



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

OFFICE OF
**ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT**

SRS Federal Facility Agreement Community Involvement Plan

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Combined Committees

May 22, 2017

Purpose

- Provide an overview of the SRS Community Involvement Plan (CIP) – its nature and purpose
- Provide information discussed in responses to Citizens Advisory Board Recommendation #338, “Revision of SRS Community Involvement Plan”
- Meet Citizens Advisory Board Facilities Disposition and Site Remediation Committee Annual Work Plan Commitment

Acronyms

- ARF – SRS Administrative Record File
- CERCLA – Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, & Liability Act
- CIP – *Community Involvement Plan*, formerly known as:
 - CRP – Community Relations Plan
 - PIP – Public Involvement Plan
- EM – US Department of Energy, Office of Environmental Management
- EPA – Environmental Protection Agency
- FFA – *Federal Facility Agreement for the Savannah River Site (1993)*
- NCP – National (Oil & Hazardous Substances Pollution) Contingency Plan
- RCRA – Resource Conservation & Recovery Act
- REMOP – Radionuclide Education, Monitoring, & Outreach Program
- STEP – Science & Technology Enrichment Program
- TREAT – Teaching Radiation, Energy, & Technology

Why Do We Have a CIP?

- National Contingency Plan (NCP, the implementing regulation for CERCLA) Section 300.155(c) states *"The community relations requirements specified in Sections 300.415, 300.430, and 300.435 apply to removal, remedial, and enforcement actions and are intended to promote active communication between communities affected by discharges or releases and the lead agency responsible for response actions. Community Relations Plans (CRPs) are required by EPA for certain response actions..."*
- CERCLA, the NCP, RCRA, and other federal and state laws and regulations require public participation, especially in decision making
- The *Federal Facility Agreement for the Savannah River Site (FFA)*, Section XXXV, Public Participation, requires that DOE prepare and implement a **Community Relations Plan** to fulfill the above requirements

Why Is the CIP Being Revised?

EPA guidance states:

- CIP should be updated every three years or as required, whichever comes first
 - Last revision was approved in 2011
- Lead agency should determine whether additional community interviews are needed
 - Community interviews were done for the 1991 CRP
 - 2011 CIP stated that DOE would conduct a new round of interviews, and “rebaseline” community concerns prior to the next CIP update to ensure that we are appropriately responding to concerns about current SRS operations

(from EPA guidance document, *Community Involvement Plans* [2002])

- What is different today from the 1991 CRP?
 - SRS now has a well-established and long-standing public involvement program
 - Education Outreach to area schools (STEP, Science Bowl, Science Fair, etc.)
 - Stakeholder Training (TREAT Workshops)
 - Environmental Justice activities with EPA
 - Frequent Environmental Bulletins – mailed and emailed
 - REMOP
 - CAB



Community Involvement – 1991 vs 2017

- Citizens Advisory Board (since 1994)
 - Not anticipated when 1991 Community Relations Plan was prepared
 - Continuous venue for expression of community concerns and recommendations, and sharing of information about the SRS EM mission by DOE
- Internet, email, and social media now exist – communicating concerns, suggestions, and information has been revolutionized



What Should Be in a CIP?

From EPA guidance document, *Community Involvement Plans* [2002]

In general, the content of the CIP should include:

- Overview of the CIP
- Capsule site description
- Community background
- Community issues and concerns (from community interviews, see below)
- Highlights of the CIP
- Community involvement activities and timing (including your ***Communication Strategy***)
- Copy of the interview questions
- Contact list (*not* the private citizens interviewed or the site mailing list)
- Location for public meetings
- Location for the Information Repository, and
- Local media contacts

What Else Does the EPA CIP Guidance Say?

- CIP Guidance is written for a site where EPA has the lead in planning and implementing the cleanup (adapted for DOE as lead agency)
- It is clear in the guidance that the CIP is prepared as the **lead agency's** guide in planning public involvement activities
 - It is a plan – a statement of what DOE does, and intends to do, to ensure:
 - community/stakeholder awareness and involvement
 - statutory public involvement requirements are met
 - For use by DOE and its contractors; available to the public in the Administrative Record File and online
 - The current *SRS Community Involvement Plan* (2011) is available:
 - on the SRS external website (www.srs.gov) under the **Documents & Publications** tab
 - on the DOE-Savannah River Operations Office website (sro.srs.gov), in the **Documents** list (bottom of page)
- Stakeholder input should inform the CIP – what they are concerned about, what they want to know, and how they want to receive information

What Will the CIP Revision Include?

- Updated census information on counties and communities surrounding SRS
- Updated SRS cleanup chronology (timeline)
- Summary of statutory requirements for public participation
- Updated:
 - Community/stakeholder concerns about SRS operations and cleanup
 - Community/stakeholder preferences for receiving SRS information
- Evaluation of current concerns and preferences – changes to the SRS community involvement program, if any, that DOE believes would improve community understanding of SRS EM operations and cleanup, and the effectiveness of the two-way communication between the communities and the site

The Savannah River Site Environmental Bulletin

Announcing that the SRS CIP is being revised

- Using Environmental Bulletin(s) and other print media
- At all SRS community and stakeholder meetings and events
- Others, as appropriate

Soliciting comments and suggestions on the revision, which can be submitted:

- via email, social media;
- during any SRS community events/meetings on the CIP revision; or
- via survey forms that will be available at CAB or other SRS community events/meetings.

Surveys and Interviews, similar to those done before the 1991 *SRS Community Relations Plan* was prepared

DOE is interested in any suggestions you have regarding any aspect of the next revision of the CIP.

Questions??