

The Savannah River Site Environmental Bulletin

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DOE Requests Temporary Authorization to Place Four Recovery Wells and One Soil Vapor Extraction Unit Off-Line to Comply with National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants in A/M Area at the Savannah River Site

The U. S. Department of Energy at the Savannah River Site (SRS) has requested from the South Carolina Department of Environmental Services a temporary authorization to place four recovery wells, RWM-001-R, RWM-010, RWM-018 and RWM-019 and the 782-3M soil vapor extraction unit (SVEU), off-line to comply with 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 63 Subpart GGGGG (5G), National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP): Site Remediation requirements. The M-1 Air Stripper and its associated recovery wells is a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) corrective action system used to remove volatile organic compound (VOC) mass from the groundwater in the A/M-Area of SRS. The 782-3M SVEU is used to remove VOC mass from the vadose zone.

On December 22, 2022, the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency amended 40 CFR 63 Subpart GGGGG, "NESHAP: Site Remediation," to remove RCRA and Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, commonly known as CERCLA, exemptions from the regulation. SRS operates different remediation systems that are subject to the new rule (e.g., active SVEUs, MicroBlowers™, and BaroBalls™, and the M-1 Air Stripper and associated recovery wells). SRS has until June 22, 2025, to comply with the NESHAP 5G regulation as amended. If SRS reduces total emissions to less than 1 megagram per year (Mg/yr), SRS is not subject to NESHAP 5G, except for recordkeeping. To reduce emissions to less than 1 Mg/yr, SRS would reduce operation of the M-1 Air Stripper and not operate the 782-3M SVEU. This scenario includes recovery wells RWM-002 through RWM-008 being operational with RWM-001-R, RWM-010, RWM-018, and RWM-019 being placed offline. In addition, 782-3M SVEU at the A-014 Outfall would also be taken offline while all other SVEUs (i.e., Mobile #3, all MicroBlowers™, and all BaroBalls™) remain operational. This plan could be implemented before June 22, 2025.

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The SRS Environmental Bulletin

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