



Environmental Bulletin

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from the Savannah River Site

Public may review documents

Agencies agree on remedies for four operable units

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC), in agreement with the Department of Energy (DOE) and the Environmental Protection Agency Region IV (EPA) will release Statements of Basis and draft Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) permit modifications for comment on Burma Road Rubble Pit, Miscellaneous Chemical Basin/Metals Burning Pit, and the A-Area Burning/Rubble Pits and Rubble Pit Operable Units at Savannah River Site (SRS). These documents will modify the SRS RCRA permit to reflect the remedies selected. These documents will be available for public review and copying at the locations listed below. The public comment period is scheduled for September 5, 2001 - October 19, 2001. SCDHEC, DOE and EPA have completed the remedial investigations and remedy selections under the Federal Facility Agreement for the associated units, including the public participation requirements. The following actions have been initiated or completed:

M-Area West: No action is necessary to ensure the protection of human health and the environment; **Burma Road Rubble Pit:** No action is necessary to ensure the protection of human health and the environment; **Miscellaneous Chemical Basin/Metals Burning Pit:** (1) Surface and subsurface soils have been excavated to a depth that achieves the remedial goal. The excavated soils have been disposed of in an off-unit facility approved to receive Comprehensive Environmental Response Conservation and Liability Act (CERCLA) waste, (2) Vadose zone soils will be remediated by placing soil vapor extraction units in the area where volatile organic compounds are the highest. In areas where concentrations are lower, passive soils vapor extraction will be used allowing natural barometric pressure so that the off-gas can be exhausted to the atmosphere at levels that do not exceed air permit limits; **A-Area Burning/Rubble Pits and Rubble Pit:** The surface soil remedy will entail installation of a one-foot thick soil cover over the pit to eliminate risk from benzo(a)pyrene contamination in the surface soil to the current workers and implementation of institutional controls to restrict the area to industrial future land use.

Following is a brief description of each of the operable units mentioned above.

M-Area West: M-Area West is located in the northwest corner of the SRS. It is approximately one mile inside the Site boundary and west of the M-Area production facility. No documented information describing hazardous or non-hazardous disposal at the M-Area West exists. The M-Area West consists of six 55-gallon drums, mostly crushed and rusted, four 1-gallon cans, a glass jar and a small amount of other inert debris.

Burma Road Rubble Pit (BRRP): BRRP is located northwest of the center of SRS. From 1973 to 1983, the BRRP was used to dispose of non-hazardous, dry, inert rubble such as wood, trash, wire, bottles, plastic, construction rubble, concrete, etc. There are no records of hazardous substances or waste being disposed of at the BRRP. Disposal activities ceased in 1983 and the pit was backfilled with native soil.

Miscellaneous Chemical Basin/Metals Burning Pit (MCB/MBP): The MCB and MBP are located in the northwest portion of the SRS, approximately 1.5 miles south of A/M Area and 3 miles east of the SRS boundary. The MCB and MBP are situated on the west and east sides, respectively, of Road C-1, a dirt road. The MCB received liquid chemical waste and is located in an old borrow pit. It was approximately 20 feet wide by 20 feet long and 1 foot deep, although exact basin boundaries have not been determined. The MBP is irregular in shape with approximate dimensions of 400 feet by 400 feet. A review of file material does not indicate the existence of any excavation as the word "pit" implies. The MBP is actually a cleared area that was used to burn lithium-aluminum alloys, scrap, and cuttings from A/M Area operations.

A-Area Burning/Rubble Pits and Rubble Pit (ABRP):

The ABRP is located in the northwest portion of the SRS, approximately 1.5 miles south of A/M Area and just west of Road D. Ground penetration radar shows the burning rubble pits to be 22 feet wide, 9 to 10 feet deep and 250 feet long. Waste types that were collected in the pits include paper, plastics, wood, rubber, rags, cardboard, oil, degreasers, and drummed solvents. The other rubble pit is approximately 40 feet wide by 650 feet long and 20 feet deep. No specific records exist; however, SRS rubble pits were used to dispose of dry, inert rubble such as concrete, metal, brick, tile, asphalt, high density plastics, glass, rubber products, wood products, and non-returnable empty drums.

Comments on the Statements of Basis and the draft RCRA permit modifications are requested by October 19, 2001. Upon completion of the public comment period, a Responsiveness Summary that addresses public comments will be prepared. The Responsiveness Summary will be made available with the final RCRA permit modifications and will be sent to each person who submits comments.

The Statements of Basis are also available on the Internet in the SRS Home Page under (<http://www.srs.gov>), under "Happening Now," (<http://www.srs.gov/general/srs-home.htm>) and on the SRS Environmental Restoration Home Page, under "Public Involvement," (<http://www.srs.gov/general/srenviro/erd/pub/pubinv.html>).

Copies of the Statements of Basis are available in the administrative record, which also contains the Records of Decision for these units. 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;
- Thomas Cooper Library Government Documents Department at the University of South Carolina in Columbia, SC;

Hard copies of the Statements of Basis are available at the following:

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

Copies of the draft RCRA permit modification and Statements of Basis are available for review at SCDHEC during regular business hours, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays, at SCDHEC, Bureau of Land and Waste Management, 8901 Farrow Road, Columbia, South Carolina 29203, Phone: (803)896-4000, or SCDHEC, Lower Savannah District, Environmental Quality Control Office, 218 Beaufort St., N.E., Aiken, SC 29802, Phone: (803) 641-7670.

If there is interest in discussing this recommended remedial approach, a public hearing may be requested. Comments on the Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan should be sent to Jim Moore and John Litton. Comments on the draft RCRA permit modification or requests for a public hearing should be sent to John Litton. For additional information or to request a public meeting contact Jim Moore (see address on back of page) or SCDHEC, Attn: John Litton, P.E., Director, Division of Waste Management, Bureau of Land and Waste Management, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, SC 29201, (803) 896-4000.

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For more information on this or other
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Public Involvement

Access the Environmental Notice web site:
[http://www.SRS.GOV/general/srenviro/
envbul/ebinex.htm](http://www.SRS.GOV/general/srenviro/envbul/ebinex.htm)
