The Saltstone Facilities have resumed operations after a nine-month planned improvement outage. The Facilities process and dispose decontaminated salt solution, reducing the risk of potential contamination in the environment.

The outage, called Enhanced Low Activity Waste Disposal (ELAWD), began in December 2011. Since Saltstone operations first began in June 1990, it has processed over 10 million gallons of low-level salt waste. For fiscal year 2012, ending this month, the improved Facilities will process more than 800,000 gallons of salt waste.

The improvements position Saltstone’s facilities for continuous operations and up to an estimated 12 million gallons of salt solution per year for disposition when the Salt Waste Processing Facility begins operations.

SRR Employees Walking Away the Pounds

As part of the Savannah River Remediation (SRR) Wellness initiative, a “Walk Away the Pounds” pilot program has started with 20 SRR employees. They exercise in place for 20 to 25 minutes to burn calories and lose weight.

The class is part of the SRR Safety and Health program and is helping SRR pursue the American Heart Association “Fit Friendly” certificate.

Following the pilot class, the program will be expanded to other SRR facilities and employees.

DOE, SRR to Celebrate Operational Closure of Tanks 18 and 19

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and Savannah River Remediation (SRR) will celebrate the operational closure of Tanks 18 and 19 October 1, 2012, with an on-site celebration and barbecue lunch for employees.

A marker overlooking the tanks in the F Tank Farm will be unveiled and speeches will follow under a huge tent next to the 766-H administrative and training building.

Tanks 18 and 19 are the next Cold War era radioactive waste tanks cleaned, grouted and removed from service at the Savannah River Site since the first DOE waste tanks in the nation (Tanks 17 and 20) were closed in 1997.
Waste Removal Begins on Highest Volume Sludge Tank at SRS

The largest volume of sludge waste in any one tank in the history of the Savannah River Site (SRS) is being removed.

Recently, three submersible mixing pumps were inserted into Tank 13, a 1.03 million-gallon underground waste storage tank that held a record 277,000 gallons of radioactive sludge, which is double the amount of sludge normally stored in a waste tank. Bulk waste removal activities for Tank 13 have begun.

Tank mixing operations were initiated to retrieve the waste. There is enough sludge waste in this one tank to fill over 1,100 high-level waste canisters, or 14 percent of the total canister projection, at the Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF).

During bulk waste removal, the giant mixing pumps break up the sludge and suspend the waste in liquid until it is removed from the tank and fed to the DWPF, where the highly-contaminated waste is mixed with borosilicate glass and poured into 10-foot tall, stainless steel canisters. The canisters are being safely stored at SRS until a federal repository is available.

SRR Helps United Way of Aiken County with a $25,000 Donation

The United Way of Aiken County received an early boost to its 2012 fund-raising campaign recently with a $25,000 donation from Savannah River Remediation (SRR). Aiken County’s United Way campaign officially began August 31, 2012.

Dave Olson, SRR President and Project Manager, said he wanted to give the campaign an early boost and set the tone for future donors.

“Everyone knows how important the United Way work is to this area, and what a tremendous job they do each year in helping those in need,” Olson said. “I am proud Savannah River Remediation can be a part of something that does so much for so many.”

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.SRRemediation.com