

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING ABOUT CLOSING SRS WASTE TANKS ...[CLICK HERE](#)

July 2012

Bulk Grouting on 2 SRS Waste Tanks Complete

Final Tank Capping Expected Later This Summer

Enough concrete grout to fill nearly five Olympic-sized swimming pools has been poured into two Savannah River Site (SRS) waste tanks, bringing to an end bulk grouting operations, a major step complete.

Up next will be the grouting of related equipment and capping of the tanks, including grouting of the tanks' risers, which are the two-foot wide service entrances located at the top of the tanks. The risers were used to place equipment inside the tanks during cleaning operations.

Bulk grouting operations began April 2, 2012. Since then over 3.2 million gallons of specially-formulated concrete grout have been poured in waste Tanks 18 and 19, marking a significant risk reduction accomplishment.

SRS was the first Department of Energy site to close waste tanks when Tanks 17 and 20 were closed in 1997. With the operational closure of Tanks 18 and 19, SRS will become the most recent site to close tanks. The only other high-level waste tanks in the country were closed at the Idaho National Laboratory in 2007.

Operational closure for the two tanks is targeted for later this summer.



SRR Tanks 18 and 19 Closure Project Manager Jim Herbert watches the final bulk grouting of Tank 19 inside a mobile control room at the Savannah River Site.

SRR Employees Focus on Safety Excellence

As Savannah River Remediation (SRR) reached the mid-point of its six-year liquid waste contract at the Savannah River Site and before heading into busy summer months, SRR employees recently spent time participating in a Focus on Excellence safety plan.

Small employee group meetings were held. Employee feedback was sought to continue to improve safety.

Feedback from the group sessions is being evaluated and will serve to promote an even safer and effective work environment for all employees during the busy summer months.

SRR Introduces Progress Sheets

Savannah River Remediation is initiating Progress Sheets that highlight accomplishments and why meeting those accomplishments are important. Periodically, a Progress Sheet will be included in the Stakeholder News. This issue has the first Progress Sheet attached. It features "Key Progress" for the first six months of 2012.

Hope you enjoy the updates.



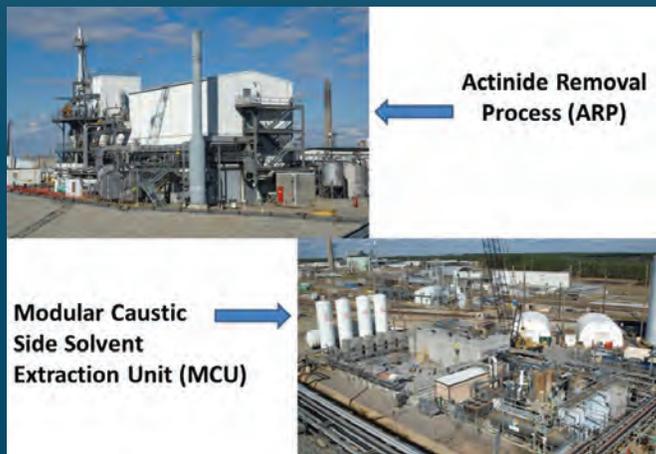
Salt Processing Facilities Prepare for Future Operations

The liquid waste salt removal process at the Savannah River Site recently celebrated its fourth anniversary, one year longer than its anticipated interim status, and is preparing for a longer life as well.

Placed into operation during the spring of 2008, the Interim Salt Disposition Process (ISDP) removes nearly all radioactive isotopes from salt waste stored in SRS waste tanks through two separate facilities, the Actinide Removal Process (ARP) and the Modular Caustic Side Solvent Extraction Unit (MCU). The salt waste in the SRS waste tanks make up about 90 percent of the volume.

The ISDP was designed for a three-year life of operations and a processing rate of four gallons of salt solution processed every minute. However, the ARP and MCU facilities have operated well beyond that by operating greater than 10 times more efficiently and for a longer period than expected.

The ISDP is referred to as “interim” because it was designed to operate while the Site’s Salt Waste Processing Facility (SWPF) is being constructed. Until then, the ARP and MCU facilities are currently undergoing upgrades and improvements to extend their operational lives until the SWPF processing begins.



SRR Goes to Summer School

Enriching the lives of Allendale County students through reading, team-building exercises and play are all part of a new Allendale County School District summer school initiative, aimed at helping the children prepare for school in the fall as well as understanding life skills.

Savannah River Remediation (SRR) Public Affairs Department personnel spent a day with the Allendale students to assist other volunteers who make the program a success.

The Allendale County outreach opportunity was chosen to help build relationships with children and to demonstrate to the students that people from outside their area really do care about them.

The children in the program range from mostly first through sixth grades. The Public Affairs group, which included two college interns participating in the SRR Summer College Intern Program, read to the children, helped them with crafts, played board games, joined in a Lego-building contest, and participated in various physical education activities throughout the day. The teaching is structured to ensure the children move from activity to activity to give them a well-rounded day and a lot of interaction with volunteers.

Savannah River Remediation employees (back row, from left), Dean Campbell, Caroline Hallman, Tina Melton and Maddie Blair joined other volunteers and Allendale County students in a day of activities designed to enrich the students’ lives.



CH2MHILL

Savannah River Remediation (SRR) LLC is the Savannah River Site’s (SRS) Liquid Waste contractor. SRS is owned by DOE. SRR is composed of personnel from a team of companies led by URS with partners Bechtel National, CH2M Hill and Babcock & Wilcox. Critical subcontractors for the contract are AREVA, Energy Solutions and URS Safety Management Solutions. For more information, contact the SRR Public Affairs Department: Dean Campbell at 803.208-8270, or log on to www.SRRremediation.com



Grouting of next two radioactive waste tanks begins

Most substantial environmental risk reduction in South Carolina since 1997



What was accomplished...

- Began pouring specially-formulated grout in two waste tanks.
- Recorded a 12-month high in canister production (June 2011 to June 2012), with 338 canisters.
- Completed a 12-month high in waste transfers (May 2011 to May 2012), moving 28 million gallons of waste in over 1,400 waste transfers.
- Continued salt processing improvements at Saltstone facilities and Actinide Removal Process/Modular Caustic Side Solvent Extraction Unit.

Why this milestone is important...

- Operationally closing waste tanks reduces the potential risk from high-level waste getting into the environment.
- Shows Defense Waste Processing Facility can process over 300 canisters a year, nearing its 400 per year goal.
- Waste transfers provide tank space for SRS waste and keeps the Site missions moving forward.
- Improving salt processing facilities takes salt waste out of tanks faster and prepares facilities for Salt Waste Processing Facility operations.

Bottom Line: Eliminating the Cold War legacy hazardous nuclear waste at the Savannah River Site will represent the largest environment risk reduction in the state of South Carolina.



REDUCING THE RISK FOR ALL OF US

