



Environmental Bulletin

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from the Savannah River Site

RECORD OF DECISION AVAILABLE FOR THE P AREA OPERABLE UNIT AT THE SAVANNAH RIVER SITE

The Record of Decision (ROD) Remedial Alternative Selection for the P Area Operable Unit (PAOU) is being issued by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the lead agency for the Savannah River Site (SRS), with concurrence by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Region 4 (EPA), and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC). The ROD selected a combination of Land Use Controls (LUCs) and No Further Action for the PAOU subunits.

The ROD was completed to meet the terms of the Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) for SRS governing the investigation and cleanup of waste units. The FFA integrates the requirements of RCRA and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).

The PAOU is located about 4.1 km (2.5 mi) east-southeast of the geographical center of the Savannah River Site (SRS) and about 6.4 km (4 mi) west of the nearest site boundary. P Reactor was in operation from 1954 to 1991 with a mission of producing nuclear materials for the defense program. Reactor operations resulted in the generation of chemical and radioactive wastes.

The PAOU consists of multiple subunits, some of which were previously selected for early remedial actions or non-time critical (NTC) removal actions. The selected final remedy will achieve the remedial goals for the residual hazardous substances that remain at the PAOU which could pose an unacceptable cancer risk to future industrial workers. Groundwater is not considered part of the PAOU and will be addressed in the P Reactor Groundwater Operable Unit.

The selected final remedy is No Further Action for three PAOU subunits that have been determined to pose no threat to human health or the environment. For the remaining subunits in PAOU, the selected final remedy is LUCs. LUCs will be implemented in the short-term through the SRS Site Use Program, which provides access controls for on-site workers, and through site access control against trespassing (e.g., fencing and entry control systems). In the long-term, if the property is ever transferred to nonfederal ownership, the deed shall include restrictions precluding residential use of the property.

Copies of the PAOU ROD 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 Documents Department at USC in Columbia, SC.

Hard copies of the PAOU ROD are available at the following locations:

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

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