

# State Regulatory Oversight

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# DHEC Coverage

- Do not cover
  - Storage of spent nuclear fuel
  - Nuclear materials
- Exempted by Congress

# DHEC Environmental Roles

- Protection
- Oversight
- Emergency Preparedness
- Improvement

# Protection

- Federal and State Laws/Regulations
- EPA delegates implementation to State
- DHEC has been delegated authority for
  - Air
  - Water
  - Waste
  - Cleanup

# Protection

- Issue permits in accordance with Federal/State requirements
- Inspect for compliance
- Take enforcement action when necessary

# Protection Programs

- Air
- Underground Injection Control
- Underground Storage Tanks
- Asbestos
- 401 Certification (Wetlands)
- Stormwater
- Wastewater Treatment
- Navigable Waters
- Drinking Water
- Laboratory Certification
- National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
- Radioactive Waste Transportation
- Solid Waste (Landfills)
- Hazardous Waste (RCRA)

# Oversight

- DHEC monitors SRS and surrounding area to determine impact of SRS activities.
  - Air, water, soil, sediment, vegetation, milk, fish and game animals
  - <http://www.scdhec.gov/environment/envserv/esop.htm>
- DHEC maintains frequent presence at SRS through office in Region.



United States  
Department of Energy



# Savannah River Site

Operated by Westinghouse Savannah River Company  
Bechtel Savannah River, Inc.

Security by Wackenhut Services Inc.

National Environmental Research Park

# Emergency Preparedness

- South Carolina has a comprehensive emergency operations plan for disasters:
  - Natural (hurricanes, earthquakes, etc.)
  - Man-made (acts of terrorism)
- DHEC takes extra measures for SRS
  - Maintain responders with Q Clearance
  - Hold practice drills specifically geared to SRS
  - Meet quarterly

# Improvement - Cleanup

- Hazardous Waste Permit
  - Requires assessment and cleanup of all waste contaminated areas at SRS
  - Covers some major areas/plumes (F, H, M, MWMF)
- Federal Facility Agreement
  - DHEC-Resource Conservation and Recovery Act authority
  - EPA-Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act authority
  - Marries process by which DHEC, EPA and DOE conduct cleanup

# Improvement - Cleanup

- Hazardous Waste Permit versus Federal Facility Agreement (FFA)
  - Problem
    - Permit violation => enforcement
    - FFA disagreement => dispute resolution
  - Form
    - Permit is a defined regulatory mechanism (can not cancel)
    - FFA is an agreement (can opt out)
- Federal Facility Agreement
  - Has worked well
  - Run by a well established, highly efficient cleanup team
  - Always current due to yearly updates

# Improvement – Legacy Waste

- Site Treatment Plan
  - Enabled by Federal Facility Compliance Act
  - Requires treatment of legacy waste by an approved schedule, enforced by order
  - Covers legacy mixed low level, transuranic and high level waste
- Requires State approval for any haz/rad waste shipment proposed to SRS
- Milestone example: Treatment of high level waste by 2028

# High Level Waste

- Section 3116 of 2005 National Defense Authorization Act
- Residuals remaining must be under
  - Energy Secretary determination in consultation with NRC, and
  - “a State-approved closure plan or State-issued permit”

# High Level Waste

- Regulated under State Wastewater Program
  - Operation through Wastewater Permit
  - Closure through Wastewater Closure Plan
    - General Closure Plan
    - Closure Modules (Tank Specific)
- Also covered by Hazardous Waste Permit cleanup authority
- Addressed through FFA process

# Status

- Maintain
  - Permits and inspections
  - Oversight
  - Emergency preparedness
- DHEC will focus on
  - High Level Waste treatment and tank closure
  - Site cleanup
  - Legacy waste disposition
  - Transition from ARRA

# Special State Concerns

- Budget, Waste Transfers, Regionalization
- DHEC maintains open communication through
  - National Governors Association Federal Facility Task Force
  - Environmental Council of the States Federal Facilities Forum
  - Contact with elected officials
  - Governor's Nuclear Advisory Council
  - Other Entities