

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENTS (EISs) and ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS (EAs)

INVOLVING THE SAVANNAH RIVER SITE (SRS) AUGUST 2020

Note: Items underlined are changes made since the previous report.

EISs INVOLVING SRS

Title, Document Number, Document Manager, point-of-contact (POC)	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Milestones	Comments
Disposal of Decommissioned, Defueled USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65) DOE/EIS-0524 Department of the Navy (DON): John C. Walker, Document Manager SR POCs: Tracy Williams, EQMD; Charles Comeau, WDPD EM POC: Bill Ostrum, EM- 4.31		<u>Notice of Public Scoping Period Re-opening</u>	<u>New Public Scoping Period Closes</u>		Notice of Intent 05/19; Public Comment Period ended 07/19; <u>Notice of Public Scoping Period Re-opening 08/20</u>	On May 31, 2019, the Department of the Navy (DON), with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) as a cooperating agency, announced its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) (EIS-0524) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of alternatives for disposal of the decommissioned, defueled ex Enterprise (CVN 65) aircraft carrier, including its reactor plants. The proposed action executes the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) policy for inactive ships stricken from the Naval Vessel Register and designated for disposal by dismantling to reduce the Navy's inactive ship inventory and eliminate costs associated with maintaining the ship in a safe stowage condition. The 45-day public scoping period began May 31, 2019 and ended July 15, 2019. Public scoping meetings were held on June 18 in Newport News, VA; June 20 in Brownsville, TX; June 25 in Bremerton, WA; and June 27 in Richland, WA. A copy of the NOI is available at https://www.energy.gov/nepa/downloads/eis-0524-notice-intent/ . On August 12, 2020, the Department of the Navy announced its plans to reopen the public scoping period to add Mobile, Alabama as a potential location for commercial dismantlement. The scoping period is open from Aug. 12 to Sept. 11, 2020. During this time, the public is encouraged to submit comments on the scope of the analysis, viable alternatives, or environmental issues to consider. Due to current federal and state guidance and measures put in place in response to COVID-19, the Navy is unable to hold an in-person public scoping meeting in Mobile, Alabama. To assist the public in determining whether to submit a formal comment on the project, the Navy will respond to questions from the public from Aug. 19 to Sept. 2, 2020. Details about submitting public comments are available the Navy's " <i>Disposal of Decommissioned, Defueled Ex-Enterprise (CVN 65) and Its Associated Naval Reactor Plants EIS/OEIS</i> " webpage at https://carrierdisposaleis.com/ .
Plutonium Pit Production at Savannah River Site (SRS) in Aiken, South Carolina DOE/EIS-0541 Document Manager: Jennifer Nelson, NNSA Savannah River Field Office; Jane Summerson, NNSA-GC SR POC: Tracy Williams, EQMD EM POC: Bill Ostrum, EM-4.31					Notice of Intent 06/19; Public Scoping Meeting 06/19; Public Comment Period ended 07/19; Notice of Availability 04/20; Draft EIS 04/20; Virtual Public Hearing, Public Comment Extension 04/20; Public Comment Period Ended 06/20	On June 10, 2019, the DOE/NNSA published in the Federal Register a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), to evaluate plutonium pit production at the Savannah River Site (SRS) in Aiken, South Carolina. NNSA seeks to establish a capability to produce no fewer than 50 plutonium pits per year at SRS by 2030. To allow the public an opportunity to comment on the proposed scope of the EIS, the public scoping period began June 10, 2019, and ended July 25, 2019. A public scoping meeting was held on June 27, 2019 in North Augusta, South Carolina. A copy of the NOI is available at https://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2019/06/f63/noi-eis-0541-srs-pit-production-2019-06-10.pdf . On April 3, 2020, NNSA announced in the Federal Register (85 FR 18947) availability of its Draft Environmental Impact for Plutonium Pit Production at the Savannah River Site in South Carolina (Draft SRS Pit Production EIS) (DOE/EIS-0541). NNSA also announced a 45-day public comment period and one public hearing to receive comments on the Draft EIS. The public comment period commenced with the April 3 FR notice publication and initially announced to end on May 18, 2020. In light of recent public health concerns, NNSA hosted an internet-based, virtual public hearing on 4-30-2020 in place of an in-person meeting. The date of the hearing, along with internet and telephone access details and instructions on how to participate, in addition to extending the public comment period until June 2, 2020, was subsequently posted on April 16, 2020, on the following website: https://www.energy.gov/nnsa/nnsa-nepa-reading-room , and announced in local media outlets. On May 1, 2020, at the time of the preparation of this monthly report, EPA announced in the Federal Register (85 FR 25436) extension of the public comment period to June 2, 2020. The Draft SRS Pit Production EIS is available on the internet at: https://www.energy.gov/nnsa/nnsa-nepareading-room and https://www.energy.gov/nepa/listings/latestdocuments-and-notice . During the preparation of the May monthly status report, the public comment period on the Draft SRS Pit Production EIS ended June 2, 2020.

