

The Savannah River Site Environmental Bulletin

January 27, 2021

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Proposed Plan for the Lower Three Runs Integrator Operable Unit Available for Public Comment

The United States Department of Energy (DOE) will release a Proposed Plan for the Lower Three Runs (LTR) Integrator Operable Unit (IOU) on January 27, 2021 describing the preferred remedial approach for this IOU at the Savannah River Site (SRS). The Proposed Plan will be available for public review and copying at the locations listed below. The forty-five (45) day public comment period is scheduled for January 27, 2021 to March 12, 2021.

The Proposed Plan was completed to meet the terms of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, a law governing the investigation and cleanup of waste units. DOE has worked with the United States Environmental Protection Agency-Region 4 (EPA) and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) to ensure the remedial approach is consistent with all applicable environmental requirements. DOE, EPA, and SCDHEC have reviewed the risks associated with the LTR IOU and have evaluated cleanup alternatives presented in this plan.

The LTR watershed is located within the southeastern portion of the SRS. LTR is a large blackwater stream that originates in the northeast portion of SRS and follows a southerly direction for approximately twenty-five miles, discharging into the Savannah River. The Upper subunit is located upgradient of the PAR Pond Dam and includes PAR Pond, Pond B, and the pre-cooler ponds and canal system that served the P- and R-Area reactors during their operation. The Middle and Lower subunits are located below the PAR Pond Dam.

A final remedial action is needed at this unit because cesium-137 (radioactive) and mercury are present within both sediment/soil and fish at concentrations that may pose a threat to human health and the environment. The preferred remedial alternative for the LTR IOU is Land Use Controls with Monitored Natural Recovery; Excavation, Treatment and Disposal at one location within R Discharge Canal; and Maintain Water in Pond B and PAR Pond.

Comments on the Proposed Plan are requested by March 12, 2021. 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 Record of Decision and will be sent to each person who submits comments.

To aid in the review of the Proposed Plan, a Fact Sheet for the LTR IOU was prepared.

Copies of the Proposed Plan and the Fact Sheet 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 (USC)-Aiken campus in Aiken, SC; and
- Thomas Cooper Library Government Information and Maps Department at USC in Columbia, SC.

Hard copies of the Proposed Plan and Fact Sheet are also available at the following locations:

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

The Proposed Plan and Fact Sheet are also available electronically at the following address: <http://www.srs.gov/general/programs/soil/pub/pubinv.html>

If there is interest in discussing the recommended remedial approach, a public meeting may be requested. Comments on the Proposed Plan should be sent to: Angie Benfield, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC, Savannah River Site, 730-1B, Aiken, SC 29808, (803) 952-9830, angela.benfield@srs.gov

The SRS Environmental Bulletin

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