## Barnwell LLRW Disposal Facility

Low Level Waste Forum Meeting March 22-23, 2023



All you need in radioactive and hazardous waste management



#### **Barnwell Disposal Facility (BDF)**

- Safety Statistics
- Barnwell Compliance
- BDF Location and History
- Atlantic Compact History and Membership
- Regulatory Oversight
- Disposal Site Access and Rates
- Disposal Facility Capabilities
- H3 Plume Migration
- H3 Concentration Levels Over Time



#### **Barnwell Disposal Safety Stats**

- 2022
- Total Days Away Case = 0
- Total Recordable Cases = 0
- Total First Aid Cases = 4
  (3 of those were insect bites/stings)

- 2023 to date
- Total Days Away Case = 0
- Total Recordable Cases = 0
- Total First Aid Cases = 1



#### **Barnwell Disposal Compliance**

- 2022
- Storm Water Inspection
  - No NOVs
- Semi Annual DHEC Audits
  - No NOVs
- DHEC weekly site inspections
  - No major issues of concern

- 2023 to date
- DHEC weekly site inspections
  - No major issues of concern



#### **BDF's Location**

- 235 acres licensed for disposal
- 123 acres in closed condition
- 16 acres available for future disposal (900,000 cu ft)
- 96 acres for other uses
- 28.4 million cubic feet buried since 1971
- 14.4 million curies buried
- ~3.1 million curies remaining (decay correction)
- 180 groundwater monitoring seells





## **Barnwell Complex**





#### **BDF History**

- Barnwell Disposal Facility has operated uninterrupted from 1971 to present
- Received waste from across the US until 2008
- Atlantic Compact only operations since 2008



# **Atlantic Compact History and Membership**

- 2000 Atlantic Compact Act
- Atlantic Compact only operations started July 1, 2008 after 8 year transition
- Membership
  - South Carolina
  - New Jersey
  - Connecticut
- Receive about 9,000 cubic feet average yearly volume (excluding large component and IH volume)
- Average 60-70 containerized (only) shipments per year



#### **Barnwell Site Regulatory Agencies**

- SC Office of Regulatory Staff (ORS)
  - Detailed audits of actual costs
  - Sets prices for waste disposal
- SC Public Service Commission (PSC)
  - Determines allowable costs
  - Annual hearing process
- SC Dept. of Health & Environmental Control (DHEC)
  - Licenses radioactive materials disposal



#### **DHEC Oversight**

 Licensed by the State of South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) for the receipt and disposal of Class A, B, and C low-level radioactive wastes

- DHEC provides
  - On-site Inspector
  - Weekly inspections
  - License inspections (at lease 2 per year)



#### **Atlantic Compact Disposal Rates**

Rate Schedule approved by SC Office of Regulatory Staff every Fiscal Year

- Provides 2 Options
  - Option A –Maximum Uniform Rate Schedule
  - Option B Access Fee Customer, Volume Allocation



#### **Atlantic Compact Disposal Rates**

- 3 utilities/customers with 12 reactors in Atlantic Compact use Option B
  - Pay quarterly access fee for disposal
  - Each reactor allocated equal portion of 7,000 cubic feet
  - \$110 per cubic foot over allocated volume
- Non-utilities pay calculated rate (Option A) based on several factors including:
  - Density and weight
  - Dose rate
  - Radioactivity
  - Biological waste

# Large Component / Irradiated Hardware Disposal Rates



Irradiated Hardware and Large Component Shipments

Pricing based on Cost Plus







#### Class A/B/C Waste Disposal

- All waste arrives by truck
- Most shipments are HIC liners
- Vertical crane lift to place liner in prepositioned DHEC approved vault
- All waste classes in same trench Separate vaults for stable/unstable





