package and treat LLMW by macroencapsulation to RCRA standards in preparation for shipment to a commercial vendor for final disposal.

Additional information can be made available by contacting the personnel listed below:

Jim Moore, Westinghouse Savannah River Company, Savannah River Site, 730-1B, Aiken, SC 29808.

SRS Citizens Advisory Board 2006 Meeting Schedule

January 23-24
Crowne Plaza
130 Shipyard Drive
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928
(843) 842-2400
www.cphiltonhead.com

March 27-28
Columbia Marriott
1200 Hampton Street
Columbia, S.C. 29201
(803) 771-7000
www.MarriottColumbia.com

May 22-23
DoubleTree Hotel
411 West Bay Street
Savannah, Ga. 31401
(912) 790-7000
www.historicsavannah.doubletree.com

July 24-25
North Augusta Community Center
101 Brookside Avenue
North Augusta, S.C. 29841
(803) 441-4290

September 25-26
DoubleTree Hotel
181 Church Street
Charleston, S.C. 29401
(843) 577-2644
www.doubletree.com

November 13-14
Augusta Towers Hotel
2651 Perimeter Parkway
Augusta, Ga. 30909
(706) 855-8100
www.gfhotels.com

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**SRS Environmental Bulletin
Savannah River Site
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Aiken, S.C. 29808**



The SRS Environmental Bulletin

For more information on this or other
environmental and compliance activities
at SRS, please contact:

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