



Environmental Bulletin

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from the Savannah River Site

Revision 5 Action Memorandum Issued for the Disposition of Water in the 105-P Disassembly Basin at the Savannah River Site

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) previously selected the preferred alternative for the non-time critical removal action (NTCR) at the Disassembly Basin within the 105-P Reactor Complex located at the Savannah River Site's (SRS's) P-Area. A 30-day public comment period was held for the Removal Site Evaluation Report/Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (RSER/EE/CA) from March 13, 2008 to April 14, 2008.

P Area, located in the southeast portion of the SRS, is approximately 14.2 miles from A-Area, which is on the northwest edge of the SRS. P Area, which includes Building 105-P, is located entirely in Barnwell County. The Disassembly Basin, a concrete basin inside the 105-P Reactor Building, is comprised of seven interconnected sections that previously contained approximately 4.4 million gallons of water over contaminated sediments and reactor activated metal components.

On June 16, 2008, the DOE submitted the Action Memorandum documenting its selection of RSER/EE/CA Alternative #3, Forced Evaporation of the Basin Water, as the preferred alternative to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (ARF #015483; DOE Letter, ACP-08-183). A revised Action Memorandum was issued on September 26, 2008 (ARF #01563; DOE Letter, ACP-08-225). The revised Action Memorandum acknowledged continued use of the 105-P Disassembly Basin to receive potentially contaminated rainwater from basins and sumps within the reactor building and from ancillary facilities.

Revision 3 and Revision 4 of the Action Memorandum for the 105-P Disassembly Basin (ACP-09-173 and ACP-10-252) did not modify the original selection of forced evaporation to treat the basin water, but addressed various operational changes resulting from additional water evaporation from other sources. In addition, Revision 4 addressed the acceptability of the 105-P Disassembly Basin under the CERCLA Off-Site Rule for disposal of this additional water.

This revision, Revision 5 (ACP-11-169) of the Action Memorandum for the NTCR Action for the Disposition of Water in the 105-P Disassembly Basin, details the final disposal location for the used evaporators due to the inability to reuse the equipment in lieu of placement in the E-Area Slit Trench Disposal Units. The selected alternative for the NTCR originally defined that the low level waste resulting from this action would be grouted within the P Area Disassembly Basin or disposed in the E-Area Slit Trench Disposal Units. Upon completion of the water evaporation and the subsequent shutdown of the processing equipment (which included the flushing of each evaporator to remove the residual bottoms), the used evaporators will be placed within the above ground structure of the 105-P reactor facility and encased in concrete as part of the P-Area Operable Unit Closure.

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

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