Introduction

This Fact Sheet is to notify the public of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s proposed Approval of environmental activities at the Perma-Fix Environmental Services (Perma-Fix) Oak Ridge Environmental Waste Operations Center (OREWOC) Facility. Perma-Fix is seeking an Approval for Risk-Based Storage of Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB) bulk product waste in accordance with 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 761.62(c) and the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). The purpose of the Approval is to ensure Perma-Fix stores PCB bulk product waste in a manner that protects human health and the environment and complies with federal regulations. The environmental activities identified in the draft PCB Approval include that the OREWOC Facility will be used to temporarily store PCB bulk product waste generated from the DOE’s deactivation and decommissioning activities at the K-25 Oak Ridge site.

This PCB Approval renewal action covers only activities related to PCB bulk product wastes and associated activities. This is a 10-year proposed Approval of Perma-Fix’s operations. At this time, the EPA has determined that the storage of PCB bulk product waste in accordance with the draft TSCA PCB Approval Conditions, and all other federal and state requirements established, will not pose an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment. This fact sheet provides an opportunity to learn more about the TSCA Approval process, as well as, the upcoming public comment period for this proposed TSCA PCB Approval.

Upcoming Public Comment Period

The EPA is committed to fostering meaningful public involvement in environmental decision making. The draft TSCA PCB Approval document is open for a 30-day public comment period from June 30th to August 1st. On page 2 of this document, you will find the link to the draft TSCA PCB Approval on the EPA’s public notice website and the address of where the hard copy of the draft Approval and application may be reviewed. The public may provide written or oral comments during the 30-day comment period.

What is TSCA?

TSCA stands for the Toxic Substances Control Act. The Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976 provides the EPA with authority to require reporting, record-keeping and testing requirements, and restrictions relating to chemical substances and/or mixtures, which include PCBs.
Background
Under the TSCA regulations, Perma-Fix must obtain a PCB Approval from the EPA to store PCB bulk product waste and conduct associated recordkeeping and reporting activities at its OREWOC Facility. The EPA has reviewed Perma-Fix’s Risk-Based Storage Application for the storage of PCB bulk product waste at the OREWOC Facility. The draft PCB Approval document proposes to allow Perma-Fix to store PCB bulk product waste before being shipped off to other facilities for disposal.

PCB bulk product wastes must be stored in a manner that presents no unreasonable risk of injury to health and the environment and that does not impede routine inspections carried out by Perma-Fix or the EPA as required by this Approval.

The draft TSCA PCB Approval is comprised of various sections, including:

- **Approval Compliance** – Perma-Fix must operate the OREWOC Facility in compliance with the conditions of the Approval and consistent with the information included in the Perma-Fix Application in accordance with TSCA and the PCB Regulations, including the requirements of 40 CFR Part 761;
- **Storage of PCB Bulk Product Waste** – Perma-Fix is requesting a maximum storage limit of 48,600 cubic feet (1,800 cubic yards) of PCB bulk product waste for its Northside Storage Pad, Southside Covered Storage Pad, and the Process Building Waste Storage Area; and
- **Inspection Requirements** – Perma-Fix shall inspect PCB waste storage locations authorized under this approval monthly for evidence of waste spillage, condition of containers, and cover integrity. All inspections for the storage areas shall be tracked in a database and made available to the EPA upon request. The EPA reserves the right for its employees or agents to inspect Perma-Fix’s activities, procedures, and equipment related to the storage of PCB bulk product waste. The EPA may, at its discretion, terminate Perma-Fix’s PCB storage activities at any time based on such inspections.

The TSCA Approval is scheduled to be issued for a term of 10 years. The EPA has the authority to suspend or revoke the PCB TSCA Approval at any time when the EPA has reason to believe that the OREWOC Facility or activities conducted at the Facility present an unreasonable risk to health or the environment.