

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

INVOLVING THE SAVANNAH RIVER SITE (SRS) SEPTEMBER 2023

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

EISs INVOLVING SRS

Title, Document Number, Document Manager, point-of-contact (POC)	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	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, Environmental Compliance and Protection Division (ECPD); Bert Crapse, Nuclear Materials Program Division (NMPD) EM POC: Bill Ostrum, EM- 4.31		Record of Decision			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; NOA 08/22; Draft EIS/OEIS 09/22; Virtual Public Hearings 09/22; Public Comment Period 10/22; EPA NOA 06/23; FEIS/OEIS 06/23; ROD 09/23	<u>On September 5, 2023</u> , the Department of the Navy (DoN) issued a Federal Register Notice (FRN: 88 FR 60668) announcing availability of its Record of Decision (ROD) to select and implement the Preferred Alternative (Commercial Dismantlement) from the Final Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/OEIS) issued on June 30, 2023. Under this alternative, the Navy will contract with commercial industry to dismantle ex-Enterprise, including its defueled reactor plants, and dispose of low-level radiological waste and other hazardous waste at authorized commercial or Department of Energy (DOE) waste disposal facilities. This decision will allow the Navy to reduce the Navy inactive ship inventory, eliminate costs associated with maintaining the ship in a safe stowage condition, and dispose of legacy radiological and hazardous wastes in an environmentally responsible manner, while meeting the operational needs of the Navy. The FRN is available at https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2023-09-05/pdf/2023-19078.pdf . The ROD, Final EIS/OEIS, and related documents are posted at https://www.carrierdisposaleis.com/ . <u>Updates will not be provided in future reports.</u>
Surplus Plutonium Disposition Program (DOE/EIS-0549) Document Manager: Maxcine Maxted, NA-23 NEPA Compliance Officer: Lynn Alexander, NA-GC SR POC: Tracy Williams, ECPD EM POC: Bill Ostrum, EM-4.31				FINAL EIS expected to be released in December 2023	FR NOI 12/20; Virtual Public Scoping Meetings 01/21; Public Scoping Period Ended 02/21; EPA NOA 12/22; DOE NOA 12/22; DEIS 12/22; Public Hearings 01/23; Virtual Online Public Meeting 01/23; Public Comment Period Extension Announcement 02/23; Extended Public Comment Period Ended 03/23	On December 16, 2022, NNSA & EPA issued Notices of Availability (NOAs) in the Federal Register (FR) (DOE FRN:87 FR 77096; EPA FRN:87 FR 771206) announcing (1) the availability of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Surplus Plutonium Disposition Program (SPDP DEIS) (DOE/EIS-0549) and (2) a 60-day public comment period ending February 14, 2023, and four public hearings to receive comments on the Draft EIS in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). NNSA prepared the Draft SPDP EIS to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of dispositioning 34 metric tons of surplus plutonium using capabilities at multiple sites across the Nation. NNSA's preferred alternative would implement a dilute and dispose strategy, which includes processing surplus plutonium to plutonium oxide, diluting it with an adulterant to inhibit plutonium recovery, and disposing of the resulting contact-handled transuranic waste in the existing Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) facility. The Draft SPDP EIS analyzes the preferred alternative including various sub-alternatives that would require capabilities at the Savannah River Site in South Carolina, Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico, the Pantex Plant in Texas, the WIPP facility in New Mexico, and the Y-12 National Security Complex in Tennessee. The Draft SPDP EIS also analyzes a No Action Alternative. Three of the public hearings were held in-person at three locations and the fourth was an internet-based virtual public hearing. Notices were also published in local New Mexico and South Carolina newspapers in advance of the hearings. A change to the location of the LANL public hearing location was announced on this website: https://www.energy.gov/nnsa/nnsa-nepa-reading-room . The DOE FR NOA provided further details on submitting comments and dates/times for the four public hearings. The FR NOAs, Draft EIS, and additional information about public comment opportunities are posted at https://www.energy.gov/nepa/doeeis-0549-surplus-plutonium-disposition-program . NNSA and EPA announced on February 10, 2023, extending the public comment period for the SPDP DEIS for 30 additional days, to a total of 90 days. The DEIS public comment period ended on March 16, 2023. A copy of the comment extension announcement is posted at https://www.energy.gov/nepa/articles/doeeis-0549-epa-notice-availability-amended-draft-environmental-impact-statement/ . NNSA anticipates release of the Final SPDP EIS in December 2023.

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EAs INVOLVING SRS						
Title, Document Number, Document Manager, point-of-contact (POC)	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Milestones	
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: James Fender, OAM, Acquisition Operations Division Tracy Williams, ECPD 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.
Questions and comments concerning this report can be directed to the DOE-SR NEPA Mailbox, NEPA-SRS-EM@srs.gov						