

To Our Readers

Highlights

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Order 231.1B (Environment, Safety, and Health Reporting) requires Annual Site Environmental Reports to assess field environmental program performance, site-wide environmental monitoring and surveillance effectiveness, and to confirm sites are complying with environmental standards and requirements.

Annual Site Environmental Reports are prepared in a manner that addresses likely public concerns and to solicit feedback from the public and other stakeholders. Savannah River Site (SRS) began publishing Annual Site Environmental Reports in 1959.

Readers can find the SRS Annual Environmental Report on the World Wide Web at the following address:

<http://www.srs.gov/general/pubs/ERsum/index.html>

The Savannah River Site Environmental Report for calendar year 2016 is an overview of environmental management activities conducted on and in the vicinity of the SRS from January 1 through December 31, 2016. This report includes the following:

- A summary of implemented environmental management systems that facilitate sound stewardship practices, as well as the compliance with applicable environmental regulations and laws intended to protect air, water, land, and other natural and cultural resources that SRS operations have impacted.
- A summary of the results of nonradiological parameters. These results are compared to permit limits and applicable standards.
- A summary of the results of effluent monitoring and environmental surveillance of air, water, soil, vegetation, biota, and agricultural products to determine radioactivity in these media. SRS compares the results with historical data and background measurements, and to applicable standards and requirements in order to verify that SRS does not adversely impact the environment or the health of humans or biota.
- A discussion of the potential doses to members of the public from radioactive releases from SRS operations compared to applicable standards and regulations, and from special-case exposure scenarios.
- An explanation of the quality assurance and quality control program, which ensures that samples and data SRS collects and analyzes are reported with utmost confidence.