

The Savannah River Site Environmental Bulletin

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Action Memorandum and Responsiveness Summary Issued for the Non-Time Critical Removal Action for the D-Area Ash Basin (488-1D)

The U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) has selected the preferred alternative for the non-time critical removal action for the D-Area Ash Basin (488-1D), which is a subunit of the D Area Operable Unit (DAOU). A thirty (30)-day public comment period for the D-Area Ash Basin (488-1D) Removal Site Evaluation Report/Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis was held from June 15, 2016 to July 14, 2016. During the public comment period, two members of the public provided comments. The responses to their comments are addressed in the Responsiveness Summary.

The DAOU is one of the area operable units identified at the Savannah River Site (SRS). DAOU is located in the southwest quadrant of SRS approximately 3,000-feet east of the nearest site boundary, the Savannah River. The DAOU is 210 acres and contains surface units and source areas in D Area that potentially pose a threat to human health and the environment. The 488-1D Ash Basin served as a coal ash settling basin for wastewater effluent generated from the D-Area Powerhouse. The 488-1D Ash Basin comprises an area of approximately 40 acres within the DAOU.

DOE has selected Alternative 2, Ash Consolidation and Geosynthetic Cover System, which meets the effectiveness, implementation, cost, and acceptance criteria. The ash from the western portion of the 488-1D Ash Basin will be excavated and consolidated into the eastern portion of the basin along with excavated soil from within the two 488-1D Inlet Basins. In addition, coal fines/contaminated soils from the 489-D Coal Pile Runoff Basin and the ash located to the east (exterior) of the 488-4D Ash Landfill will be placed into the eastern portion of the 488-1D basin. A geosynthetic cover system that meets the permeability, infiltration and erosion control requirements of a South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) Class Three Landfill will be placed over the ash consolidation area within 488-1D to ensure the overall protection to human health and the environment is maintained. This alternative does not preclude any additional remediation of the DAOU and is consistent with the current and future land use.

The selection of the preferred alternative is documented in the Action Memorandum. DOE has worked with the SCDHEC and the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency to ensure that the removal action is consistent with all applicable human health and environmental requirements.

Copies of the Action Memorandum and Responsiveness Summary are available in the administrative record. The administrative record is available in the information repositories listed below:

- DOE Public Reading Room at the Gregg-Graniteville Library at the University of South Carolina-Aiken campus in Aiken, SC; and
- Thomas Cooper Library Government Documents Department at the University of South Carolina in Columbia, SC.

Hard copies of the Action Memorandum and Responsiveness Summary are available at the following:

- Reese Library Government Information Section at Augusta University in Augusta, GA; and
- Asa H. Gordon Library at Savannah State University in Savannah, GA.

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The SRS Environmental Bulletin

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