

United States Department of Energy
Interim Action Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan Fact Sheet
for the F-Area Tank Farm Waste Tanks 17 and 20
SRR-CWDA-2011-00103

SRR-CWDA-2012-00006, Rev. 0

Savannah River Site, South Carolina

May 2012

INTRODUCTION

This fact sheet summarizes the Interim Action Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan for F-Area Tank Farm (FTF) Waste Tanks 17 and 20 located at the Savannah River Site (SRS). The United States Department of Energy (USDOE) owns and operates the SRS. Hazardous substances that are regulated under the federal law requirements of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) are managed at the SRS as part of a comprehensive cleanup program.

FTF waste tanks and ancillary structures are governed by a South Carolina Industrial Wastewater (IWW) Construction Permit. FTF waste tanks and ancillary structures that contain residual hazardous metals and radionuclides are stabilized (i.e., grouted). An interim remedial action is needed to address the

period between removal of individual waste tanks and ancillary structures from the IWW Construction Permit until final closure of the entire FTF Operable Unit when all waste tanks and ancillary structures are removed from service. The Interim Action Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan for Waste Tanks 17 and 20 outlines the range of interim remedial



alternatives evaluated to ensure that maintenance and monitoring activities are implemented during the interim period. The document describes how the public can comment on the proposed interim action through written comments and by participating in public meetings.

F-AREA TANK FARM BACKGROUND

The FTF is a 22-acre site within the General Separations Area which encompasses E, F, H, S, J, and Z-Areas consisting of 22 liquid waste storage tanks, two evaporator systems, over 45,000 linear feet of transfer pipelines, six diversion boxes, one catch tank, a concentrate transfer system tank and three pump pits. There are three major waste tank types in FTF that range in size from 750,000 gallons (Type I tanks) to 1.3 million gallons (Type III/IIIA and Type IV tanks) that have varying degrees of secondary containment and intra-tank interference, such as cooling coils and columns. FTF was constructed to receive waste generated by various SRS production, processing, and laboratory facilities. The use of FTF isolated these wastes from the

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environment, SRS workers, and the public. With FTF and its sister facility, H-Area Tank Farm, facilities are in place to pretreat the accumulated sludge and salt solutions (supernate) to enable the management and treatment of these wastes within other SRS facilities (i.e., Defense Waste Processing Facility and Saltstone Production Facility). These treatment facilities convert the sludge and supernate to more stable forms suitable for permanent disposal in a Federal Repository or the Saltstone Disposal Facility, as appropriate.

DOE is in the process of removing the waste tanks and ancillary structures from service in accordance with a Industrial Wastewater General Closure Plan and tank system-specific Closure Modules that have been prepared pursuant to the South Carolina Pollution Control Act, S. C. Code Ann., Section 48-1-10, et seq. (1985) and all applicable regulations implementing that Act.

This Interim Action Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan is specific for Waste Tanks 17 and 20 which are Type IV tanks that were operationally closed and removed from service in 1997. Waste Tanks 17 and 20 were isolated from the remaining FTF operating facility and stabilized with grout. No ancillary structures are associated with the two waste tanks.

INTERIM REMEDIAL ACTION GOALS

The objective of the interim remedial action is to prevent premature degradation of the engineered barriers (i.e., grout) associated with the stabilization of Waste Tanks 17 and 20 that have been operationally closed and removed from service.

PROPOSED REMEDY

The proposed interim remedy for Waste Tanks 17 and 20 is Annual Visible Engineered Barriers Inspection and Maintenance for the interim period from the time of removal from service until a final remedial action is determined for the FTF Operable Unit. Annual visual inspections will be conducted to ensure that the physical integrity of the engineered barriers (i.e., visible grout) is not damaged or deteriorated and to verify there is no water accumulation in surrounding areas. The current land use for the FTF is industrial with USDOE maintaining control of the land. The FTF is currently in the operation phase and access is controlled by the SRS facility security and administrative controls. Additional land use controls are not part of this interim action.

The interim remedy for Waste Tanks 17 and 20 is selected in an Interim Record of Decision and will also become applicable to each FTF waste tank, group of tanks and ancillary structures as they are removed from service. The Interim Record of Decision will be modified via an Explanation of Significant Differences document to include additional waste tanks and ancillary structures as they are removed from service and stabilized.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control concur with the proposed remedy.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

The Administrative Record File, which contains the information pertaining to the selection of the response action, is available at the following locations:

US Department of Energy
Public Reading Room
Gregg-Graniteville Library
University of South Carolina – Aiken
171 University Parkway
Aiken, South Carolina 29801
(803) 641-3465

Thomas Cooper Library
Government Documents Department
University of South Carolina
Columbia, South Carolina 29208
(803) 777-4866

Hard copies of the Interim Action Statement of Basis/Interim Action Proposed Plan for the F-Area Tank Farm Waste Tanks 17 and 20 are available at the following locations:

Reese Library
Government Information Section
Augusta State University
2500 Walton Way
Augusta, Georgia 30910
(706) 737-1744

Asa H. Gordon Library
Savannah State University
Tompkins Road
Savannah, Georgia 31404
(912) 356-2183

HOW TO SUBMIT COMMENTS

The public comment period for the Interim Action Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan for F-Area Tank Farm Waste Tanks 17 and 20 begins August 14, 2012 and ends September 28, 2012. To request a public meeting during the public comment period, to obtain more information concerning this document, or to submit written comments, contact one of the following:

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Division of Waste Management
Bureau of Land and Waste Management
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