



Environmental Bulletin

Volume 10, Number 8
June 8, 1999

from the Savannah River Site

Proposed Plan for L & P Bingham Pump Outage Pits Operable Unit

The United States Department of Energy (US DOE) will release a Proposed Plan on June 10, 1999, describing the proposed remedial approach for the L&P Bingham Pump Outage Pits (L&P BPOP) operable unit at the Savannah River Site (SRS). This document will be available for public review and copying at the locations listed below. The public comment period is scheduled for June 10, 1999, to July 9, 1999. This document was submitted to meet the terms of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, (RCRA); laws governing the investigation and cleanup of waste units. DOE has worked with the United States Environmental Protection Agency-Region IV (US EPA) and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) to ensure the remedial approach is consistent with all applicable environmental requirements.

DOE, EPA, and SCDHEC have reviewed the risks associated with these units and have evaluated the cleanup alternatives. The three agencies are recommending the following actions for the L&P Bingham Pump Outage Pits Operable units:

Institutional Controls – Access and Deed Restrictions/Notifications

This remedy will provide adequate protection against human health items of concern in subsurface soil and exposure to waste left in place by prohibiting

unauthorized excavation through access controls and deed restrictions.

The L and P BPOP's are burial pits located in the L and P Reactor Areas at the Savannah River Site (SRS) in west-central South Carolina, and are two of four BPOP operable units at the SRS. The units have similar waste streams, unit histories, and physical characteristics. The K-Area Bingham Pump Outage Pit, the lead unit, received Record of Decision approval by the regulatory agencies in April 1998.

The L and P BPOP's are approximately 13 feet deep and contain waste debris that was generated by major modifications to primary and secondary reactor cooling systems in 1957 and 1958. The waste consists of miscellaneous construction materials such as pipes, cables, ladders, and concrete. No known pumps or liquid wastes were buried in any of the BPOP's. Following disposal of an average depth of nine feet of debris, the pits were returned to grade by backfilling with four feet of cover soil. The primary source of contamination at the units is the waste debris. Potential secondary sources include surface, subsurface, and deep soils.

Comments on the Proposed Plan are requested by July 9, 1999. Upon completion of the public comment period, a Responsiveness Summary that addresses public comments will be prepared. The Responsiveness Summary will be made available with the Record of Decision, and will be sent to each person who submits comments.

MORE INFORMATION

Copies of the Proposed Plan are available in the administrative record, which also contains the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) report for these units. The administrative record is available in the information repositories listed below:

- US DOE Public Reading Room at the Gregg-Graniteville Library at the University of South Carolina-Aiken campus in Aiken, SC;
- Thomas Cooper Library Government Documents Department at the University of South Carolina in Columbia, SC;

Hard copies of the Proposed Plan are 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.

The Proposed Plan is also available on the Internet in the SRS Home Page under (<http://www.srs.gov>), under "Happening Now," (<http://www.srs.gov/general/srs-home.htm>) and on the SRS Environmental Restoration Home Page, under "Public Involvement," (<http://www.srs.gov/general/srenviro/erd/pub/pubinv.html>).

If there is interest in discussing this recommended remedial approach, a public hearing may be requested. For comments on the proposed plan or to request a public meeting contact:

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For more information on this or other cleanup and compliance activities at SRS, please contact:

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Access the Environmental Notice web site:
[http://www.SRS.GOV/general/srenviro/
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