



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

September 28, 2021

Mr. Charles Comeau
Waste Disposition Programs Division
U.S. Department of Energy
Savannah River Operations Office
P.O. Box A
Aiken, SC 29802

SUBJECT: U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION AUGUST 12, 2021, ONSITE
OBSERVATION VISIT REPORT FOR THE SAVANNAH RIVER SITE
SALTSTONE DISPOSAL FACILITY

Dear Mr. Comeau:

The enclosed Onsite Observation Visit (OOV) Report describes the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) OOV on August 12, 2021, at the Savannah River Site Saltstone Disposal Facility (SDF). The OOV was conducted in accordance with Section 3116(b) of the Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005 (NDAA), which requires the NRC, in coordination with the NDAA-Covered State, to monitor certain disposal actions taken by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) for assessing compliance with the performance objectives set out in Title 10 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* (10 CFR) Part 61, Subpart C. The five 10 CFR Part 61 Subpart C performance objectives are: §61.40 (General Requirements); §61.41 (Protection of the General Population from Releases of Radioactivity); §61.42 (Protection of Individuals from Inadvertent Intrusion); §61.43 (Protection of Individuals during Operations); and §61.44 (Stability of the Disposal Site after Closure).

This was the 22nd SDF OOV since the NRC began monitoring the DOE SDF disposal actions under NDAA Section 3116(b) in October 2007. The main activities conducted during the August 2021 SDF OOV were: (1) discuss operating and disposal structure status; and (2) tour the construction of Saltstone Disposal Structure (SDS) 8 and SDS 9. Those OOV activities were consistent with the activities described in the NRC Guidance for the August 2021 SDF OOV dated July 27, 2021 (available via the NRC Agencywide Documents Access and Management System [ADAMS] at Accession No. ML21210A156).

That Guidance was developed using the SDF Monitoring Plan, Rev. 1, dated September 2013 (ADAMS Accession No. ML13100A113) and the five NRC letters to the DOE that supplemented the 2013 SDF Monitoring Plan (ADAMS Accession Nos. ML17097A351, ML18033A071, ML18107A161, ML18219B035, and ML19150A295). The NRC 2013 SDF Monitoring Plan, as supplemented, contains the monitoring areas and monitoring factors established to evaluate performance of the SDF. The August 2021 SDF OOV did not result in any changes from the 2013 SDF Monitoring Plan, as supplemented.

If you have any questions, or need additional information, regarding this OOV Report, please contact Mr. Harry Felsher of my staff at Harry.Felsher@nrc.gov or at (301) 415-6559.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.390 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosure will be available electronically for public inspection in the NRC Public Document Room or from the NRC's ADAMS, accessible from the NRC Web site at <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>.

Sincerely,



Signed by Holahan, Patricia
on 09/28/21

Patricia K. Holahan, Director
Division of Decommissioning, Uranium Recovery
and Waste Programs
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
and Safeguards

Docket No. PROJ0734

Enclosure:
NRC Onsite Observation
Visit Report

U.S. NRC Report for August 12, 2021, Onsite Observation Visit to U.S. DOE Savannah River Site
Saltstone Disposal Facility DATE September 28, 2021

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ADAMS Accession No.: ML21242A509; Ltr ML21242A510

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