

Notice of Public Availability

Explanation of Significant Difference (ESD) for Incorporating Tank 12 into the Revision 1 Interim Record of Decision Remedial Alternative Selection for the H-Area Tank Farm, Waste Tank 16

The Explanation of Significant Difference (ESD) for Incorporating Tank 12 into the Revision 1 Interim Record of Decision Remedial Alternative Selection for the H-Area Tank Farm, Waste Tank 16 is being issued by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the lead agency for the Savannah River Site (SRS), with concurrence by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 4 (EPA), and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC). The Tank 12 ESD modifies the Interim Record of Decision to include Tank 12 and was completed to comply with terms in the Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) for SRS that govern the investigation and cleanup of waste units. The FFA integrates the requirements of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act as they relate to the investigation and cleanup of waste units at the site.

DOE has worked with the EPA and SCDHEC to ensure the interim remedial approach is consistent with all applicable environmental requirements. The objective of the interim remedial action is to prevent premature degradation of the engineered barriers associated with those liquid waste tanks that have been stabilized and removed from service. DOE, EPA, and SCDHEC have reviewed the risks associated with the stabilized waste tank and have evaluated remedial alternatives. Annual Visible Engineered Barriers Inspections and Maintenance is the selected alternative for the stabilized H-Area Tank Farm (HTF) waste tanks.

The HTF is a 45-acre site within the General Separations Area consisting of 29 liquid waste storage tanks and various ancillary structures and transfer lines. There are four major waste tank design types in HTF ranging in size from 750,000 gallons (Type I tanks) to 1.07 million gallons (Type II tanks) to 1.3 million gallons (Type III/IIIA and Type IV tanks) and having different degrees of secondary containment and internal structures such as cooling coils and roof support columns. Waste Tank 12 is a Type I tank constructed in the early 1950s with a carbon-steel primary liner that is partially enclosed by a carbon-steel annulus pan. Tank 12 was removed from service in April 2016 in accordance with an approved General Closure Plan, a tank-specific Closure Module and an Addendum to the tank-specific Closure Module. The tank was isolated from the remaining operating facility and filled with grout.

Copies of the Tank 12 ESD are available in the Administrative Record. The Administrative Record is available at the information repositories listed below:

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

Hard copies of the Tank 12 ESD are available at the following locations:

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

An electronic copy of the Tank 12 ESD can be found at the following website:

http://www.srs.gov/general/programs/soil/rod/rod.html

For additional information, contact: Dean Campbell, Savannah River Remediation LLC, Acting Director of Public Affairs and Project Communications, Savannah River Site, Building 766-H, Aiken, SC 29808 (803-208-8270)

The SRS Environmental Bulletin

For more information on this or other environmental and compliance activities at SRS, please contact:

Janet Griffin
Savannah River Nuclear Solutions
Aiken, S.C. 29808
(803) 952-8467
email: janet.griffin@srs.gov

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