

## State and Stakeholder Notification of Savannah River Site Environmental Releases

#### Mike Griffith

Manager, Sample Data Management Environmental Compliance and Area Completion Projects

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### Purpose

- To full fill a 2015 Facilities Disposition & Site Remediation (FD&SR) Committee Work Plan topic
- Provide 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 impact 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

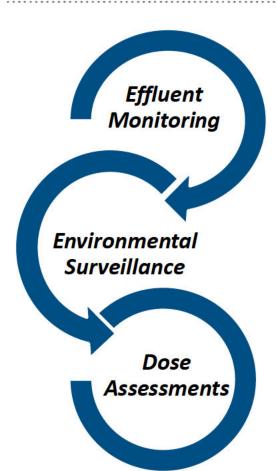
### **Environmental Monitoring**

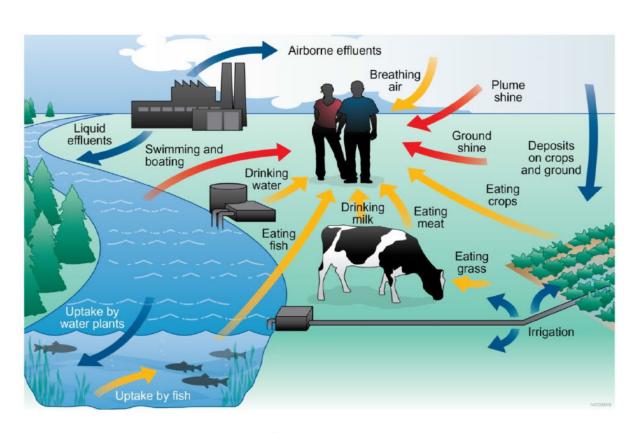
### SRS has performed environmental sampling for over 60 years

- Assess impact to the public and environment from site operations
- Monitor facility discharges
- Extensive monitoring on- and off-site, extending to Savannah
- Sample media: air, water, groundwater, soil, food products (including fish) and vegetation



### **Environmental Monitoring**



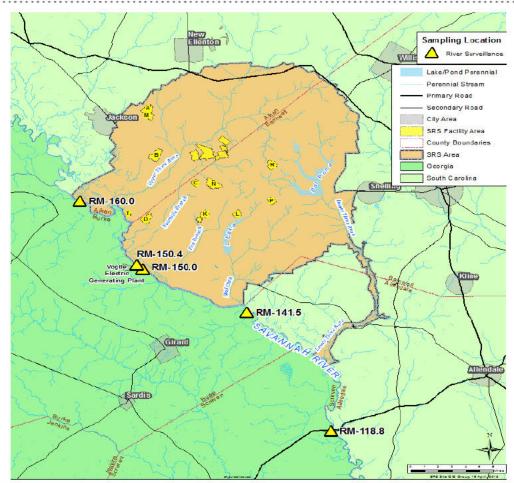


**Potential Exposure Pathways** 

### Savannah River Sampling Locations

# Five locations along the Savannah River serve as environmental surveillance points

- River Mile 160
- River Mile 150.4
- River Mile 150
- River Mile 141.5
- River Mile 118.8



### **Savannah River Sampling Locations**

River Mile 160 (above SRS)





### Savannah River Sample Results for 2014

The tritium concentration levels are well below the EPA standard of 20,000 picocuries per liter (pCi/L)

Location	Average Tritium (pCi/L)
RM-160 (CONTROL)	58.4
RM-150.4	1,100
RM-150	224
RM-141.5	400
RM-118.8	385

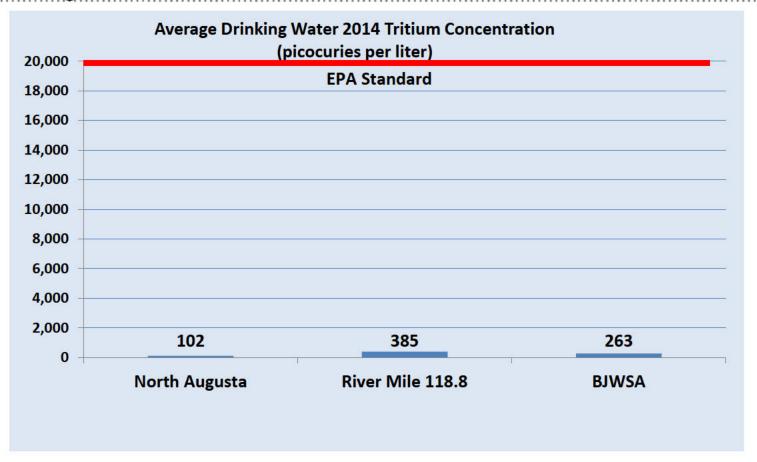
RM = River Mile

### Offsite Drinking Water Surveillance

- Program design offsite is from DOE guidance, EPA drinking water standards, and the SRS critical pathway analysis
- Samples collected at offsite water treatment plants
  - Upriver at North Augusta
  - Downriver at Beaufort-Jasper
- Use Savannah River as a water supply



