



Interim Remedial Action Fact Sheet Available for the Trichloroethylene (TCE) Vadose Zone Source Unit at the C-Reactor Groundwater Operable Unit

The United States Department of Energy (DOE), United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) announce the completion of the final design of the remedy selected for the C-Reactor Groundwater (CRGW) Operable Unit (OU) and the availability of the Interim Remedial Action Fact Sheet. This fact sheet provides a description of the remedy selected for the CRGW OU at the Savannah River Site (SRS).

CRGW is located in the west-central portion of SRS, entirely within the Fourmile Branch watershed. CRGW was defined to encompass all of the groundwater below C Area, north to unnamed tributaries of Fourmile Branch, west to Fourmile Branch, south to Castor Creek, and east to SRS Road 5. CRGW includes several TCE and tritium plumes, which originated from different sources. The purpose of this Interim Remedial Action is to remediate the TCE vadose zone source unit south of the C-Reactor building.

C-Reactor operated from March 1955 until June 1985; C-Reactor was placed on cold standby in 1987. TCE was released to the soil at a manhole along a storm sewer line south of the C-Reactor building. Documentation of the source of the soil contamination is unavailable or inconclusive. TCE in the vadose zone (the unsaturated zone above the water table) comprises a continuing source of groundwater contamination. The geometry of the TCE vadose zone source is a vertical cylinder approximately 60 ft in diameter extending from the surface to the water table about 70 ft below-ground surface.

The selected Interim Remedial Action for the Trichloroethylene Vadose Zone Source Unit at the C-Reactor Groundwater Operable Unit is electrical resistance heating/soil vapor extraction (ERH/SVE). ERH uses the electrical resistance of soil to heat the soil in situ by passing an electrical current through the soil. The heat vaporizes volatile organic contaminants in the soil. These vapors are withdrawn by the SVE system and treated and discharged per an air quality control permit.

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