

The Savannah River Site Environmental Bulletin

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PUBLIC NOTICE **National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA)** **Announces Two Virtual Public Scoping Meetings on January 25-26, 2021** **Regarding Scoping of an Environmental Impact Statement** **for the Surplus Plutonium Disposition Program**

Notice of Intent and Background

The NNSA published a Notice of Intent (85 FR 81460) on December 16, 2020 to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Surplus Plutonium Disposition Program (SPDP), which would analyze alternatives for the disposal of 34 metric tons of surplus plutonium using the capabilities at multiple sites across the Nation. NNSA's preferred alternative, the dilute and dispose approach, also known as "plutonium downblending," includes converting pit and non-pit plutonium to oxide, blending the oxidized plutonium with an adulterant, and emplacing the resulting transuranic waste underground in the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP). The approach would require new, modified, or existing capabilities at the Savannah River Site in South Carolina, Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico, The Pantex Plant in Texas, and WIPP in New Mexico.

The Notice of Intent contains a full description of the proposal and other options for providing public comment until February 1, 2021 (e-mail, phone, regular mail): <https://www.energy.gov/nepa/downloads/doeeis-0549-notice-intent>. Following completion of the public scoping comment period, NNSA will prepare a Draft EIS and allow further public comment on that document before preparing a Final EIS and Record of Decision.

Virtual Public Scoping Meetings

In light of recent public health concerns, NNSA will be hosting two internet- and telephone-based virtual public scoping meetings in place of in-person meetings. The meetings will be hosted using free Webex applications with webinar/visual and telephone-only options. The objective of the meetings is to solicit public comment to assist NNSA in determining the appropriate scope of the SPDP EIS. NNSA asks for comments on the dilute and dispose (also known as plutonium downblending) alternative, other reasonable alternatives NNSA should consider, and environmental topics NNSA should evaluate in the EIS.

Participants are encouraged to join 15-30 minutes before the event to test your system and indicate your interest for providing oral comments. Instructions for providing comment will be given at the beginning of the meeting for Webinar and phone-only participants. Contact Webex technical support if you have issues joining: 1-866-229-3239 Comments are limited to a maximum of 3 minutes.

Written copies of the meeting presentation and informational fact sheets will be posted online in both English and Spanish at least 48 hours before the meetings start at: <https://www.energy.gov/nnsa/nnsa-nepa-reading-room>.

The SRS Environmental Bulletin

Meeting	Time	Connections
#1: January 25th	5:00-9:00 PM EST 4:00-8:00 PM CST 3:00-7:00 PM MST 2:00-6:00 PM PST	Visual: https://surplusplutoniumdisposition.webex.com/surplusplutoniumdisposition/onstage/g.php?MTID=e748e008ebe2321538d11908f01211aee Password: SPDPEIS Audio Only: 1-844-621-3956 ; Access code: 146 423 6294
#2: January 26th	7:00-11:00 PM EST 6:00-10:00 PM CST 5:00-9:00 PM MST 4:00-8:00 PM PST	Visual: https://surplusplutoniumdisposition.webex.com/surplusplutoniumdisposition/onstage/g.php?MTID=e748e008ebe2321538d11908f01211aee Password: SPDPEIS Audio Only: 1-844-621-3956 ; Access code: 146 093 7212

Other options for submitting public scoping comments:

E-mail: SPDP-EIS@NNSA.DOE.GOV

Phone: 803-952-7434

Address: Mr. Jeffrey Galan, NEPA Document Manager, NNSA Office of Material Management and Minimization, Savannah River Site, P.O. Box A, Bldg. 730-2B, Rm. 328, Aiken, SC 29802

Please be advised that your entire comment—including your personally identifiable 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.

For further information:

Contact Mr. Jeffrey Galan (see above). Requests for general information concerning the NNSA NEPA process should be directed to Mrs. Amy Miller, NEPA Compliance Officer, NNSA Office of General Counsel, P.O. Box 5400, Albuquerque, NM 87185-5400; or sent by email to SPDP-EIS@NNSA.DOE.GOV

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