



Environmental Bulletin

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from the Savannah River Site

Fact Sheet Available for the M Area Operable Unit

The U. S. Department of Energy, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control announce the availability of a Pre-Construction Fact Sheet for the M Area Operable Unit (MAOU) at the Savannah River Site (SRS). This Fact Sheet provides a description of the remedial actions selected for the MAOU. The MAOU Record of Decision (ROD) was issued on February 5, 2009 and the Explanation of Significant Difference to the MAOU ROD was issued on July 9, 2009.

The MAOU is located in the northwest portion of the SRS. SRS produced special nuclear materials for the Department of Defense since 1952. An important step in the production cycle was the manufacture of fuel and target assemblies in M Area for nuclear reactors. The northernmost portion of the MAOU contains the Production Area. The Production Area included three major production buildings (313-M, 320-M, and 321-M) that began operation in the early 1950s and continued operation at various production levels until the early 1990s. In addition to the production facilities, three support facilities (322-M, 324-M, and 340-M) were also located in this area. Southern portions of M Area were used as salvage yards (740-A, 743-A, and 741-A). The Liquid Effluent Treatment Facility (341-M, 341-1M, and 341-8M) is located south-southwest of the Production Area. Two test reactor facilities (305-A and 777-10A) were located in the southern portion of M Area.

Passive soil vapor extraction has been selected as the MAOU remedial action because it effectively removes volatile organic compounds (i.e., trichloroethylene and tetrachloroethylene) from the vadose zone and protects groundwater by depleting the source. Institutional controls (ICs) will be used to limit access to the area. ICs will also include grouting of manholes for access control.

Copies of the MAOU Pre-Construction Fact Sheet are 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 MAOU Pre-Construction Fact Sheet are available at the following locations:

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

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