



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF **ENERGY**

**SAVANNAH RIVER OPERATIONS OFFICE
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Recovery Act Funds Move SRS Tank 5 Closer to Final Closure

Aiken, SC -- One more radioactive liquid waste tank at the Department of Energy's Savannah River Site (SRS) has moved closer to final closure thanks to American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding.

Savannah River Remediation LLC (SRR), DOE's liquid waste contractor at SRS, safely completed its first Recovery Act project on March 15, 2010, which required refurbishing an internal purge ventilation system as well as removing and replacing a 50-foot long mixing pump located within the 750,000 gallon radioactive liquid waste tank. As many as 50 Recovery Act workers were involved in the \$1.4 million project.

"This project is an example of Recovery Act funding making a difference, providing jobs and progressing site cleanup," said Jack Craig, DOE Acting Manager for SRS.

SRR's Recovery Act Program Manager, Mark Schmitz, praised the Tank 5 project completion saying, "The Recovery Act at SRS is enabling SRR to rapidly operationally close waste tanks. Congratulations to everyone involved for safely completing the first SRR project under the Recovery Act."

Planning and preparation for the project began in October 2009, and the work itself was performed in December and January during some of the worst winter weather ever experienced in South Carolina. Despite the conditions, the well-trained team of employees working on the project completed the effort safely and effectively. .

After completing this project and other tank system modifications, the next significant step towards closing Tank 5 can occur later this year.

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Constructed in 1953 and placed in service in 1959, the Department of Energy is working to close the 51 waste tanks at SRS as part of DOE's commitment to safely cleanup the Savannah River Site..

Additional information on DOE's Office of Environmental Management and the Savannah River Site, can be found at <http://www.em.doe.gov> or <http://www.srs.gov>. For more information about the SRS Recovery Act Project, please visit www.srs.gov/recovery.

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SRS workers remove 50 foot submersible pump from waste Tank 5 during completion of tank operational closure.