ARF-025810
SRNS-RP-2026-01237

The Savannah River Site
Environmental Bulletin

October 20, 2026 Volume 38, Number 9

Revised Action Memorandum and Responsiveness Summary Issued for the Non-Time Critical Removal Action for the F Area Material Storage Building (235-F)

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has revised the preferred alternative for the non-time critical removal action for decommissioning of the F Area Material Storage Building (235-F). A thirty (30)-day public comment period for the Removal Site Evaluation Report/Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis was held from April 5, 2022, through May 4, 2022. No comments were received from the public. The Action Memorandum documenting the selection of Alternative A-2, In-situ Decommissioning of First and Second Level Process Areas/Engineered Roof, was submitted to the regulators on May 19, 2022, and issued to the public on June 1, 2022.

The preliminary design process determined that Alternative A-2 cannot be implemented in a way that satisfies the effectiveness criteria. This is due to the risk of differential settlement and structural failure caused by partial grouting leading to an inability to achieve the removal action objectives. In lieu of Alternative A-2, this revised Action Memorandum documents the selection of Alternative A-3, In-situ Decommissioning of Entire Building/Engineered Roof. Alternative A-3 includes the grouting of all rooms within Building 235-F, the installation of an engineered roof (sloped concrete reinforced roof slab with integral crystalline waterproofing) designed to last 1,000 years, grouting/capping of the underground storage tank, and permanent sealing of the abandoned capped stack (293-F).

Building 235-F is a windowless, two-story, reinforced-concrete structure located in F Area near the center of Savannah River Site (SRS). The building is approximately 222 feet long, 109 feet wide, and 28 feet high. Building 235-F was constructed in the 1950s as part of the original SRS project and used for a variety of missions, primarily processing, storage, and disbursement of radioactive materials in support of SRS and the DOE complex. Building 235-F and support facilities are currently in a reduced surveillance and maintenance state while design for decommissioning is being conducted. Two additional structures, an abandoned capped stack (293-F) located on the east side of the building and an underground storage tank connected by a pipe trench on the north side of the building, are included in the scope of the non-time critical removal action.

The selection of the revised removal action alternative is documented in the Revised Action Memorandum. DOE has worked with the South Carolina Department of Environmental Services and the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency to ensure that the removal action is consistent with all applicable human health and environmental requirements.

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Copies of the Revised Action Memorandum are available in the administrative record. The administrative record is available in the information repositories listed below:

US Department of Energy Public Reading Room
Gregg-Graniteville Library
University of South Carolina - Aiken
471 University Parkway
Aiken, South Carolina 29801
(803) 641-3456

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

Hard copies of the Revised Action Memorandum are available at the following locations:

Reese Library, Government Information Department
Augusta University
2500 Walton Way
Augusta, Georgia 30904
(706) 737-1744

Asa H. Gordon Library
Savannah State University
2200 Tompkins Road
Savannah, Georgia 31404
(912) 358-4324

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