



Department of Energy
Savannah River Operations Office
P.O. Box A
Aiken, South Carolina 29802

DEC 18 2018

Savannah River Site (SRS) Natural Resource Trustees

Dear SRS Natural Resource Trustees:

SUBJECT: Remedial Investigation / Baseline Risk Assessment for the Lower Three Runs Integrator Operable Unit (U) (SRNS-RP-2017-00139, Revision 1, December 2017) CERCLIS Number: 35

This purpose of this letter is to notify the Savannah River Site (SRS) Natural Resource Trustees (Trustees) of the availability of the Remedial Investigation / Baseline Risk Assessment (RI/BRA) for the Lower Three Runs Integrator Operable Unit (LTR IOU) and to describe other documents that will become available for Trustees as the remedial decision process progresses.

The LTR IOU is one of six IOUs representing the stream systems located on the SRS. The SRS IOUs are defined as surface water bodies (e.g., stream, lakes, and ponds) and associated wetlands/floodplains, including surface water, sediment/soil (sediment and floodplain/wetland soils), and related biota. The LTR IOU is listed as a Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Unit in Appendix C (Resource Conservation and Recovery Act/CERCLA Units) of the SRS Federal Facility Agreement (FFA). The FFA guides the comprehensive cleanup of the SRS and the corrective/remedial action process for protection of human health and the environment.

The LTR watershed is a large blackwater stream that originates in the northeast portion of SRS and follows a southerly direction before discharging into the Savannah River. The LTR watershed includes P-Reactor and R-Reactor areas. The Upper subunit is located upgradient of the PAR Pond Dam and includes R-Discharge Canal, cooling ponds and canal systems associated with P- and R-Reactors, and PAR Pond.

The **RI/BRA** for the LTR IOU (SRNS-RP-2017-00139, Revision 1, December 2017) was approved by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on January 25, 2018 and January 26, 2018, respectively. The RI/BRA summarizes the data associated with the unit, describes the nature and extent of the contaminants in affected media, and evaluates the potential risk to human health and ecological receptors. The RI/BRA also identifies remedial action objectives. A CD containing the document is enclosed for your information.

The **Feasibility Study (FS)** for the LTR IOU is currently being finalized. The FS outlines potential remedial alternatives based on the conditions described in the RI/BRA and general response actions (No Action, Land Use Controls, Containment, and Excavation), and screens remedial technologies. The FS also includes a detailed alternative analysis that will be used to support selection of a final remedy by U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), SCDHEC, and EPA.

The **Proposed Plan (PP)** will follow the FS and describes the preferred remedial alternative(s). The PP will include a 45-day public comment period for public involvement in the decision-making process. This also provides an opportune timeframe for the Trustees to provide review/input to the regulatory process. The public is notified of the public comment period through mailings of the SRS Environmental Bulletin and notices in the *Aiken Standard*, *The Augusta Chronicle*, *The People-Sentinel*, and *The State* newspapers. The PP will be available on the SRS external web at <http://www.srs.gov/general/programs/soil/pub/pubinv.html>. Currently, the PP is scheduled to be available for public comment starting August 13, 2019.

The documents associated with the LTR IOU will become part of the Administrative Record File (ARF), which documents the investigation and selection of remedial alternatives and allows for review and comment by the public (including the Trustees) regarding the alternatives. Trustee involvement is a consideration in evaluating the alternatives associated with the LTR and is encouraged. After the public comment period (which includes Trustee review), a Responsiveness Summary will be prepared to address comments received during the public comment period. The Responsiveness Summary will be made available with the Record of Decision (ROD) documenting the selected final remedy. The final remedial decision will be made only after the public comment period has ended and all the comments have been considered. The final remedial decision will be made by DOE, with concurrence from EPA and SCDHEC. The alternative chosen will be protective of human health and the environment and comply with all Federal and State laws. Once the ROD is signed by DOE, EPA, and SCDHEC, the public is notified of its availability through mailings of the SRS Environmental Bulletin and notices in the *Aiken Standard*, *The Augusta Chronicle*, *The People-Sentinel*, and *The State* newspapers. The ROD will be available on the SRS external web at <http://www.srs.gov/general/programs/soil/rod/rod.html>.

DOE is providing the opportunity to engage the Trustees in the decision-making process for units, such as the LTR IOU, that have the potential for natural resource impacts. The ARF, which contains the information pertaining to the selection of response actions, is available at the following locations, or documents may be provided by request. The ARF is updated as additional documents and information that aid in the selection of a response action become available.

US Department of Energy
Public Reading Room
Gregg-Graniteville Library
University of South Carolina - Aiken
471 University Parkway
Aiken, South Carolina 29803
(803) 641-3504

Thomas Cooper Library
Government Information and Maps Department
University of South Carolina
1322 Green Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29208
(803) 777-4841

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Any questions from you or your staff about the Lower Three Runs IOU system or the RI/BRA report may be directed to me at (803) 952-8365.

Sincerely,



Brian T. Hennessey
SRS Remedial Project Manager
Infrastructure and Area Completion Division

IACD-19-113

Enclosure:

Remedial Investigation / Baseline Risk Assessment for the Lower Three Runs Integrator Operable Unit (U) (SRNS-RP-2017-00139, Revision 1, December 2017) CERCLIS Number: 35 (CD Copy)

cc w/encl:

SRS Natural Resource Trustees

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