

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENTS (EISs) and ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS (EAs)

INVOLVING THE SAVANNAH RIVER SITE (SRS) OCTOBER 2020

Note: Items underlined are changes made since the previous report.

EISs INVOLVING SRS

| Title, Document Number, Document Manager, point-of- contact (POC) | Sep-20 | Oct-20 | Nov-20 | Dec-20 | Milestones | Comments |
|---|---|--|--------|--------|---|---|
| Disposal of Decommissioned, Defueled USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65) DOE/EIS-0524 Department of the Navy (DON): John C. Walker, Document Manager SR POCs: Tracy Williams, EQMD; Charles Comeau, WDPD EM POC: Bill Ostrum, EM- 4.31 | Notice of Public Scoping Period Re- opening | New Public Scoping Period Closes | | | Notice of Intent 05/19; Public Comment Period ended 07/19; Notice of Public Scoping Period Re-opening 08/20; Public Scoping Re- opening Closed 09/20 | On May 31, 2019, the Department of the Navy (DON), with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) as a cooperating agency, announced its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) (EIS-0524) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of alternatives for disposal of the decommissioned, defueled ex Enterprise (CVN 65) aircraft carrier, including its reactor plants. The proposed action executes the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) policy for inactive ships stricken from the Naval Vessel Register and designated for disposal by dismantling to reduce the Navy's inactive ship inventory and eliminate costs associated with maintaining the ship in a safe stowage condition. The 45-day public scoping period began May 31, 2019 and ended July 15, 2019. Public scoping meetings were held on June 18 in Newport News, VA; June 20 in Brownsville, TX; June 25 in Bremerton, WA; and June 27 in Richland, WA. A copy of the NOI is available at https://www.energy.gov/nepa/downloads/eis-0524-notice-intent/ . On August 12, 2020, the Department of the Navy announced its plans to reopen the public scoping period to add Mobile, Alabama as a potential location for commercial dismantlement. The scoping period is open from Aug. 12 to Sept. 11, 2020. During this time, the public is encouraged to submit comments on the scope of the analysis, viable alternatives, or environmental issues to consider. Due to current federal and state guidance and measures put in place in response to COVID-19, the Navy is unable to hold an in-person public scoping meeting in Mobile, Alabama. To assist the public in determining whether to submit a formal comment on the project, the Navy will respond to questions from the public from Aug. 19 to Sept. 2, 2020. Details about submitting public comments are available the Navy's " <i>Disposal of Decommissioned, Defueled Ex-Enterprise (CVN 65) and Its Associated Naval Reactor Plants EIS/OEIS</i> " webpage at https://carrierdisposaleis.com/ . |
| Plutonium Pit Production at Savannah River Site (SRS) in Aiken, South Carolina DOE/EIS-0541 Document Manager: Jennifer Nelson, NNSA Savannah River Field Office; Jane Summerson, NNSA-GC SR POC: Tracy Williams, EQMD EM POC: Bill Ostrum, EM-4.31 | Final EIS published 09/20 | | | | Notice of Intent 06/19; Public Scoping Meeting 06/19; Public Comment Period ended 07/19; Notice of Availability 04/20; Draft EIS 04/20; Virtual Public Hearing, Public Comment Extension 04/20; Public Comment Period Ended 06/20; FEIS published 09/20 | On September 25, 2020, NNSA published its Final SRS Pit Production EIS. NNSA prepared the SRS Pit Production EIS to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of repurposing the Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility (MFFF) to produce a minimum of 50 war reserve pits per year at SRS and to develop the ability to implement a short-term surge capacity to enable NNSA to meet the requirements of producing pits at a rate of not less than 80 war reserve pits per year beginning during 2030 for the nuclear weapons stockpile. The NNSA will issue a Record of Decision following the 30-day review period by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which conclude October 26, 2020. <u>On November 5, 2020, at the time of the preparation on the October monthly status report, NNSA issued its Record of Decision for the Final EIS for Plutonium Pit Production at the SRS in South Carolina (SRS Pit Production EIS) (DOE/EIS-0541). In this ROD, NNSA announced its decision to implement the Proposed Action to repurpose the former Mixed-Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility (MFFF) to produce a minimum of 50 war reserve pits per year at SRS and to develop the ability to implement a short-term surge capacity to enable NNSA to meet the requirements of producing pits at a rate of not less than 80 war reserve pits per year up to the analyzed limit as necessary beginning during 2030 for the nuclear weapons stockpile. A final update will be published in the SRS November 2020 Monthly Status Report reflecting publication of the ROD. Updates will not appear in subsequent reports.</u> |