<p>Final Supplement Analysis of the Complex Transformation Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement DOE/EIS-0236-S4-SA-02 Document Manager: Jennifer Nelson, NNSA Savannah River Field Office; Jane Summerson, NNSA-GC SR POC: Tracy Williams, EQMD EM POC: Bill Ostrum, EM-4.31; James Sanderson, GC-54, Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance</p>					<p>Notice of Availability 06/19, Public Comment Period Ended 08/19, Final Supplement Analysis 01/20</p>	<p>A Federal Register Notice (85 FR 887) announcing the availability of the Final Supplement Analysis (SA) of the Complex Transformation Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (Complex Transformation SPEIS) was published on January 8, 2020. DOE/NNSA released the Final SA to the 2008 Complex Transformation SPEIS that demonstrated no new National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation is required at the programmatic level for the plutonium pit manufacturing capability and production mission.</p> <p>This analysis of the programmatic environmental implications of establishing a capability to produce no fewer than 80 plutonium pits per year by 2030 was made following the review of extensive NEPA documentation and a 45-day public comment period from June 26 to August 12, 2019. After considering all comments received, NNSA prepared the Final SA and concluded that no further NEPA documentation at a programmatic level is required. A copy of the Final SA is available at https://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2020/01/f70/final-supplement-analysis-eis-0236-s4-sa-02-complex-transformation-12-2019.pdf.</p>
<p>Versatile Test Reactor Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0542) Document Manager: Gordon McClellan, Office of Nuclear Energy Idaho Operations Office SR POC: Tony Po k, Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL), Tracy Williams, EQMD EM POC: Bill Ostrum, EM-4.31</p>					<p>Notice of Intent 08/09, Public Scoping Period Ended 09/19</p>	<p>The Office of Nuclear Energy (NE) proposes to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and its implementing regulations at Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Parts 1500-1508 and 10 CFR 1021 to evaluate alternatives for a versatile reactor-based fast-neutron source facility and associated facilities [hereinafter referred to as the Versatile Test Reactor (VTR)] for the preparation, irradiation and post-irradiation examination of test/experimental fuels and materials. The Department of Energy (DOE) cites that such testing capability is essential for the United States to modernize its nuclear energy infrastructure and for developing transformational nuclear energy technologies that improve safety, reduce waste generation, and enhance nuclear security. The Savannah River Site is one of two sites under consideration for the fabrication of the VTR driver fuel. A Notice of Intent (NOI) was published in the Federal Register on August 5, 2019 and solicited public comments regarding scoping for the EIS which were taken through September 4, 2019. In addition to gathering written comments during this period, DOE hosted two interactive webcast scoping meetings on August 27 and 28 to provide information about the VTR and the NEPA process, and to gather oral and written comments. The NOI contained the details on submitting comments, and accessing these webcast scoping meetings, and is available at https://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2019/08/f65/eis-00542-versatile-test-reactor-noi-2019-08.pdf</p>
<p><u>Supplement Analysis (SA) for Disposition of Additional Non-Pit Surplus Plutonium DOE/EIS-0283-SA-4 Document Manager: Paloma Richard, Office of Material Disposition NA-233 SR POC: Tracy Williams, EQMD EM POC: Bill Ostrum, EM-4.31</u></p>		<p><u>Supplement Analysis published; Amended Record of Decision issued</u></p>			<p><u>Supplement Analysis published 08/20; Amended Record of Decision issued 08/20</u></p>	<p><u>In August 28, 2020, the Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration (DOE/NNSA) announced in the Federal Register an amendment to the April 2003 Amended Record of Decision (AROD) for the Final Surplus Plutonium Disposition Environmental Impact Statement (Final SPD EIS) (DOE/EIS-0283). In this AROD, DOE/NNSA announced its decision to use the dilute and dispose method to disposition up to 7.1 MT of non-pit plutonium as contact handled transuranic (CH-TRU) waste at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP). This AROD changes the disposition pathway for a portion of the 34 MT of surplus plutonium DOE/NNSA previously announced and decided in 2003 to fabricate into mixed oxide (MOX) fuel. DOE/NNSA prepared a Supplement Analysis (SA) for Disposition of Additional Non-Pit Surplus Plutonium (DOE/EIS-0283-SA-4, August 2020) to inform this decision. Updates will not appear in future reports.</u></p>

