

# The Savannah River Site Environmental Bulletin

May 30, 2018

Volume 30, Number 5

## Solvent Storage Tanks (SSTs) S33-S36 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Permit Volume XXV Revision Request (Current permit expires 5/22/2026)

The Department of Energy (DOE)-Savannah River Operations Office has requested from the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) a revision to the Savannah River Site's (SRS) 2013 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Permit Renewal Application for Volume XXV. This volume of the application contains information about the Solvent Storage Tanks (SSTs) S33-S36. The SSTs stored mixed waste and nonhazardous radioactive solvent in four underground double walled carbon steel tanks, each with a capacity of 30,000 gallons. The tanks were equipped with cathodic protection and leak detection in the annulus space.

The SRS is requesting a revision to its SSTs RCRA Permit to effect the following changes:

- General updates to information, including contact information, in the Contingency Plan section;
- Extensive revision to the Closure Plan section, incorporating the information submitted to DHEC in May 2017.

This notice begins a 60-day comment period. More information, including the actual permit application, is available for review and copying at the DOE Public Reading Room located in the University of South Carolina-Aiken Library, or by contacting personnel identified in this notice. The Permittee's compliance history during the life of the permit being modified is available from DHEC.

A public meeting will be held on June 19, 2018, at 2:30 p.m. at the Aiken County Public Library. Representatives from SRS will be available to answer questions on the modification. Written comments may be sent to DHEC at the following address: S. L. French, Director, Division of Waste Management, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, SC 29201-1708.

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

# The SRS Environmental Bulletin

## Action Memorandum and Responsiveness Summary issued for the Non-Time Critical Removal Action for the C-Area Groundwater Operable Unit

The U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) has selected the preferred alternative for the non-time critical removal action for the C-Area Groundwater Operable Unit (CAGW). A thirty (30)-day public comment period for the CAGW Removal Site Evaluation Report/Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis was held from March 13, 2018 to April 11, 2018.

The CAGW is one of the several groundwater operable units identified at the Savannah River Site (SRS). The CAGW is located within the Fourmile Branch watershed and encompasses groundwater beneath

C-Area. The C-Area is situated near the center of the SRS. The CAGW includes a volatile organic compound groundwater plume containing primarily trichloroethylene (TCE), with minor quantities of tetrachloroethylene, and a tritium groundwater plume. The tritiated groundwater will be addressed in a separate, future decision and is not part of this removal action.

DOE has selected Alternative 2, Treatment Barrier Using Emulsified Edible Oil for the distal portion of the CAGW TCE groundwater plume. A mixture of emulsified edible oil, water and buffer solution will be injected into the groundwater at the areas of highest TCE concentrations in the distal portion of the CAGW TCE groundwater plume. The emulsified edible oil will provide a carbon source for the microbes already present within the area that will aid in the destruction of the TCE. The emulsified oil also acts to adsorb the TCE as the water flows through the injection zone, thus reducing the mobility of the TCE. This alternative will not preclude any additional remediation of the CAGW and is expected to be consistent with the expected final remedial action.

The selection of the preferred alternative is documented in the Action Memorandum. DOE has worked with the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control 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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For additional information about the five-year remedy review process at SRS, please contact:

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