



# Facility Fact Sheet

**Savannah River Site (SRS)**  
**Aiken, South Carolina**  
**Aiken, Barnwell and Allendale Counties**

**Draft Hazardous and Mixed Waste Management Permit**  
**SC1 890 008 989**

The South Carolina Department of Environmental Services (SCDES) has written a draft Hazardous and Mixed Waste Management Permit for the Savannah River Site (SRS) located near Aiken, South Carolina. The draft permit has been written to comply with the South Carolina Hazardous Waste Management Regulations and the Federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), as amended by the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments. The significant changes to the permit pertain to the following areas:

- Standard and General Facility Conditions - Renewal
- M-Area and Metallurgical Laboratory (MAML) Hazardous Waste Management Facilities (HWMFs) - Modification
- Mixed Waste Management Facility (MWMF) - Renewal
- Sanitary Landfill (SLF) - Renewal
- Mixed Waste Storage Buildings (MWSB) - Renewal
- Appendix VIII-A Solid Waste Management Units Remedy Selection - Update

This Fact Sheet explains SCDES's hazardous waste permitting process and the conditions of the draft permit. SCDES welcomes any comments you may have concerning how this Fact Sheet can be improved.

## **I. Hazardous Waste Permitting Process**

SCDES regulates hazardous waste activities at permitted facilities in South Carolina.

The permitting process enables SCDES to evaluate the ability of a facility to comply with state and federal regulations.

After a hazardous waste permit

application is received and determined to be complete, SCDES writes a draft permit containing all conditions that the facility must meet.

Interested citizens are given forty-five days to review and comment on the facility's permit application and the draft permit before SCDES makes a final permit decision.

Citizens may request a public hearing to learn more about the facility during the public comment period.

SCDES encourages all interested persons to participate in the permitting process.

## **II. Facility Description**

The Savannah River Site (SRS) is owned by the United States Department of Energy (DOE). It is now co-operated by the National Nuclear Safety Administration (NNSA) and the Savannah River Nuclear Solutions LLC (SRNS). The NNSA is an agency within the DOE which focuses on enhancing national security through the application of science. The SRS has produced tritium, plutonium and other special nuclear materials for the purpose of national defense. The site covers an area just over 300 square miles near the town of Aiken and a portion of the site borders along the Savannah River. The site is comprised of several different facilities and the changes to the permit only apply to four of the areas and the general information volume of the permit application.

The M-Area and the Metallurgical Lab

(MAML) HWMFs received liquid waste from fuel fabrication operations and the onsite lab area which contained solvents and degreasers containing hazardous components. The liquids were transported by underground sewer lines to unlined basins, ditch areas, outfalls, Carolina Bays and eventually seeping into the groundwater. The basins have been closed and no longer receive any waste. The primary contamination includes tetrachloroethene (PCE), trichloroethene (TCE) and 1,4-dioxane.

The Mixed Waste Management Facility is a closed disposal facility centrally located on the SRS. The draft permit addresses contamination resulting from the burial of the hazardous and mixed wastes as well as groundwater impacted from activities in the area. The primary contamination includes some volatile organic compounds, metals and tritium.

The Sanitary Landfill is a closed landfill consisting of three sections. The main and southern sections received hazardous waste and the resulting groundwater contamination is addressed by this draft permit. The primary contamination includes some organics, 1,4-dioxane and tritium.

The Mixed Waste Storage Buildings (MWSBs) are located within the Solid Waste Management Facility (SWMF). Both buildings are used to store and/or treat waste in containers. The MWSBs store hazardous, mixed, nonhazardous radioactive, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), transuranics (TRU), and nonhazardous wastes generated at the

SRS until wastes can be treated and/or disposed.

The Savannah River Site is responsible for cleaning up groundwater and soil contamination across the facility through a process called corrective action. The corrective action process is described in the facility's hazardous and mixed waste permit. The objective of corrective action at a hazardous waste facility is to evaluate the nature and extent of contamination and, if needed, to put corrective measures in place that will protect human health and the environment.

### **III. Facility's Hazardous and Mixed Waste Permit History**

A RCRA Hazardous and Mixed Waste Permit was issued to Savannah River Site on February 11, 2014. SRS will continue to operate under the conditions of this permit until a renewal permit becomes effective.

RCRA hazardous and mixed waste permits issued by SCDES are effective up to a ten-year period.

### **IV. Draft Permit Requirements**

There will be **no new hazardous and mixed waste activities** at Savannah River Site as a result of the draft permit.

The draft permit includes requirements based on any new regulations that have become effective since the facility's last permit was issued.

A brief outline of the draft permit conditions is provided in the attached table. These conditions include the

following specific requirements:

#### **1. Postclosure care of closed hazardous and mixed waste management facilities.**

A hazardous and mixed waste management facility contains one or more hazardous waste units.

The M-Area and the Metallurgical Lab (MAML) Hazardous Waste Management Facilities (HWMFs), the Mixed Waste Management Facility (MWMF) and the Sanitary Landfill (SLF) are considered Postclosure facilities. The draft permit includes groundwater monitoring and corrective action for the contamination in and around these facilities.

