

The Savannah River Site Environmental Bulletin

June 13, 2019

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The U.S. Department of Energy National Nuclear Security Administration Announces Its Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for Plutonium Production at the Savannah River Site and To Announce Public Scoping Meetings

On Monday June 10, 2019, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) announced its intent, consistent with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) for plutonium pit production at the Savannah River Site (SRS) in South Carolina (the SRS EIS). The 2018 Nuclear Posture Review announced that the United States will pursue initiatives to ensure the necessary capability, capacity, and responsiveness of the nuclear weapons infrastructure and the needed skill of the workforce, including providing the enduring capability and capacity to produce no fewer than 80 plutonium pits per year by 2030. To achieve the Department of Defense (DoD) requirement, NNSA is proposing to repurpose the Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility (MFFF) at SRS to produce plutonium pits while also maximizing pit production activities at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) in New Mexico.

NNSA also hereby provides information regarding its overall NEPA strategy related to fulfilling national requirements for pit production. NNSA will first conduct a programmatic review to assist in decisions and second conduct site-specific reviews. NNSA anticipates that it will prepare at least three documents including: a supplement analysis (SA) to the Final Complex Transformation Supplemental Programmatic EIS (Complex Transformation SPEIS); a site-specific EIS for the proposal to produce pits at SRS; and site-specific documentation for the proposal to authorize expanding pit production at LANL.

DATES: NNSA invites Federal and state agencies, state and local governments, Native American tribes, industry, other organizations, and members of the public to submit comments to assist in identifying environmental issues and in determining the appropriate scope of the SRS EIS until July 25, 2019. Comments received after this date will be considered to the extent practicable. NNSA will hold one public scoping meeting for the proposed EIS as follows:

- June 27, 2019 (5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. EST) at the North Augusta Community Center, 495 Brookside Ave, North Augusta, SC 29841.

Doors will open at 5:00 p.m. on June 27, 2019 at the community center for the public to view posters on display. NNSA will provide a brief presentation on the EIS beginning at 6:00 p.m. and then NNSA will accept public comments on the scope of the EIS.

ADDRESSES: Written comments on the scope of the EIS, requests to be placed on the EIS distribution list, and comments or questions on the scoping process should be sent to: Ms. Jennifer Nelson, NEPA Document Manager, National Nuclear Security Administration Savannah River Field Office, P.O. Box A, Aiken, SC 29802 or email to NEPA-SRS@srs.gov. If you would like to pre-register to comment during the public scoping meeting, send an email to NEPA-SRS@srs.gov. Speakers may also sign up to comment at the door during registration. Speakers

The SRS Environmental Bulletin

will be limited to a 3 - 5-minute comment period dependent upon how many register to speak. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, please be advised that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available. If you wish for NNSA to withhold your name and/or other personally identifiable information, please state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. You may also submit comments anonymously. Also, NNSA requests Federal, State, and local agencies that desire to be designated as cooperating agencies on the EIS to contact the NEPA Document Manager at the address listed in this section by the end of the scoping period.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Contact Ms. Jennifer Nelson, NEPA Document Manager, National Nuclear Security Administration, Savannah River Field Office, P.O. Box A, Aiken, SC 29802 or email to NEPA-SRS@srs.gov

This Notice will be available on the Internet at: <https://www.energy.gov/nepa/listings/notices-intent-noi>

For additional information, contact: Janet Griffin, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC, Savannah River Site, 730-1B, Aiken, SC 29808

The SRS Environmental Bulletin

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