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## For Immediate Release

### Pre-Registration Opens for 2011 Future City Competition

***South Carolina's Students, and Those from Nearly 40 Other Regions  
Across the Country, to be Tasked with Creating Alternative Energy  
Resources that Maintain a Healthy Planet***

AIKEN, S.C. – May 12, 2011 – Can local middle school students do a better job of solving our nation's energy crisis than our world leaders? Finding an alternative energy resource for fossil fuels remains one of the country's top priorities, and this fall, middle school students from across the nation will attempt to tackle this issue during the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Future City® Competition.

Students start with a research essay describing their concept, which this year is themed *Fuel Your Future: Imagine new ways to meet our energy needs and maintain a healthy planet*. They will be asked to design a method of providing electricity for a future city using an energy source that does not deplete natural resources and has limited impact on the environment. Students will then use *SimCity™ 4 Deluxe* software to design a virtual Future City model incorporating their ideas. The last phase involves building a physical model using recycled materials whose costs total no more than \$100.

"Students are challenged in this Future City competition to tackle energy issues that even adults struggle to solve," said South Carolina Regional Coordinator for Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC (SRNS) Kimberly Mitchell. "By supporting this activity, we help spark and maintain the student's interest in pursuing science and engineering careers."

Though this year's competition gets underway with the new school year in the fall and culminates with the regional finals in January 2012, pre-registration for this popular event is now open for South Carolina and Augusta area middle schools. The winning team from this region will attend the national finals in Washington, D.C., where they will compete against 39 other teams.

The National Finals grand prize winners receive a trip to U.S. Space Camp in Huntsville, Ala.

Future City is also looking for engineering and technical professionals who may be interested in serving as mentors.

For information, school registration, or to volunteer for the Future City Competition, contact South Carolina Regional Coordinator Kimberly Mitchell, (803) 952-8782, [kimberly.mitchell@srs.gov](mailto:kimberly.mitchell@srs.gov).

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC, is a Fluor-Daniel Partnership comprised of Fluor, Newport News Nuclear and Honeywell, responsible for the management and operations of the Department of Energy's Savannah River Site, including the Savannah River National Laboratory, located near Aiken, South Carolina.

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