



South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control

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# Westinghouse Electric Company, LLC

Draft NPDES Permit Renewal

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June 6, 2023

Byron Amick

BOW, Water Facilities Permitting Division

# Introduction to NPDES

- NPDES: National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
- Regulates the discharge of treated Wastewater to Waters of the State using aquatic life and human health standards
- Permit is effective for 5 years

# Introduction to NPDES

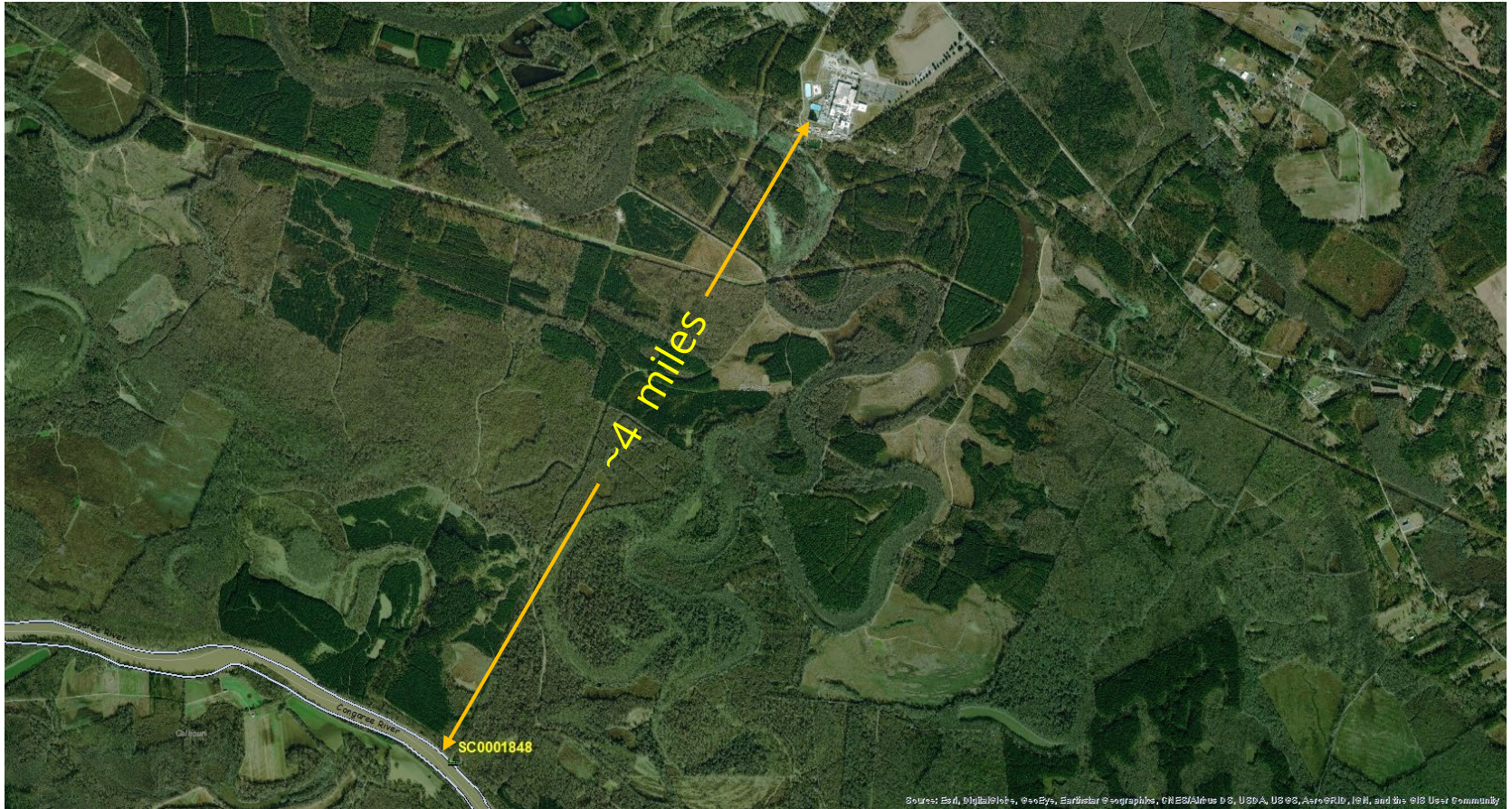
- Water in the manufacturing process is not wastewater
- Radioactive materials are regulated under the Atomic Energy Act and NRC Licensing

