



Environmental Bulletin

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from the Savannah River Site

Interim Action for the Flexible Manufacturing Capability for the Mixed Fuel Fabrication Facility (MFFF) at the Savannah River Site Available for Public Review

The Department of Energy (DOE) is preparing the Surplus Plutonium Disposition Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SPD SEIS, DOE/EIS-0283-S2). DOE is evaluating, among many other things, the environmental impacts of any design and operations changes to the Mixed Fuel Fabrication Facility (MFFF), which is under construction at the Savannah River Site near Aiken, South Carolina. DOE evaluated the impacts of construction and operation of the MFFF in the Surplus Plutonium Disposition EIS (DOE, 1999). DOE currently expects to complete the Final SEIS early in calendar year 2012. DOE and the MFFF contractor, Shaw-Areva MOX Services, are pursuing utility customers for MOX fuel. At the present time, while there are agreements with some utilities to investigate the use of MOX fuel, no fuel purchase or delivery agreements exist, and will not until the Nuclear Regulatory Commission licensing process for individual reactors is completed. To help ensure the use of MOX fuel in power reactors, which will render the plutonium unusable for nuclear weapons, DOE and Shaw-Areva need the capability to manufacture fuel suitable for the variety of reactor technologies that exist in the current United States fleet, and to provide the flexibility to manufacture fuel for the next generation of power reactors.

To request a copy of the Interim Action document, call 1-800-881-7292 or e-mail nepa@srs.gov.

You may also view the NEPA Interim Action document on the Internet at:

<http://www.srs.gov/general/pubs/envbul/nepa1.htm>

Amended Interim Action Determination for the Disposition of Plutonium Materials From the DOE Standard 3013 Surveillance Program at the Savannah River Site Available for Public Review

The Department of Energy (DOE) is preparing the Surplus Plutonium Disposition Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SPD SEIS, DOE/EIS-0283-S2). DOE is evaluating alternatives for disposition of non-pit plutonium that is surplus to the national security needs of the United States. The Department continues to evaluate alternative disposition paths for surplus plutonium materials and options for supplying feed materials to the Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility, which will manufacture mixed oxide (plutonium and uranium) fuel for commercial nuclear power plants. DOE issued a revised Notice of Intent for the SPD SEIS on July 19, 2010 (75 Federal Reserve [FR] 41850). At present, DOE anticipates that the earliest completion date for the SPD SEIS would be early in Calendar Year 2012.

In December of 2008, the Manager of the Savannah River Operations Office approved an Interim Action Determination, *Processing of Plutonium Materials from the DOE Standard 3013, Surveillance Program in H-Canyon at the Savannah River Site*. This Amended Interim Action Determination amends the 2008 Determination by adding a second alternative, disposition as transuranic waste at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in near Carlsbad, New Mexico, for up to about 95 kilograms of plutonium from the 3013 surveillance program. The 2008 Determination is attached to this Amended Interim Action Determination.

To request a copy of the Interim Action document, call 1-800-881-7292 or e-mail nepa@srs.gov.

You may also view the NEPA Interim Action document on the Internet at:

<http://www.srs.gov/general/pubs/envbul/nepa1.htm>

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