

TERREL J. (TERRY) SPEARS



Deputy Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
Savannah River Operations Office



Terrel J. (Terry) Spears was appointed Deputy Manager of the Savannah River Site (SRS) in June 2014. Reporting directly to the Site Manager, he has broad leadership responsibility for approximately \$1 billion in annual operating and construction activities at SRS in the areas of environmental stewardship, national defense and clean energy. Mr. Spears is a career member of the Senior Executive Service with more than 38 years of Federal service in DOE and the Department of Defense.

Prior to his current position, Mr. Spears served as the DOE-SR Assistant Manager for Waste Disposition, the senior Federal executive directly responsible for the safe management, treatment and disposition of highly radioactive waste resulting from Defense materials production, as well as all low-level radioactive, transuranic (TRU), hazardous, mixed, and sanitary waste in support of the Office of Environmental Management's risk reduction and cleanup mission at SRS. In this capacity, he led in the achievement of many unparalleled successes, including: development, startup, and successful operation of the Nation's first radioactive salt waste treatment facility; treatment of over 3 million gallons of high activity sludge waste, resulting in the production of over 3,500 canisters of glassified waste awaiting repository disposition; processing of nearly 7 million gallons of salt waste into a low level waste Saltstone form for final disposal; final operational closure of 4 waste tanks; elimination of legacy Cold War low-level and mixed waste inventories from SRS; and remediation and disposal of over 10,000 cubic meters of legacy TRU waste.

During 2001 – 2006, Mr. Spears managed the Salt Waste Processing Facility Project as the Federal Project Director, effectively directing this critical project during Pre-Conceptual, Conceptual and Preliminary Design phases. He also served as the Director of the Salt Processing Division, where he was responsible for leadership of first-of-a-kind technologies, strategies and projects for the treatment and disposition of 34-million gallons of radioactive salt waste at SRS. In this role, Mr. Spears led development and agreement on an enduring set of common goals and values between DOE, regulators and key stakeholders that served to guide the waste disposition program and resulted in significant environmental risk reduction and long-standing partnerships with Site regulators.

Mr. Spears was selected as Deputy Assistant Manager for Science, Technology and Business Development in 1995 and served in that position until 2001. He provided senior Federal leadership and institutional management of the Savannah River Technology Center; operational and engineering oversight of SRS nuclear laboratory facilities; and sponsorship of SRS strategic planning and mission development activities. In this role, Mr. Spears drove implementation of disciplined conduct of operations and conduct of research in the laboratory; led infrastructure improvements that right-sized lab footprint and reduced costs; led a partnership with county government that resulted in addition of cost-effective off-Site laboratory facilities; and led development of the first SRS Strategic Plan.

Mr. Spears' initial SRS assignment was as a Nuclear Engineer in the Facility Safety Division. He subsequently held a variety of key leadership positions, including Chief of Industrial Safety Branch and

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Chief of Nuclear Safety Branch. In these roles, he led establishment and implementation of effective safety management programs and provided expert safety support to all DOE-SR line organizations.

Prior to joining DOE, Mr. Spears served the U. S. Navy at the Charleston Naval Shipyard where he held a variety of engineering and management positions related to the development, design, fabrication, construction and maintenance of key facilities for refueling and overhaul of nuclear submarines. As the Naval Sea Systems Command Lead Design Agent, he also led the development, construction and startup of all nuclear use facilities and equipment at the TRIDENT Refit Facility, Kings Bay, Georgia.

In addition to his civilian career, Mr. Spears had a distinguished military career, including active and reserve duty in the U.S. Army and U.S. Navy. His service includes leadership tours in the Infantry, Civil Engineer Corps and Engineering Duty Communities. He is retired from the Navy Reserve at the rank of Captain.

Mr. Spears holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Florida and Master of Engineering degree from the University of South Carolina. He also earned a Certificate in Leadership and Management from the Sloan School at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is a registered professional engineer in the State of South Carolina, holds internationally recognized certification as a Project Management Professional, and has numerous DOE technical certifications.

Mr. Spears resides in North Augusta, South Carolina with his wife, Tina.

—February 2017