EAs INVOLVING SRS

Title, Document Number, Document Manager, point-of-contact (POC)	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Milestones	
<p>Commercial Disposal of Defense Waste Processing Facility Recycle Wastewater from the Savannah River Site; Aiken and Barnwell Counties, South Carolina DOE/EA-2115 Document Manager: James Joyce, Office of Waste and Materials Management, EM-4.2 SR POCs: Patricia Suggs, Waste Disposition Programs Tracy Williams, EQMD EM POC: Bill Ostrum, EM-4.31</p>		<p><u>Final EA and FONSI issued</u></p>			<p>Notice of Intent 06/19; Notice of Availability 12/19; Public Information Meeting 12/19; Informational Public Webinar 12/19; Notice of Extension of Public Comment Period 12/19 Public Comment Period Ended 02/20; <u>Final EA and FONSI issued 08/20</u></p>	<p>DOE published a Federal Register Notice (FRN) on December 10, 2019 announcing the availability of its Draft Environmental Assessment for the Commercial Disposal of Defense Waste Processing Facility Recycle Wastewater from the Savannah River Site (DOE/EA-2115) (Draft SRS DWPF Recycle Wastewater EA) and established a 30- day public comment period ending on January 9, 2020. On December 30, 2019, DOE announced in a subsequent FRN that extended the public comment period for the request of public comments on its draft EA for 32 days, which ended on February 10, 2020. The Draft SRS DWPF Recycle Wastewater EA evaluates the potential impacts from a proposed action to retrieve, stabilize, and dispose of up to 10,000 gallons of Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF) recycle wastewater from Savannah River Site (SRS) at a commercial low-level radioactive waste (LLW) disposal facility located outside of South Carolina, licensed by either the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) or an Agreement State under NRC's regulations regarding licensing requirements for land disposal of radioactive waste. If implemented, this proposal would provide alternative treatment and disposal options for up to 10,000 gallons of DWPF recycle wastewater through the use of existing, permitted, off-site commercial facilities. Only comments received through one of the methods specified in the FRN were accepted, and DOE would consider all comments received or postmarked by February 10, 2020. A copy of the December 30 FRN is available at https://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2019/12/f70/notice-extension-comment-period-ea-2115-dwpf-wastewater-disposal-2019-12-30.pdf. On August 4, 2020, DOE issued the Final EA and FONSI for the Commercial Disposal of DWPF Recycle Wastewater from SRS. The Final EA and FONSI, have been posted to the DOE's High-Level Radioactive Waste Interpretation (https://www.energy.gov/em/program-scope/high-level-radioactive-waste-hlw-interpretation) and Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance webpages (https://www.energy.gov/nepa/doeea-2115-commercial-disposal-defense-waste-processing-facility-recycle-wastewater-savannah). <u>Updates will not appear in future reports.</u></p>
<p>EA for the South Carolina Army National Guard Proposal to Construct and Operate Training Facilities and Infrastructure on 750 Acres at the Department of Energy Savannah River Site DOE/EA-1999 SR POCs: Jack Butler, Mission Planning Division Tracy Williams, EQMD EM POC: Sunil Patel, EM-4.11</p>					<p>NOI 09/14</p>	<p>DOE-SR and the South Carolina Army National Guard (SCARNG) are preparing an EA to analyze the potential environmental impacts from the proposed construction and operation of training facilities and infrastructure by the SCARNG on approximately 750 acres at Savannah River Site (SRS). The proposed construction and operation of facilities and infrastructure, based on the draft SCARNG Master Plan, comprise two tracts of land on SRS, the approximately 470-acre B-Area site (Tract A) and the approximately 280-acre Gun Site 51 (Tract B). The draft EA is undergoing internal review. Issuance of the draft EA has been delayed due to additional requirements imposed on the SCARNG by their higher headquarters, National Guard Bureau (NGB). The SCARNG is presently working with NGB to address these requirements.</p>
<p>NEPA Determination for revised SRS Natural Resources Management Plan</p>						<p>DOE-SR prepared an EA in 1993 (DOE/EA-0826, Environmental Assessment - Natural Resources Management Activities at Savannah River Site) to analyze the potential environmental impacts of continued management of SRS natural resources. Based on the analyses in the EA, DOE-SR determined that the proposed action was not a major Federal action significantly affecting the human environment within the meaning of NEPA, and issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). In 2000, DOE-SR issued a revised FONSI that determined implementation of a revised Red-Cockaded Woodpecker Management Plan would have impacts no greater than those described in the 1993 EA. In 2005, DOE-SR revised its Natural Resources Management Plan (NRMP) to update SRS's natural resources management goals and objectives at the site and to supersede the 1991 NRMP, and issued a revised FONSI that determined that implementation of the revised NRMP was bounded by the 1993 EA and did not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the human environment within the meaning of NEPA. DOE-SR is revising its 2005 NRMP to update SRS' natural resources management goals and to supersede its 2005 NRMP. Upon completion of the revised NRMP, DOE-SR will issue its determination as to whether implementation of the updated management goals and objectives would result in impacts greater than those described in the 1993 EA. SRS anticipates issuing its determination within the next 90 days.</p>

Questions and comments concerning his report can directed to the DOE-SR NEPA Mailbox, NEPA-SRS-EM@srs.gov