



Environmental Bulletin

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from the Savannah River Site

Action Memorandum issued for the Removal Site Evaluation Report/Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (rser/ee/ca) for the P Area Ash Basin (including outfall P-007) (188-P) and the R Area Ash Basin (188-R)

The U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) has selected the preferred alternative for the non-time critical removal actions for the P Area Ash Basin (including Outfall P-007) (188-P) and the R Area Ash Basin (188-R) for the P Area Operable Unit (PAOU) and the R Area Operable Unit (RAOU). A thirty (30) day public comment period was held from January 27, 2010, to February 26, 2010. No comments were received during the public comment period.

The scope of the removal action addresses the following subunits within PAOU and RAOU:

- P Area Ash Basin (PAB) (including Outfall P-007)
- R Area Ash Basin (RAB)

For the PAB (including Outfall P007), DOE has selected Alternative P-3, Cesium-137 Removal and Soil Cover, as the preferred action. The excavated contaminated soil exceeding the 10 pCi/g cesium-137 (+D) concentration will be disposed of at the Savannah River Site (SRS) E-Area Low Level Waste Facility. The placement of a 0.6-m (2-ft) thick soil cover over the remaining cesium-137 (+D) contamination at the Outfall P-007 and over the PAB protects the future industrial worker and prevents spread of contamination by rain or wind. In addition, the PAB was permitted as an Industrial Wastewater facility and this removal action will achieve closure consistent with the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control regulations, SC R.61-82, Proper Closeout of Wastewater Treatment Facilities.

For the RAB, DOE has selected Alternative R-3, Soil Cover, as the preferred action. The placement of a 0.6-m (2-ft) thick soil cover over the ash will protect the future industrial worker from exposure to contaminated ash and prevents spread of contamination by rain or wind.

These alternatives meet the Removal Action Objectives and will not preclude any additional remediation of the PAOU or the RAOU. These alternatives are consistent with the final remedial actions proposed for the PAOU and the RAOU.

The selection of the preferred alternative is documented in the Action Memorandum. DOE has worked with South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control and the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency to ensure that the removal action is consistent with all applicable environmental requirements.

A copy of the Action Memorandum is 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 Action Memorandum 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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