



Environmental Bulletin

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from the Savannah River Site

Documents available for public review

Removal Action for TNX-Area Process Sewer Lines and Tile Fields Available for Public Comment

The U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to perform a non-time critical removal action at the TNX-Area Process Sewer Lines and Tile Fields, as abandoned, Operable Unit (OU). The proposed removal action is for the Tile Fields portion of the OU. Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) a Removal Site Evaluation Report (RSER) must be completed prior to performing non-time critical removal actions. CERCLA also requires an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) to evaluate removal alternatives. The area of Tile Field #2 (TTF#2) contains mercury in excess of the removal action goal of 0.078 mg/kg. The removal action goal was set to prevent the TTF#2 soils from leaching mercury to the groundwater above the maximum contaminant level (MCL). No human health or ecological constituents of concern were identified for TTF#2.

The OU is located in T Area, one of several industrial areas at SRS. T Area was used in the development and testing of processes, facilities, and equipment for various SRS programs. It was a testing and evaluation facility that supported fuel and target manufacturing chemical processes. The most significant pilot-scale testing support was for High Level Waste initiatives, particularly the Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF). There are three separate sanitary tile fields in T Area, which are part of the OU.

The purpose of the EE/CA, as required by the National Contingency Plan (NCP) is to identify the objectives of the removal action and to develop various alternatives that might satisfy those objectives. This EE/CA evaluates three alternatives, recommends a removal action, and provides for public comment.

The selected removal action will include the following actions:

- Excavating approximately 770 cubic yards of contaminated soil from TTF#2 and removing approximately 260 ft of 8-inch Vitrified Clay (VC) tiles from the TTF#2
- Excavating approximately 517 cubic yards of contaminated soil from the sewer lines and removing approximately 465 ft of 8-inch VC sewer lines
- Stockpiling the excavated soil in a pile
- Grouting two manholes
- Backfilling the excavated areas with clean soil
- Placing vegetative cover over backfilled areas

DOE released this document for a 30-day public comment period beginning September 1, 2004. The preferred alternative may be modified or changed based on public comments. Following the public comment period, an Action Memorandum will be prepared and transmitted to the US Environmental Protection Agency and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control by DOE-SR.

This EE/CA, completed under CERCLA is available for public review from September 1, 2004 to September 30, 2004, at the following locations:

DOE Public Reading Room at the Gregg-Graniteville Library at the University of South Carolina (USC)-Aiken campus in Aiken, SC; Thomas Cooper Library Government Documents Department at USC in Columbia, SC; Reese Library at Augusta State University in Augusta, GA; and Asa H. Gordon Library at Savannah State University in Savannah, GA.

For additional information, contact:

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Removal Action for TNX Outfall Delta Available for Public Comment

The U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to perform a non-time critical removal action at the TNX Outfall Delta (OD) Operable Unit (OU). Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) a Removal Site Evaluation Report (RSER) must be completed prior to performing non-time critical removal actions. CERCLA also requires an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) to evaluate removal alternatives.

The TNX OD OU is located in T Area, one of several industrial areas at SRS. T Area was used in the development and testing of processes, facilities, and equipment for various SRS programs. It was a testing and evaluation facility that supported fuel and target manufacturing chemical processes. The most significant pilot-scale testing support was for High Level Waste initiatives, particularly the Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF).

The human health risk calculations indicate that actinium-228, radium-228, and thorium-228 would pose an unacceptable risk to a hypothetical future trespasser. Due to the collocation of the radionuclides, the removal action goal of 35 picocuries per gram thorium-228 was set for the TNX OD. The current risk to a hypothetical trespasser is 5.8×10^{-5} . Following the removal action the risk will be reduced by approximately 70%, which will place the risk to a hypothetical trespasser within the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) target risk range. This residual risk will be managed through institutional controls.

The purpose of the EE/CA, as required by the National Contingency Plan (NCP) is to identify the objectives of the removal action and to develop various alternatives that might satisfy those objectives. This EE/CA evaluates three alternatives, recommends a removal action, and provides for public comment.

The preferred actions for the TNX OD are as follows:

- Clearing vegetation as needed to perform the removal action. Cleared vegetation will be left onsite in the Outfall Delta and/or Inner Swamp.
- Excavating up to 3,000 cubic yards of radioactively-contaminated soil/sediment (bulked volume after excavation), transporting the soil/sediment to the industrialized part of T Area, and storing it in T Area.
- Placing soil amendments on the floor of the open excavation to reduce the leachability of any remaining contamination.
- Restoration of the cleared areas/impacted wetlands

DOE released this document for a 30-day public comment period beginning September 1, 2004. The preferred alternative may be modified or changed based on public comments. Following the public comment period, an Action Memorandum will be prepared and transmitted to the US EPA and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control by DOE-SR.

This EE/CA, completed under CERCLA is available for public review from September 1, 2004 to September 30, 2004, at the following locations:

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For additional information, contact Jim Moore at 1-800-249-8155 or e-mail: jim02.moore@srs.gov

SRS Environmental Report for 2003

The *SRS Environmental Report for 2003* is ready for distribution. The report's accompanying data tables again are published on CD only.

The printed version of the 112-page report houses the CD, which includes not only data tables but an electronic version of the report; an appendix of site environmental sampling location, dose, and groundwater maps; and complete 2003 reports from a number of other SRS organizations. The environmental report also is available at <http://www.srs.gov/general/pubs/ERsum/ersum04/index.html>

If you would like to receive a hard copy of the report and CD, please e-mail your request to Jim Moore (jim02.moore@srs.gov) and be sure to include your name and address.

Upcoming 2004 SRS Citizens Advisory Board Meetings

September 27 - 28
Ramada Limited
2001 Boundary Street
Beaufort, SC

November 15 - 16
Augusta Towers Hotel & Convention Center (formally Sheraton Hotel)
2651 Perimeter Parkway
Augusta, Ga.



SRS CAB Seeks New Members

The SRS Citizens Advisory Board is seeking applicants for membership in 2005. Several positions will be vacated by outgoing members. Get involved and learn about what's really going on at SRS.

If your interest in community, state and nation are of great value to you, then please call 1-800-249-8155 for an application packet by mail. The application is also available at www.srs.gov and click on "Outreach Programs" or send an email to dawn.haygood@srs.gov.

No expertise is required

Some travel required (expenses are covered)

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