

The Savannah River Site Environmental Bulletin

September 23, 2013

Volume 25, Number 8

Notice of Availability: Explanation of Significant Difference for Incorporating Tanks 18 and 19 into Revision 1 Interim Record Of Decision Remedial Alternative Selection for the F Area Tank Farm, Waste Tanks 17 and 20 at the Savannah River Site

The Explanation of Significant Difference for Incorporating Tanks 18 and 19 into Revision 1 Interim Record of Decision Remedial Alternative Selection for the F Area Tank Farm, (hereafter referred to as the Tank 18 and 19 ESD) is being issued by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the lead agency for the Savannah River Site (SRS), with concurrence by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 4 (EPA), and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC). The Tank 18 and 19 ESD modifies the Interim Record of Decision to include Tanks 18 and 19 and was completed to facilitate the terms of the Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) for SRS governing the investigation and cleanup of waste units. The FFA integrates the requirements of Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act.

DOE has worked with the EPA and SCDHEC to ensure the interim remedial approach is consistent with all applicable environmental requirements. The objective of the interim remedial action is to prevent premature degradation of the engineered barriers associated with stabilization of the waste tanks by conducting annual inspections and any necessary maintenance for liquid waste tanks that have been stabilized and removed from service. DOE, EPA, and SCDHEC have reviewed the risks associated with the stabilized waste tanks and have evaluated alternatives. Annual Visible Engineered Barriers Inspections and Maintenance is the selected alternative for the stabilized FTF waste tanks.

The FTF is a 22-acre site within the General Separations Area consisting of 22 liquid waste storage tanks and various ancillary structures and transfer lines. There are three major waste tank types in FTF that range in size from 750,000 gallons (Type I tanks) to 1.3 million gallons (Type III/IIIA and Type IV tanks) and have varying degrees of secondary containment and intra-tank interference, such as cooling coils and columns. Waste Tanks 18 and 19 are Type IV tanks constructed in the late 1950s. These waste tanks have a single carbon steel liner with a spherical reinforced concrete domed roof. Waste Tanks 18 and 19 were operationally closed and removed from service in 2012 in accordance with an approved General Closure Plan and tank-specific Closure Module. The tanks were isolated from the remaining operating facility and filled with grout.

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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 (USC) Aiken campus in Aiken, SC; and
- Thomas Cooper Library Government Documents Department at USC in Columbia, SC.

Hard copies of the Tanks 18 and 19 ESD are available at the following locations:

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

Electronic copies can be found at the following website:

- <http://www.srs.gov/general/programs/soil/rod/rod.html>

The SRS Environmental Bulletin

For more information on this or other environmental and compliance activities at SRS, please contact:

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