



Environmental Bulletin

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from the Savannah River Site

Record of Decision issued for L-Area Southern Groundwater Operable Unit

The United States Department of Energy (DOE), the United States Environmental Protection Agency – Region 4 (EPA), and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) have selected the remedial approach for the L-Area Southern Groundwater (LASG) Operable Unit (OU) at the Savannah River Site (SRS). 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 August 16, 2006 to September 29, 2006.

The DOE, EPA and SCDHEC have determined that the preferred remedial action consists of the following:

The preferred alternative for the LASG OU is Monitored Natural Attenuation (MNA) with long-term monitoring of the groundwater conditions in the plumes and surface water and Institutional Controls to prevent human contact with the contaminated media.

This alternative will be protective of human health and the environment. It is also intended to be the final action for the LASG OU.

The LASG OU encompasses all of the groundwater from the L-Area groundwater divide south to L Lake. The LASG OU covers about 1250 acres and includes several historical source units. The remediated/depleted source units supported past production activities at L Reactor and other production areas, which produced nuclear materials for national defense. Past activities at the historical source units have resulted in groundwater contamination beneath LASG OU. This groundwater unit has been administratively separated from the historical source units to provide a comprehensive evaluation of groundwater beneath LASG OU.

The remedial decision is documented in the Record of Decision. This document includes a Responsiveness Summary that addresses public comments. DOE has worked with SCDHEC and EPA to ensure that the remedial approach is consistent with all applicable environmental requirements.

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 locations:

- Reese Library at Augusta State University in Augusta, GA; and
- Asa H. Gordon Library at Savannah State University in Savannah, GA.

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The SRS Environmental Bulletin

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