

Highlights

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Order 231.1B (Environment, Safety, and Health Reporting) requires Annual Site Environmental Reports to assess field environmental program performance, site-wide environmental monitoring and surveillance effectiveness, and to confirm sites are complying with environmental standards and requirements.

Annual Site Environmental Reports are prepared in a manner that addresses likely public concerns and to solicit feedback from the public and other stakeholders. Savannah River Site (SRS) began publishing Annual Site Environmental Reports in 1959.

Readers can find the SRS Annual Environmental Report on the World Wide Web at the following address:

<http://www.srs.gov/general/pubs/ERsum/index.html>

The Savannah River Site Environmental Report for calendar year 2017 is an overview of environmental management activities conducted on and in the vicinity of SRS from January 1 through December 31, 2017. This report includes the following:

- A summary of implemented environmental management systems that facilitate sound stewardship practices, as well as the compliance with applicable environmental regulations and laws intended to protect air, water, land, and other natural and cultural resources that SRS operations have impacted.
- A summary of the results of nonradiological parameters. These results are compared to permit limits and applicable standards.
- A summary of the results of effluent monitoring and environmental surveillance of air, water, soil, vegetation, biota, and agricultural products to determine radioactivity in these media. SRS compares the results with historical data and background measurements, and to applicable standards and requirements in order to verify that SRS does not adversely impact the environment or the health of humans or biota.
- A discussion of the potential doses to members of the public from radioactive releases from SRS operations compared to applicable standards and regulations, and from special-case exposure scenarios.
- An explanation of the quality assurance and quality control program, which ensures that samples and data SRS collects and analyzes are reported with utmost confidence.

The report addresses three general levels of reader interest:

- 1) The first is a brief summary with a “take-home” conclusion. This is presented in the “Highlights” text box at the beginning of each chapter. There are no technical tables, figures, or graphs in the “Highlights.”
- 2) The second level is a more in-depth discussion with figures, summary tables, and summary graphs accompanying the text. The chapters of the annual report represent this level, which requires some familiarity with scientific data and graphs.
- 3) The third level includes links to supplemental and technical reports and websites that support the annual report. The links to these reports may be found in the chapters or on the SRS Annual Environmental Report webpage. Many of the reports mentioned in Chapter 3, *Compliance Summary*, are submitted to meet compliance requirements and are not available on the SRS Annual Environmental Report webpage or through direct links. These reports may be obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request.

When a regulation or DOE Order requires reporting on a fiscal year (FY) basis, the information in the ASER is reported in FY. This allows for consistency with existing documentation. FY reporting is typically found in chapter 2, *Environmental Management System*, and chapter 3, *Compliance Summary*.

The SRS Environmental Report webpage contains reports from multiple years with the 2017 report being the latest. The report folders feature:

- The full report with hyperlinks to all supplemental information or reports
- Maps with environmental sampling locations for the various media samples. These figures are identified as “Maps Figure” within the text of the report
- Annual reports from SRS organizations

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS), LLC develops this report as the management & operations contractor to the Department of Energy at SRS. In addition to SRNS, the contributors to the annual report include Savannah River Remediation (SRR), LLC; Parsons Government Services; U.S. Department of Energy, Savannah River Operations Office (DOE-SR); Chicago Bridge & Iron AREVA MOX Services, LLC; Centerra-SRS; Ameresco Federal Solutions, Inc.; Savannah River Ecology Laboratory (SREL); and U.S. Forest Service-Savannah River (USFS-SR). Links to their websites may be found on pages 1–4 through 1–6 of this report.

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