# Facility Overview

- NPDES permit first issued in 1974
- Currently there are three different wastewater sources that contribute to the discharge:
  - **Process Wastewater:** water that comes into direct contact with, or results from the production or use, of any raw material, product, byproduct, or waste product during processing
  - **Contaminated Wastewater:** water from showers and lab sinks used by employees that work in areas of low-level uranium
  - **Sanitary Wastewater:** restroom/kitchen wastewater

# Discharge

- Outfall 001 to the Congaree River
  - Each of the three sources are treated separately for pollutants specific to the source
  - After treatment the sources merge into one and receive additional treatment
  - Wastewater it is piped about 4 miles to the River
  - Diffuser is on the end of the pipe approx 22 ft from the bank



# Proposed Changes to the Permit

- Updates to standard language and conditions
- Effluent limit changes
  - New tighter limits on the impact to the available Oxygen downstream in the river for the fish and other aquatic biology during critical summer months (March – Oct)
  - Existing Oxygen based limits remain in the winter
  - Dissolved Oxygen (DO) limit will not be less than 5.0 mg/l

# Proposed Changes to the Permit - Continued

- Fluoride, Nitrogen, Oil & Grease, Mercury and Uranium are to be monitored as indicator parameters
- New internal outfall to monitor the sanitary treatment system
- Toxicity: Yearly monitoring will be changed to a quarterly limit of 25/40 percent effect
- In summary the permit requirements are becoming more stringent



# Proposed Groundwater Monitoring Changes

- Doubles the number of Groundwater (GW) monitoring wells to assess impacts directly related to the wastewater treatment system
- Includes a detailed description of the semi-annual groundwater sampling report requirements

# Other Conditions

- Pond Operation and Maintenance
  - More specific and detailed wastewater treatment pond operation, maintenance and inspection requirements
- Notifications
  - 24-hr notification to DHEC of any NPDES non-compliance which may endanger human health or the environment
  - Written submission within 5 days

# Proposed Changes Since the Last Public Notice

- Previously proposed Copper limits no longer required due to the monitoring station downstream of the discharge not being impaired for Copper
- Corrected the oil & grease sampling method
- Compliance schedule for outfall 01A removed – limits go into effect immediately upon issuance
- Reduction of groundwater monitoring frequency for Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds (SVOCs) except for Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate and Naphthalene

# Proposed Changes Since the Last Public Notice

- Proposed groundwater monitoring report requirements streamlined
- Added additional sludge off-site disposal receiving facilities
- Diffuser inspection requirement added
- References to the East Lagoon removed as it is closed by removal

# Submitting Comments

- Provide comments no later than June 18th
- Electronically by visiting:  
<https://epermweb.dhec.sc.gov/ncore/#/external/publicnotice/search>. (Enter the "Notice Number" in the 'Application Number' field to narrow the search. Click the 'View/Submit Comment' button, then the 'Add Comment' tab to provide comments)
- By email to Byron Amick at [amickbm@dhec.sc.gov](mailto:amickbm@dhec.sc.gov)
- By postal mail to DHEC, Bureau of Water, Water Facilities Permitting Division, 2600 Bull St., Columbia, SC, 29201
- If sending by email or postal mail, include the 'Notice Number SC0001848-5' in the subject line

# CONTACT US

**Byron Amick**

**Bureau of Water – Water Facilities Permitting  
Division**

**(803) 898-4236**

**[amickbm@dhec.sc.gov](mailto:amickbm@dhec.sc.gov)**

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