#### **2. Identification of solid waste management units (SWMUs) and Areas of Concern (AOCs) at the facility and corrective action for those units.**

SWMUs and AOCs are areas where contamination occurred prior to 1980. Appendix VIII-A, Solid Waste Management Units Remedy Selection, is a summary table of corrective action decisions for SWMUs or AOCs that are found at the SRS and is being updated to include Record of Decisions (RODs), made since the last permit update. Prior to the RODs being approved and signed, they were made available for public comment.

#### **3. Waste minimization, land disposal restrictions and some air emission requirements.**

The draft permit includes requirements for waste minimization, land disposal restrictions and applicable air emission

requirements.

## **V. Public Participation**

The permit application and draft permit are available for public review and comment from September 2, 2025, through October 17, 2025.

SCDES placed a Public Notice in The State newspaper and Aiken Standard newspaper on September 2, 2025, announcing the beginning of the public comment period.

Citizens may request a public hearing to learn more about the facility, the permit application and the draft permit during the public comment period.

Written comments and/or requests for a formal public hearing must be submitted no later than October 17, 2025, and should be addressed to Mr. Kent Krieg at the following address:

SCDES  
Bureau of Land and Waste Management  
2600 Bull Street  
Columbia, SC 29201  
E-Mail: [Kent.Krieg@des.sc.gov](mailto:Kent.Krieg@des.sc.gov)

The draft permit, permit application and other related information are available for review through **October 17, 2025**, at the SCDES Columbia Office listed above and at the following location:

SCDES - Aiken  
206 Beaufort St. NE  
Aiken, SC 29801  
Phone: (803) 642-1637

This Fact Sheet and the Public Notice may be reviewed on SCDES's Website at <https://des.sc.gov/PublicNotices>.

Anyone who would like to be placed on SCDES's mailing list to receive future hazardous waste Public Notices concerning this facility should submit a written request to the attention of Ms. Norma West at the above SCDES address in Columbia or by e-mail at: [Norma.West@des.sc.gov](mailto:Norma.West@des.sc.gov).

## **VI. Procedure for Reaching a Final Permit Decision**

All written comments received by October 17, 2025, will be considered before a final permit decision is made.

Once SCDES makes a final permit decision, notification will be provided to:

- The facility;
- Each person who submitted written comments; and
- Anyone who has requested to receive notice of the final permit decision.

The SCDES and the SRS would like you to be aware that additional public notices will be published in the upcoming months. These notices are required by SCDES regulation and pertain to specific hazardous waste management activities ongoing at the SRS. If you are interested in more information on upcoming notices, you can visit <https://www.srs.gov/general/pubs/envbul/ebindex.htm>

## VII. Summary of Draft Permit Conditions

The draft permit is divided into 13 modules and a brief explanation of the permit changes for that module are listed in the table below. The regulation that the condition(s) must comply with is also noted. There are formatting changes throughout the entire document that are limited to fonts and general appearance.

Module I	Standard Conditions	This section defines and contains standard administrative conditions that apply to all hazardous waste management facilities. This module is being renewed. <i>(R.61-79.270.30)</i>
Module II	General Facility Conditions	Conditions apply to all facilities that treat, store or dispose of hazardous waste. This module is being renewed <i>(R.61-79.264)</i>
Module III	Postclosure Care	Conditions apply to the general postclosure care requirements of the hazardous waste management units. Modules IIID and IIIF are being renewed. Modules IIIA and IIIG are being modified. <i>(R.61-79.264)</i>
Module IV	Groundwater Requirements	Conditions address groundwater contamination from hazardous waste unit(s) at the site and the corrective action that must be conducted. Modules IVD and IVF are being renewed. Module IVA is being modified. <i>(R.61-79.264)</i>
Module V	Storage In Containers	This section defines the requirements of operating and closing a hazardous waste storage facility. It contains general information along with schedules and required documents to be maintained by the facility. Module VB is being modified. <i>(R 61-79.264)</i>
Module VIII	Corrective Action for Solid Waste Management Units & Areas of Concern	<p>This section requires the facility to implement corrective action measure, when necessary. <i>(R.61-79.264)</i></p> <p>This Module is being renewed. Appendix VIII-A is being updated to add the remedy for three units that were approved in 2023.</p>

Module IX	Waste Minimization	<p>Conditions require that the facility has a program in place to reduce the volume and toxicity of hazardous waste generated and that the treatment, storage or disposal method minimizes present and future threat to human health and the environment.</p> <p>These conditions are governed by Section 44-56-170(A) of the 1976 South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended. This module is being renewed.</p>
Module X	Land Disposal Restrictions	<p>Conditions ensure that restricted waste was not disposed in a land-based unit or otherwise managed unless certain requirements are met. This module is being renewed. (R.61-79.268)</p>
Module XI	Subpart AA Organic Air Emissions Requirements	<p>This module is being renewed. (R.61-79.264)</p>
Module XII	Subpart BB Organic Air Emissions Requirements	<p>This module is being renewed. (R.61-79.264)</p>
Module XIII	Subpart CC Organic Air Emissions Requirements	<p>This module is being renewed. (R.61-79.264)</p>

Additional information concerning all hazardous and solid waste units and activities at the site is included in the facility's permit application.

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