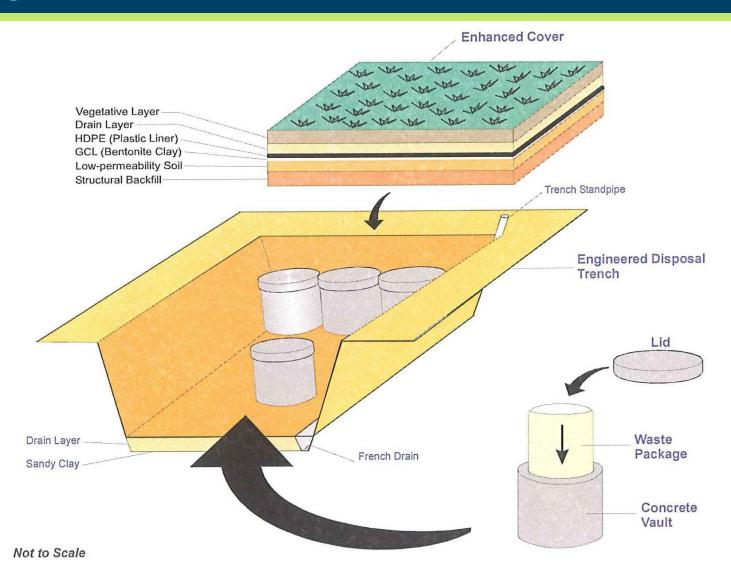
### **Oconee Rotors & Diaphragms**







# Schematic of Waste Disposal/Isolation





### **Closed Engineered Trenches**





#### **Institutional Activities**

- >90% of facility in closed condition and under institutional monitoring and maintenance
- Extended Care Fund
  - Balance as of September 30, 2022

\$153,763,804

Projected Cost of Phase II Decommissioning

\$8,130,165



#### **Status of BDF Operating License**

- Renewal license was submitted in 2019
- We have addressed DHEC's comments
- Awaiting Issuance from DHEC on our 097 Operating License



#### **Tritium Plume Migration**

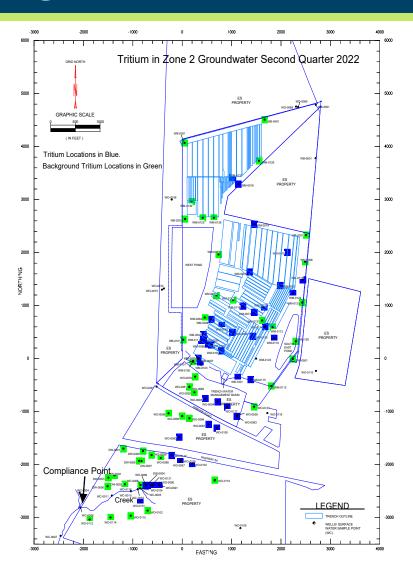
#### **Blue** squares

- = Tritium
- >Background

Green squares

= Tritium

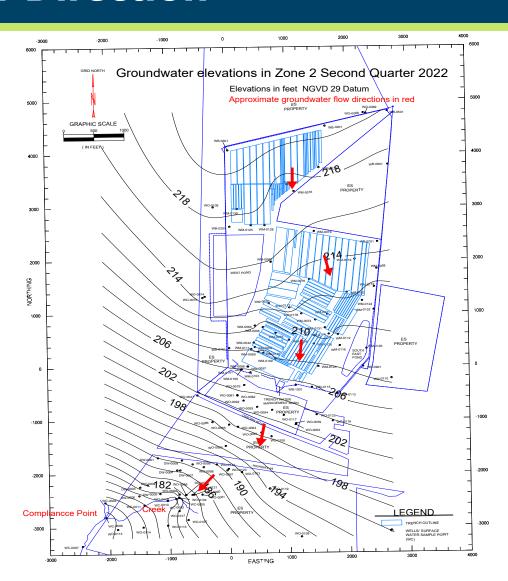
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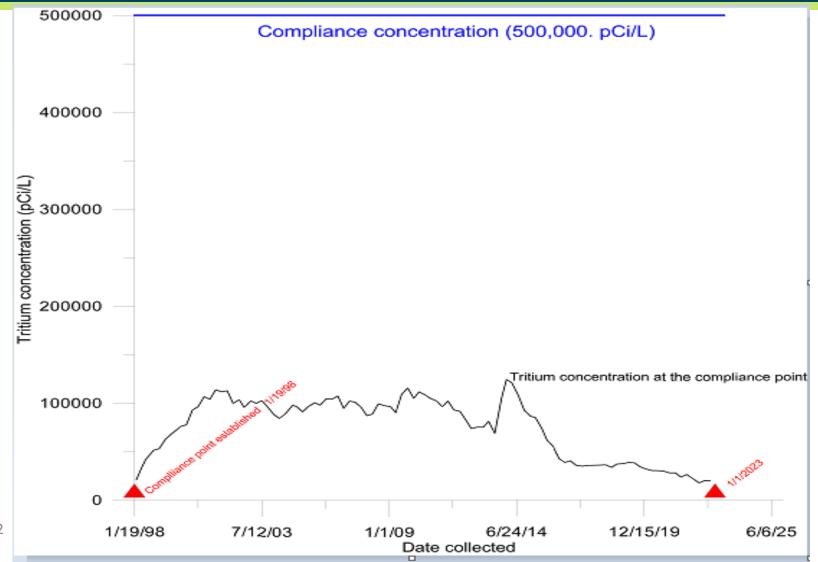
#### **Ground Water Flow Direction**

Ground Water Flow Direction moves from the North towards the Southwest



# Tritium Plume Concentrations Since Establishment of Compliance Point on January 19, 1998







# Thank You