



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF **ENERGY**

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SRS Recovery Act TRU Waste Project Ahead of Schedule with Box Remediation Program

Aiken, SC - The U.S. Department of Energy's Savannah River Site (SRS) started off the last 12 months of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act with an enormous success in its legacy transuranic (TRU) waste program. The H-Canyon box remediation program has not only met, but beat, its deadline for repacking 25 Phase I boxes.

"The H-Canyon box remediation program is leading the Site closer to disposing of 5,000 cubic meters of legacy TRU waste," said Dr. David Moody, DOE Savannah River Operations Office Manager. "This milestone is due to hard work, consistently performed on time and with great focus on safety and detail by our workers."

Originally scheduled for completion at the end of November, the final Phase I box was remediated on October 27, 2010, and awaits certification and shipment to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) in Carlsbad, NM, for permanent disposal.

"The project running ahead of schedule has allowed the team to take on additional work that was originally going to be performed in F Area's new box remediation facility," said John Gilmour, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS) director of Solid Waste Management.

The purpose of this legacy TRU waste program at SRS, which began in December 2009, was two-fold. In Phase I, aerosol cans and liquids, which are prohibited from disposal at WIPP, were removed from noncompliant large steel boxes (LSBs) containing job-control waste, such as glove boxes, duct work and panels. In addition, oversized items were broken down to fit into boxes, called standard waste boxes (SWBs) or standard large boxes (SLBs), to be shipped to WIPP. H-Canyon has repackaged 1,000 cubic meters of legacy TRU waste

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during Phase I.

Phase II, consisting of 10 large steel boxes, 32 miscellaneous steel boxes, 15 culverts, 4 concrete boxes and 10 casks, is expected to begin at the end of January. As in Phase I, the contents of the containers will be remediated and resized, if needed, and placed into standard waste boxes or standard large boxes, compliant for shipping to WIPP.

Success is not being found only in the Site's legacy TRU program. In just a year and a half, the Recovery Act program at SRS has made dramatic progress across the Site and throughout the community surrounding the 310-square-mile DOE's facility. SRNS, the management and operating contractor at SRS, has put people to work and awarded millions in contracts to local businesses, a combination that has both jump started the local economy and secured success in completing SRS cleanup projects ahead of schedule.

“Without the skill and dedication of our Recovery Act team, our progress would not be so monumental,” said Garry Flowers, SRNS president and chief executive officer. “We look forward to the challenges of the next year and are confident that the successes of Recovery Act Program at SRS are key to future missions at the Site and future opportunities for the people who support the Savannah River Site and call this region home.”

Additional information on the Department of Energy'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, visit www.srs.gov/recovery.

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