

SM-1 Project Update, May 18, 2020

Dear SM-1 Stakeholders,

The SM-1 project team is excited to share that the Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) for the Decommissioning and Dismantling of the deactivated SM-1 nuclear power plant at Fort Belvoir has been finalized and is available online.

We want to thank all of our stakeholders for their feedback during the comment period that started at the end of last year and continued through the end of this past January. We appreciate the continued involvement of the public and all of our stakeholders.

As we shared at our public engagements earlier this year, the EA determined the decommissioning would have no significant environmental impacts. Most adverse impacts would be short-term and temporary, and be limited to onsite construction activities. The project team will implement best management practices and engineering measures to minimize potential impacts as much as possible.

Overall, the EA determined that the removal of the deactivated SM-1 nuclear reactor would have long-term-beneficial impacts on some resources assessed, primarily by returning the site to its natural state by removing all of the former reactor components, building associated with the reactor components, and all associated low-level radioactivity in the soils.

With the finalization of the EA and FNSI, the team is now focused on completing the Decommissioning Planning in preparation for awarding a decommissioning contract.

The team hopes that all of our stakeholders are remaining safe during this unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic situation. At this time, there are no immediate significant impacts to the project schedule from the pandemic, as most work and meetings right now are able to be handled virtually. The site is secured at all times. We continue to implement our environmental and radiological monitoring, plus all inspections as required.

The project team still anticipates awarding a decommissioning contract by September 2020 with mobilization work on site beginning in early 2021.

Thank you all for being a part of this process with us as we continue working through the planning phase of the decommissioning and dismantling of the deactivated SM-1.

In addition to the final EA and FNSI documents, additional project background and presentations are available at our project website, www.nab.usace.army.mil/SM-1/. If you have any questions, feedback or information you'd like to share with us, please feel free to [e-mail](#) me or call our Corporate Communication team, which can currently be best reached at 410-375-4565 while personnel are primarily working virtually.