



Public Meeting

Westinghouse Columbia Fuel Fabrication Facility

September 26, 2019

WHAT TO EXPECT TONIGHT

DHEC will provide an overview of enhanced requirements in the **draft air quality renewal permit** and the **draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) renewal permit**.

- 6:30 pm Welcome and overview
- 6:40 pm Presentation on draft air permit
- 6:50 pm Presentation on draft NPDES permit
- 7:15 pm Questions, answers, and discussions
- 8:00 pm Wrap-up and next steps

YOUR INVOLVEMENT

DHEC welcomes the opportunity to have meaningful conversation with you and has been working closely with residents, elected officials and other local organizations to ensure ongoing dialogue. DHEC is accepting public comments on both permit renewals through **October 11, 2019**.

- Comments on the *draft air quality permit* may be submitted via mail or AirPNComments@dhec.sc.gov
- Comments on the *draft NPDES permit* may be submitted via mail or amickbm@dhec.sc.gov

NEXT STEPS

DHEC will review, consider, and respond to all written comments that are submitted during the public comment period prior to making a decision to modify, issue, or deny the permit.

Additional information about the draft permits, including the applications and supporting documentation, can be found at www.scdhec.gov/westinghouse.

DHEC's Regulatory Tools

Air Quality permit

- Sets monitoring and testing requirements to demonstrate compliance with state and federal air quality regulations

NPDES permit

- Sets monitoring and limits (if necessary) on pollutants discharged to the Congaree River from the facility's wastewater treatment system
- Requires monitoring of the groundwater

Site Assessment Consent Agreement

- Requires Westinghouse to conduct a comprehensive site-wide environmental assessment to fully determine the extent of contamination at the site
- Requires coordination and communication with DHEC
- Addresses past environmental issues and future responses

ABOUT THE DRAFT PERMITS

Air emissions from the Westinghouse Columbia Fuel Fabrication Facility are regulated by an Air Quality State Operating Permit. Westinghouse has requested a renewal of its air quality operating permit. As part of the technical review for renewal, DHEC required Westinghouse to demonstrate that the highest potential air emissions would not contribute to exceedances of state and federal air quality standards, which are set to be protective of health and the environment. DHEC is currently accepting public comments on the draft air permit renewal.

- All the air exhaust from the uranium processing goes through scrubbers before exiting to the atmosphere. The scrubbers remove or reduce air pollutants in the air exhaust. The draft air permit renewal includes requirements for monitoring and testing the scrubbers. (see air permit conditions C-20, C-21, C-22, C-23, C-24)
- The draft air permit renewal includes requirements for testing of the incinerator, a list of the materials to be incinerated, and a prohibition of incineration of any material that is classified as a hazardous material. (see air permit condition C-11)
- The draft air permit renewal includes requirements for Westinghouse to notify DHEC of any malfunction of air pollution control equipment or system, process upset, or other equipment failure that lasts more than one (1) hour and results in greater emissions than those from normal operation. (see air permit condition I-4)

Wastewater discharge from the Westinghouse Columbia Fuel Fabrication Facility is regulated by a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. NPDES permits regulate the discharge of treated wastewater to Waters of the State so that aquatic life and human health standards are met in the receiving stream. Wastewater from Westinghouse is treated and tested before being discharged into the Congaree River.

- The draft NPDES permit includes a new limit on copper and tighter limits to improve available oxygen downstream for fish and other aquatic biology in the river. (see NPDES permit Part III. A.)
- The draft NPDES permit includes additional monitoring requirements for fluoride, nitrogen, oil & grease, mercury, and uranium. (see NPDES permit Part III. A.)
- The draft NPDES permit includes more frequent toxicity testing. (see NPDES permit Part III. B.)
- The draft NPDES permit includes additional groundwater monitoring requirements to assess impacts directly related to the wastewater treatment system, such as monitoring for nitrate-nitrogen, uranium, and technetium-99. (see NPDES permit Part III. C.)

Radionuclide emissions and radioactive materials are regulated under the Atomic Energy Act and by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

