The Savannah River Site
Environmental Bulletin
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Removal Site Evaluation Report/Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (RSER/EE/CA) for F-Area Material Storage Building (235-F) Available for Public Comment

The U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to perform a non-time critical removal action for decommissioning of Building 235-F. Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), the Removal Site Evaluation Report/Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (RSER/EE/CA) describes how the proposed removal action meets the criteria established in the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Contingency Plan, 40 Code of Federal Regulations 300.415. The purpose of this RSER/EE/CA is to identify the objectives of the removal action and to develop alternatives that address the potential threats from release of contaminants to the environment from this deactivated facility. This document will be available for public review and copying at the locations listed below. The 30-day public comment period is scheduled for April 5, 2022 to May 5, 2022.

The RSER/EE/CA was completed to meet the terms of CERCLA, a law governing the investigation and cleanup of operable units. The DOE has worked with the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency-Region 4 (EPA) and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) to ensure the removal approach is consistent with all applicable environmental requirements.

Building 235-F is a windowless, two-story, reinforced-concrete structure located in F Area near the center of Savannah River Site. The building is approximately 68 meters (222 feet) long, 33 meters (109 feet) wide, and 8.5 meters (28 feet) high. Building 235-F was constructed in the 1950s as part of the original Savannah River Site project and used for a variety of missions, primarily processing, storage, and disbursement of radioactive materials in support of Savannah River Site and the Department of Energy complex. Building 235-F and support facilities are currently in a reduced surveillance and maintenance state and are undergoing deactivation activities and preparations for decommissioning

DOE, EPA, and SCDHEC have reviewed the risks associated with this subunit and have determined that an early removal action is warranted due to the potential for residual radiological contamination leaching to groundwater at levels that would exceed maximum contaminant levels in groundwater in the future. Four cleanup alternatives were evaluated based on effectiveness, ease of implementation, and cost. The preferred removal action for the decommissioning of 235-F is Alternative A-2, In-situ Decommissioning of First and Second Level Process Areas/Engineered Roof. This alternative involves the grouting of the First and second level process areas, the installation of an engineered roof (sloped concrete reinforced roof slab with integral crystalline waterproofing) designed to last 1,000 years, the grouting/capping of the underground storage tank, and the permanent sealing of the abandoned capped stack (293-F). This alternative will not preclude any additional remediation and is expected to be consistent with the expected final remedial action.

Upon completion of the public comment period, an Action Memorandum with a Responsiveness Summary that addresses public comments will be prepared.

Copies of the RSER/EE/CA are available in the administrative record. 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; and
- Thomas Cooper Library Government Documents Department at the University of South Carolina in Columbia, SC.

Hard copies of the RSER/EE/CA are available at the following:

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

An electronic copy of the RSER/EE/CA is posted at the following address:

http://www.srs.gov/general/programs/soil/pub/pubinv.html

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