



Environmental Bulletin

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from the Savannah River Site

DOE requests Temporary Authorizations to perform Base Injection and Silver Chloride Injection at the Savannah River Site H Area HWMF Seeplines.

The Department of Energy (DOE) at the Savannah River Site (SRS) has requested from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) a temporary authorization to perform base injection for metals treatment and silver chloride injection for iodine-129 (I-129) treatment at the H Area HWMF seeplines along Fourmile Branch.

The temporary authorization requests approval to inject base chemicals into the groundwater to raise the pH of the groundwater to its natural pH, thus reducing the mobility of the contaminant metals. The SRS has also developed an innovative insitu treatment for I-129 using silver chloride. The silver chloride amendment has a very small particle size and is designed to be injected into the contaminated aquifer to capture I-129. When I-129 comes in contact with the silver chloride it forms silver iodide, which is very stable and essentially insoluble in water. The temporary authorization also requests approval to inject the silver chloride amendment into the seeplines at the H Area HWMF. The injection systems will operate for 180 days.

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