



# 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 HEAVY WATER COMPONENTS TEST REACTOR AT THE SAVANNAH RIVER SITE**

The DOE has selected the preferred alternative for the non-time critical removal action for the Heavy Water Components Test Reactor (HWCTR) at the B Area Operable Unit (BAOU). A 30-day public comment period was held for the RSER/EE/CA from February 8, 2010, to March 10, 2010. Three comments were received during the public comment period and are addressed in the Responsiveness Summary.

DOE has determined that Alternative 3 (In Situ Decommissioning with Reactor Vessel and Steam Generator Removal) has been selected as the preferred removal action. Under this alternative, the reactor vessel, steam generators, steel containment dome, and all above-grade components of the facility would be removed with the exception of the transfer coffin refueling machine and disposed of at appropriate disposal facilities. Following removal of these components, the transfer coffin refueling machine will be placed in the reactor vessel void and the below-grade portions of the facility would be sealed in place with a grout material to form a stabilized structure. The area would then be covered with concrete at the ground surface to prevent infiltration of precipitation and eliminate direct exposure. Land use controls and ongoing surveillance and maintenance activities would be implemented with the preferred alternative.

The HWCTR facility is located on approximately 8,094 m<sup>2</sup> (2 acres) in the northwest quadrant of the SRS in an area formally known as U Area. This area is now part of B Area, which is composed primarily of administrative, protective force operations, laboratory and warehouse facilities.

The selection of the preferred alternative is documented in the Action Memorandum. DOE has worked with SCDHEC and the USEPA 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.

Paul Sauerborn  
Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC  
Savannah River Site  
Building 730-1B  
Aiken, SC 29808  
1-803-952-6658  
[paul.sauerborn@srs.gov](mailto:paul.sauerborn@srs.gov)

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**For more information on this or  
other environmental and compli-  
ance activities at SRS, contact:**

**Paul Sauerborn**

**Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC**

**Aiken, S.C. 29808**

**Public Involvement**

**(803) 952-6658**

**email: paul.sauerborn@srs.gov**

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