



## **Recommendation No. 43**

July 22, 1997

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### **High Level Waste 1F and 1H Evaporators**

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The 1F Evaporator sits in the middle of a cluster of four High Level Waste (HLW) tanks in the F Area Tank Farm at SRS. These are HLW tanks 17, 18, 19 and 20. Tank 20 is in the final stage of being closed; Tank 17 is in the process of being closed; Tank 19 is planned for closure in Fiscal Year (FY) 1998; and Tank 18 is planned for closure in FY 1999. These are the first HLW tanks to be closed at SRS and probably will be the first cluster closed in the DOE complex. This cluster of tanks, the 1F Evaporator, the Condensate Transfer System and the Control Room building for these facilities are in a hole surrounded by an earthen wall. Upon closure of this tank cluster, structures which extend above grade (i.e. power line poles, part of the structure built to facilitate tank clean-out, etc.) will be removed, pipes into or out of the cluster will be sealed and the hole will be back filled. Back filling will complete the closure of this cluster of tanks and auxiliary facilities. Upon completion of closure the cluster will be turned over to DOE-SR Environmental Restoration for final remediation.

The 1H Evaporator is located in the middle of tank cluster 21-24 in the H Area Tank Farm; it began volume reduction of supernate in 1963 and operations ceased in 1994 due to a failed tube bundle. The 1H Evaporator has already had a significant amount of work (characterization and decontamination) completed towards closure. With a little more effort this facility could also be closed in a timely fashion.

The 1F and 1H Evaporators are similar in design and are no longer used.

1. Because there are significant costs associated with continual surveillance and monitoring of the tank cluster associated with the 1F Evaporator (approximately \$280,000 per year), and because the successful closure of Tanks 17 and 20 will clearly demonstrate that HLW tanks and auxiliary facilities can be closed; the SRS Citizens Advisory Board recommends that closure of Tanks 18 and 19 be accelerated and that the 1F Evaporator, Condensate Transfer System, and Control Room building be closed along with the tank closures.

2. DOE/WSRC review the closure and remediation plans for the cluster of four HLW tanks and auxiliary facilities with the SRS Citizens Advisory Board Environmental Remediation and Waste Management Subcommittee before major revisions to the plan have been adopted.

3. An Independent Scientific Peer Review (ISPR) is being conducted at SRS at the CAB's request that includes a review of the closure plans at the first four -pack and the 1F

Evaporator. Once the ISPR is completed, please respond to its conclusions in a timely fashion and to the CAB, and be prepared to resolve any issues that arise from the ISPR.

4. Because much characterization work has already been done on the 1H Evaporator and there are annual costs associated with surveillance and monitoring, the SRS CAB recommends that DOE consider closing the 1H Evaporator as soon as possible. The 1H Evaporator closure plans should be reviewed with the CAB regularly and by an outside ISPR.

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### **Agency Responses**

[Department of Energy-SR](#)