SRNS-RP-2026-00045

The Savannah River Site
Environmental Bulletin
February 5, 2026 Volume 38, Number 2

Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan for the Early Construction and Operational Disposal Site L-3 (NBN), L-Area Rubble Pit (131-1L), and L-Area Rubble Pit (131-4L) Operable Unit Available for Public Comment

The United States Department of Energy (DOE) will release a Statement of Basis/Proposed Plan (SB/PP) for the Early Construction and Operational Disposal Site (ECODS) L-3 (NBN), L-Area Rubble Pit (131-1L) (LRP 131-1L), and L-Area Rubble Pit (131-4L) (LRP 131-4L) Operable Unit (OU) on February 5, 2026, describing the preferred remedial approach for this unit at the Savannah River Site (SRS). The South Carolina Department of Environmental Services (SCDES) will also release a draft Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) permit modification for the proposed remedial action for this unit. These documents will be available for public review and copying at the locations listed below. The forty-five (45) day public comment period is scheduled for February 5, 2026, to March 22, 2026.

The SB/PP 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 SCDES to ensure the remedial approach is consistent with all applicable environmental requirements. DOE, EPA, and SCDES have reviewed the risks associated with this OU and have evaluated the cleanup alternatives presented in this plan.

The ECODS L-3, LRP 131-1L, and LRP 131-4L OU is located in the southern portion of the SRS. A final remedial action is needed at the ECODS L-3 and LRP 131-4L subunits because contaminants are present in soil that may pose a threat to human health and the environment. A final action is not required at the LRP 131-1L subunit because there is no contamination present that poses a threat to human health or the environment. Groundwater is not part of the OU and is being addressed by the L-Area Southern Groundwater OU.

For the ECODS L-3 and LRP 131-4L subunits, the proposed remedy is Land Use Controls (LUCs). The future land use for the ECODS L-3 and LRP 131-4L subunits will be industrial. LUCs will include engineering controls (signs indicating access restrictions and the presence of asbestos containing material) and administrative measures (deed restrictions, excavation permit restrictions, and worker protection programs) to effectively reduce exposure of contaminated media to human receptors. Five-year remedy reviews would be required under this remedy.

For the LRP 131-1L subunit, the proposed remedy is No Action. No Action is recommended due to no problems warranting action for this subunit. The future land use for this subunit will be unrestricted.

Comments on the SB/PP and the draft RCRA permit are requested by March 22, 2026. 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 the final RCRA permit modification and will be sent to each person who submits comments.

To aid in the review of the SB/PP, a SB/PP Fact Sheet for the OU was prepared.

For additional information, contact: Barbara Smoak, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, Savannah River Site, Building 703-43A, Aiken, SC 29808 / (803) 952-8060 / barbara.smoak@srs.gov

PDF Page 1 of 3

The SRS Environmental Bulletin

Copies of the SB/PP and the Fact Sheet 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 SB/PP and Fact Sheet 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

The SB/PP and Fact Sheet are available electronically at the following address:
http://www.srs.gov/general/programs/soil/pub/pubinv.html

For additional information, contact: Barbara Smoak, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC, Savannah River Site, Building 703-43A, Aiken, SC 29808 / (803) 952-8060 / barbara.smoak@srs.gov

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PDF Page 3 of 3