### **Drinking Water Results for 2014**



### **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 Health 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 hazardous material releases; 30 minutes for all other events

### **Other Notifications**

### Regulatory Notifications

Events with hazardous material releases that are reportable quantities as defined in the 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
- No Environmental Protection Agency drinking water maximum contaminant level has been exceeded at the Beaufort – Jasper Water and Sewer Authority treatment facilities due to Savannah River Site operations

### Summary

- In 2014, the Savannah River Site contributed only 29% of the tritium in the Savannah River
- Savannah River Site discharges to the Savannah River have never resulted in exceeding the 5,000 picocuries per liter tritium notification trigger

### **Environmental Monitoring Program Contacts**

Department of Energy-Savannah River

Gail Whitney
Environmental Quality Management Division
Office of Infrastructure and Environmental Stewardship
803-952-8113

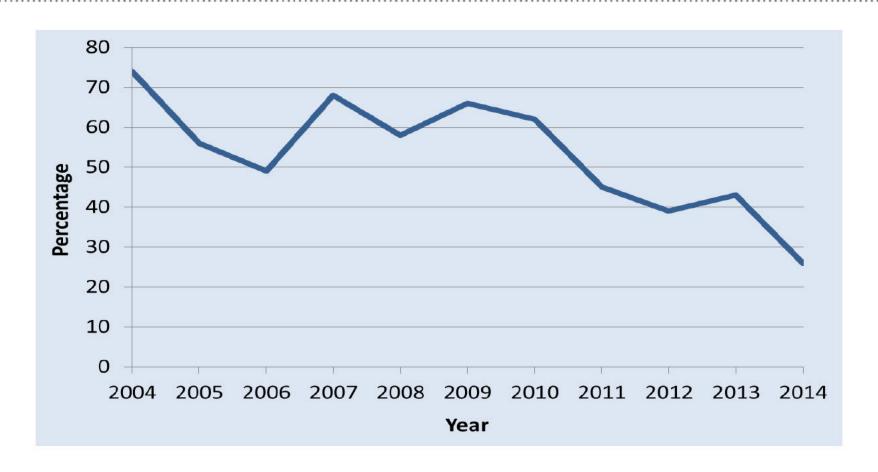
Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC

Mike Griffith, Manager
Sample Data Management
Environmental Compliance and Area Completion Projects
803-952-9183

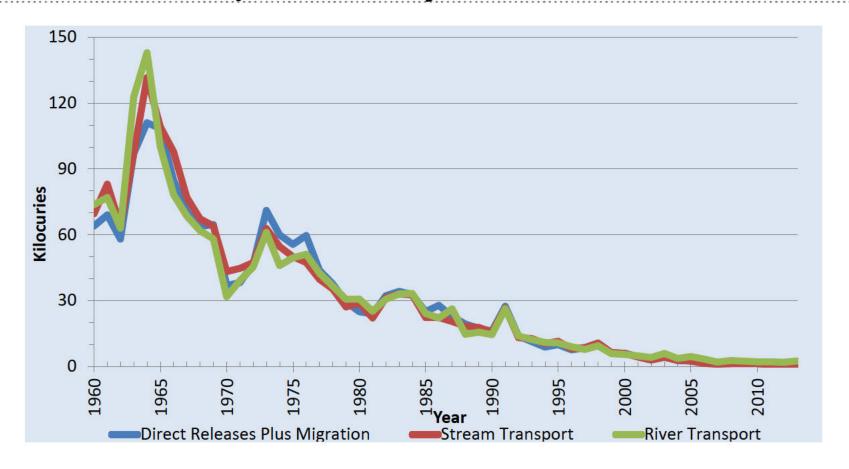
The SRS Environmental Report for 2013 is available on the web at: http://www.srs.gov/general/pubs/ERsum/index.html

### **BACK-UP SLIDES**

### **SRS Tritium Contribution to the Savannah River**



### **SRS Tritium Transport Summary**



### Radiological Surface Water Sampling Locations

