U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY | OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

State and Stakeholder Notification of SRS Environmental Releases

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Purpose

- To fulfill a 2014 Faculties Disposition & Site Remediation (FD&SR) Committee Work Plan topic.
- Providing the CAB and public an understanding of the notification processes in the event of an environmental release from the Savannah River Site.

Acronyms

BJWSA	Beaufort – Jasper Water and Sewer Authority
COSI&D	City of Savannah Industrial and Domestic
GDNR	Georgia Department of Natural Resources
SCDHEC	South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
SRS	Savannah River Site

Public and Stakeholder Concerns

- Beaufort – Jasper Water and Sewer Authority (BJWSA) and the City of Savannah must provide their customers confidence:
  - Any water quality impacts from the Savannah River Site operations are known and managed properly
  - Information about contaminants is available and provided in a timely manner
  - Savannah River water can be used safely

Routine Information and Timely Notification

Non- Emergency Notifications and Routine Reports are provided to:

- Beaufort – Jasper Water and Sewer Authority (BJWSA)
- City of Savannah Industrial & Domestic (COSI&D)
- City of North Augusta, South Carolina
- South Carolina Department of Heath and Environmental Control (SCDHEC)
- Georgia Department of Natural Resources (GDNR)
- Southern Company

Routine Information Reports

Savannah River Site provides the following routine reports to our stakeholders:

- Weekly River Mile 118.8 tritium concentration results are reported each Thursday
- Annual Radiological Analysis Report for Offsite Drinking Water Systems Utilizing Savannah River Water
- Annual Site Environmental Report is available to the public by October 1

Non-routine Information and Timely Notifications

- Notification of planned activities that will result in radionuclide concentration increases in the river are provided prior to Savannah River Site beginning any discharges.
- Notification of unplanned releases that do not trigger any emergency response action levels as soon as possible, but within 96 hours when:
  - Tritium concentrations exceed the 5,000 picocuries per liter warning trigger in the Savannah River
  - Tritium concentrations exceed the SRS 3,000 picocuries per liter administrative limit in the Savannah River

Other Notifications

Emergency Notifications

- Events that fall within the emergency categorization/classification system established by DOE Orders:
  - Health and safety
  - Environment
  - Hazardous/biological agents or toxins
  - Security and Safeguards
  - Offsite Transportation Events
- Offsite notifications within 15 minutes of declaration for events involving HAZMAT releases; 30 minutes for all other events

Regulatory Notifications

- Events with hazardous material releases that are reportable quantities as defined in Code of Federal Regulations

Courtesy Notifications

- Events that do not fall within the DOE emergency classification system but have potential for significant public or media interest

Summary

- Since 1991, releases from the Savannah River Site have not resulted in any major impact to local or downstream stakeholders.
- River samples are collected at River Mile 118.8 (Highway 301) and analyzed weekly for tritium.
- In 2013, no Environmental Protection Agency drinking water maximum contaminant level was exceeded at either Beaufort – Jasper Water and Sewer Authority (BJWSA) and the City of Savannah (COS) water treatment facilities due to Savannah River Site operations.
- In 2013, the Savannah River Site contributed only 36% of the tritium in the Savannah River.
- Savannah River Site discharges to the Savannah River have never resulted in exceeding the 5,000 picocurie tritium notification trigger.

Environmental Monitoring Program Contacts

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