



Environmental Bulletin

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from the Savannah River Site

Removal Site Evaluation Report/Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (RSER/EE/CA) for the P Area Process Sewer Lines as Abandoned No Building Number (NBN) Subunit for the P Area Operable Unit

The U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to perform a non-time critical removal for the P-Area Process Sewer Lines As Abandoned (NBN) Subunit (PSLs) for the P Area Operable Unit (PAOU). Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) the Removal Site Evaluation Report/Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (RSER/EE/CA) describes how the proposed removal action meets the criteria established in the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Contingency Plan (NCP), 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 300.415. The purpose of this RSER/EE/CA is to identify the objectives of the removal action for the PSLs, and to develop alternatives that address the potential threats from release of contaminants to the environment. This document will be available for public review and copying at the locations listed below. The public comment period is scheduled for December 7, 2009 to January 06, 2010.

The RSER/EE/CA was completed to meet the terms of CERCLA, a law governing the investigation and cleanup of waste units. The DOE has worked with the United States Environmental Protection Agency-Region 4 (USEPA) and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental control (SCDHEC) to ensure the remedial approach is consistent with all applicable environmental requirements.

The DOE, USEPA and SCDHEC have reviewed the risks associated with the PSLs and have evaluated cleanup alternatives. Based on comparative analysis of the alternatives against effectiveness, implementation, and cost, Alternative P-2 (Isolation/Plugging of Reactor Building (105-P) PSLs, Grouting of the associated underground structures, Manholes, Weirs and Boxes, Select Removal of Process Equipment External to the Reactor Building (105-P), Sealing/Plugging of Outfalls, and Institutional Controls) has been identified as the preferred action. This alternative meets the Removal Action Objectives and is consistent with the final remediation of the PAOU.

The PAOU is located about 2.5 miles east-southeast of the geographical center of the Savannah River Site (SRS) and about 4 miles west of the nearest Site boundary. The PSLs are defined as those lines that received contaminated process water discharges from the Reactor Building (105-P) located primarily along the west side of the Reactor Building. The PSLs consist of 2.9 miles of carbon steel pipes of various sizes, depths and configuration throughout P-Area that received contaminated discharges.

The scope of the removal action includes :

- P-Area Process Sewer Lines as Abandoned NBN
- Spill on 03/15/79 of 5,500 Gallons of Contaminated Water, NBN
- Associated Underground Structures
- Manholes
- Miscellaneous other weirs and boxes

Radiological contamination (such as cesium-137 and cobalt-60) may be fixed within the pores of the concrete or trapped in the rust and scale in these lines at levels that exceed the principal threat source material thresholds. The purpose of the removal action is to prevent possible exposure of the industrial worker to the contents within the PSLs and associated structures and to prevent the flow of water through the system.

Upon completion of the public comment period, an Action Memorandum with a Responsiveness Summary that addresses public comments will be prepared.

Copies of the RSER/EE/CA are available in the administrative record. 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; and
- Thomas Cooper Library Government Documents Department at the University of South Carolina in Columbia, SC.

Hard copies of the RSER/EE/CA area 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.

An electronic copy of the RSER/EE/CA is posted at the following address: <http://www.srs.gov/general/programs/soil/pub/pubinv.html>

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**For more information on this or
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