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| Supplement Analysis for the Spent Nuclear Fuel Accelerated Basin De-inventory Mission for H-Canyon at Savannah River Site (DOE/EIS-0279-SA-07) Document Manager: Maxcine Maxted, Nuclear Materials SR POC: Tracy Williams, EQMD EM POC: Bill Ostrum, EM-4.31 | | | | | | DOE is proposing to change the management method for the remaining SNF at SRS from storage to conventional processing without recovery of highly enriched uranium (HEU). DOE would use the processing capabilities within H-Canyon to dissolve the SNF and would immobilize the resulting liquid, high-level radioactive waste (HLW) at the Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF) and Saltstone Disposal Facility at SRS. Consequently, DOE is preparing a Supplement Analysis (SA) to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of processing the entire remaining inventory of SNF, stored at SRS, in H-Canyon and compare this Proposed Action to the activities evaluated in the Savannah River Site Spent Nuclear Fuel Management Final Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0279). This comparison will assess whether the Proposed Action would result in a substantial change to the environmental consequences reported in the SRS SNF EIS or if there were significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns related to the Proposed Action. This SA will assist DOE in determining if a Supplemental EIS or a new EIS is required. DOE anticipated completing the analysis in the first quarter CY2021. |
| Versatile Test Reactor Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0542) Document Manager: Gordon McClellan, Office of Nuclear Energy Idaho Operations Office SR POC: Tony Polk, Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL), Tracy Williams, EQMD EM POC: Bill Ostrum, EM-4.31 | | | | | Notice of Intent 08/09, Public Scoping Period Ended 09/19 | The Office of Nuclear Energy (NE) proposes to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and its implementing regulations at Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Parts 1500-1508 and 10 CFR 1021 to evaluate alternatives for a versatile reactor-based fast-neutron source facility and associated facilities [hereinafter referred to as the Versatile Test Reactor (VTR)] for the preparation, irradiation and post-irradiation examination of test/experimental fuels and materials. The Department of Energy (DOE) cites that such testing capability is essential for the United States to modernize its nuclear energy infrastructure and for developing transformational nuclear energy technologies that improve safety, reduce waste generation, and enhance nuclear security. The Savannah River Site is one of two sites under consideration for the fabrication of the VTR driver fuel. A Notice of Intent (NOI) was published in the Federal Register on August 5, 2019 and solicited public comments regarding scoping for the EIS which were taken through September 4, 2019. In addition to gathering written comments during this period, DOE hosted two interactive webcast scoping meetings on August 27 and 28 to provide information about the VTR and the NEPA process, and to gather oral and written comments. The NOI contained the details on submitting comments, and accessing these webcast scoping meetings, and is available at https://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2019/08/f65/eis-00542-versatile-test-reactor-noi-2019-08.pdf |

| EAs INVOLVING SRS | | | | | | |
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| EA for the South Carolina Army National Guard Proposal to Construct and Operate Training Facilities and Infrastructure on 750 Acres at the Department of Energy Savannah River Site DOE/EA-1999 SR POCs: Jack Butler, Mission Planning Division Tracy Williams, EQMD EM POC: Sunil Patel, EM-4.11 | | | | | NOI 09/14 | DOE-SR and the South Carolina Army National Guard (SCARNG) are preparing an EA to analyze the potential environmental impacts from the proposed construction and operation of training facilities and infrastructure by the SCARNG on approximately 750 acres at Savannah River Site (SRS). The proposed construction and operation of facilities and infrastructure, based on the draft SCARNG Master Plan, comprise two tracts of land on SRS, the approximately 470-acre B-Area site (Tract A) and the approximately 280-acre Gun Site 51 (Tract B). The draft EA is undergoing internal review. Issuance of the draft EA has been delayed due to additional requirements imposed on the SCARNG by their higher headquarters, National Guard Bureau (NGB). The SCARNG is presently working with NGB to address these requirements. |
| NEPA Determination for revised SRS Natural Resources Management Plan | | | | | | DOE-SR prepared an EA in 1993 (DOE/EA-0826, Environmental Assessment - Natural Resources Management Activities at Savannah River Site) to analyze the potential environmental impacts of continued management of SRS natural resources. Based on the analyses in the EA, DOE-SR determined that the proposed action was not a major Federal action significantly affecting the human environment within the meaning of NEPA, and issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). In 2000, DOE-SR issued a revised FONSI that determined implementation of a revised Red-Cockaded Woodpecker Management Plan would have impacts no greater than those described in the 1993 EA. In 2005, DOE-SR revised its Natural Resources Management Plan (NRMP) to update SRS's natural resources management goals and objectives at the site and to supersede the 1991 NRMP, and issued a revised FONSI that determined that implementation of the revised NRMP was bounded by the 1993 EA and did not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the human environment within the meaning of NEPA. DOE-SR is revising its 2005 NRMP to update SRS' natural resources management goals and to supersede its 2005 NRMP. Upon completion of the revised NRMP, DOE-SR will issue its determination as to whether implementation of the updated management goals and objectives would result in impacts greater than those described in the 1993 EA. SRS anticipates issuing its determination within the next 90 days. |
| Questions and comments concerning this report can be directed to the DOE-SR NEPA Mailbox, NEPA-SRS-EM@srs.gov | | | | | | |