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For Immediate Release



America's future scientists and engineers demonstrate the depth of their knowledge during Regional Department of Energy Science Bowl Competitions held throughout the U.S. The South Carolina (and northeast Georgia) Regional Competition is sponsored by DOE and managed by Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC.

DOE's National Science Bowl® Kicks off February 12

America's Future Scientists and Engineers Show What They Know

AIKEN, S.C. – Feb. 9, 2011 – Using a format similar to the television show “Jeopardy,” America’s next generation of scientists and engineers will put their knowledge to the test in the country’s largest science tournament. Teams from across South Carolina and the greater Augusta area will test their knowledge during the regional competition on **Feb. 12, at the University of South Carolina Aiken Business and Education Building**, and vie for the opportunity to attend the Department of Energy’s (DOE) National Science Bowl Competition scheduled for April 28-May

3, in Washington, D.C.

To reach the national competition, teams must win one of the 65 regional tournaments. The regional champion teams will receive a trip to the nation’s capital to tour museums, and participate in Science Day seminars and the national academic science competition.

The local regional competition managed by Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC (SRNS) typically involves 100 high school students from approximately 15 schools. It is the only educational event and academic competition of its kind that tests students’ knowledge in all areas of science and is sponsored by a federal agency.

“The Department of Energy has a vested interest in promoting math and science throughout all levels of the American educational system,” said David Moody, Manager, DOE-Savannah River. “For years, the Science Bowl has been an excellent way to focus attention on the importance of science and to spotlight the capabilities of our brightest students.”

The Savannah River Site is owned by the U.S. Department of Energy and is managed and operated by Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC.

Student teams, which consist of four students, an alternate, and a teacher/coach, practice for months before the competition.

Last year's regional champion Lakeside High School, from Evans, Ga., will return to defend their title against a field of strong teams primarily from the Aiken, Columbia and Augusta areas.

According to Lakeside High School's team coach Charlotte Smith, Lakeside selected their two teams for this year's competition the first week of school in August and have been practicing weekly since then. "We have a special 30 minute 'Power Period' practice session each school day," said Smith. "The students really enjoy this opportunity to expand on their science facts and enjoy competing together as a team. And, SRNS is so gracious to the kids. It's a fun-filled day!"

More than 100,000 high school students have participated in DOE's National Science Bowl since 1991. Competing teams are quizzed on biology, chemistry, physics, astronomy, earth science, general science and mathematics. This year's top three teams will win prizes including scientific research trips to France and U.S. DOE laboratory sites.

SRS is one of only four sites to have participated each year at the regional level since the start of the Science Bowl competition.

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