



Environmental Bulletin

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from the Savannah River Site

Record of Decision Issued for General Separations Area Consolidation Unit

The United States Department of Energy (US DOE), the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA), and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) have selected the remedial approaches for Savannah River Site's (SRS) General Separations Area Consolidation Unit. A 45-day public comment period for the Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan and the associated draft Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) permit modification was held from June 6, 2002, to July 20, 2002. The remedial decision is documented in the Record of Decision document. This document includes a responsiveness summary that addresses public comments. DOE has worked with EPA and SCDHEC to ensure the remedial approach is consistent with all applicable environmental requirements.

DOE, the EPA, and SCDHEC have determined that remedial action is necessary for this unit. The preferred remedial actions consist of the following:

1. Materials constituting industrial principal threat source material (PTSM) and soils containing contaminant migration constituents of concern (CMCOC) at H Area Retention Basin (HRB), Warner's Pond, and HP-52 Ponds will be excavated.
2. The excavated soil and material will be consolidated at the Old Radioactive Waste Burial Ground (ORWBG) in areas that have not yet been covered by the native soil cover.
3. Any vegetation in contact with PTSM will be removed and consolidated in the ORWBG.
4. Surface water from HRB and vadose zone water from HRB, Warner's Pond, and HP-52 will be managed by mixing with excavated soil or other means such as treatment at the Effluent Treatment Facility (ETF).
5. Portions of the H-Area Inactive Process Sewer Line at Warner's Pond will be excavated with the soil or managed by grouting in place.

6. HRB, Warner's Pond, and HP-52 Ponds will be back-filled with clean soil.
7. Institutional Controls will be implemented at HRB, Warner's Pond, and HP-52 Ponds.
8. A low-permeability geosynthetic cover system will be constructed over the ORWBG.
9. Institutional Controls will be implemented at the ORWBG.
10. Intruder barriers will be installed over the long-lived persistent hot spots at the ORWBG prior to termination of active institutional controls.

This alternative will be protective of human health and the environment. It is also intended to be the final action for the General Separations Area Consolidation Unit.

Copies of the Record of Decision are available in the administrative record. The administrative record is available in the information repositories listed below:

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

Hard copies of the Record of Decision 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.

Want More Information?

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