



# Environmental Bulletin

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*from the Savannah River Site*

## **FONSI available for Storage of Tritium-Producing Burnable Absorber Rods at the Savannah River Site**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has issued a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) for the temporary storage of Tritium-Producing Burnable Absorber Rods (TPBARs) at the Savannah River Site (SRS) (DOE/EA-1528). The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) Watts Bar Nuclear Generating Station (Watts Bar) will be providing irradiated TPBARs to the DOE facilities at SRS. The Tritium Extraction Facility (TEF) at SRS will process the TPBARs to recover tritium. Due to the TEF construction and startup schedule, TEF will not be ready to receive the TPBARs at the time of the first shipment from Watts Bar. Watts Bar will ship the TPBARs approximately one year before TEF is ready to receive the material. DOE will store irradiated TPBARs, shipped from Watts Bar in a cask to SRS, in the K-Area Transfer Bay until the TEF is ready to receive and process the material. The TPBARs will be transported to SRS and stored in a shipping cask in accordance with a U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Certificate of Compliance. DOE did not anticipate the need for this temporary storage in the original National Environmental Policy

Act (NEPA) review for TEF (Final *Environmental Impact Statement for the Construction and Operation of a Tritium Extraction Facility at the Savannah River Site*, DOE/EIS-0271). Transportation of the TPBARs to SRS was evaluated in the Final *Environmental Impact Statement for the Production of Tritium in a Commercial Light Water Reactor*, DOE/EIS-0288. Copies of the Environmental Assessment (EA) and FONSI can be accessed electronically at <http://www.srs.gov/general/pubs/pubs.htm>.

Requests for copies of the final EA and FONSI should be sent to:

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