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SRS Completes Liquid Tightness Test of Saltstone Disposal Unit 7

AIKEN, S.C. (March 25, 2021) – The Savannah River Site (SRS) completed the liquid tightness test this week on Saltstone Disposal Unit (SDU) 7, the site's second mega-volume <u>saltstone disposal unit</u>. The test, which began March 1, did not detect leakage.

Savannah River Remediation (SRR), the liquid waste contractor at SRS, is now emptying the water from the unit. It will take about 20 days to empty the 33-million-gallon unit.

The water includes approximately 400 gallons of fluorescent yellow/green dye that was added to help with leak detection. The dye is certified by NSF International, an independent public health and safety organization, for use in drinking water and is commonly used in dye/tracer tests.

The dyed water is being pumped from the unit to drainage basins on SRS for a controlled discharge to an on-site tributary that will ultimately enter the Savannah River. Because this dye is safe for the environment, there are no health, safety, or environmental concerns with discharging this water in the SRS ecosystem or the Savannah River.

The SDUs are a critical part of the liquid waste system as they are permanent disposal units that will hold solidified decontaminated salt solution at SRS.

This leak test is the last major project step allowing preparations for operational readiness and startup of the next available Saltstone Disposal Unit.



<u>Cutline</u>: The Savannah River Site (SRS) completed the Saltstone Disposal Unit (SDU) 7 liquid tightness test and is now emptying the unit of dyed water.