



AIKEN COUNTY, SRNS ESTABLISH ENERGY MATERIALS RESEARCH LABORATORY

AIKEN, SC (August 22, 2012) - - Aiken County and Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC, (SRNS) have reached agreement on a corporately funded expansion plan that would add an additional 6,435 square feet of finished laboratory and support space to the county-owned Center for Hydrogen Research (CHR) facility, located in Aiken County's Savannah River Research Campus adjacent to the Savannah River Site. The CHR building will be re-designated as the Applied Research Center (ARC) in the future to more accurately reflect the diversity of research and development initiatives in the 60,000 square foot facility.

The Center for Hydrogen Research, which opened in 2006, currently houses the Savannah River National Laboratory's (SRNL) Hydrogen Technology Research Laboratory, a 24,400 square-foot lab complex primarily used for unclassified research into new applications for hydrogen technology, USC-Aiken research and small technology companies.

The expansion will be privately funded, via a \$3,000,000 expenditure authorized by the Board of Directors of SRNS. Upon completion of construction, SRNL will lease the space. The Department of Energy has authorized an initial ten-year lease.

The expansion will add six new laboratories with flexible configurations to support growing SRNL research on advanced materials to support areas such as nuclear energy, energy storage materials and systems, solar energy materials, materials for wind and marine energy systems and carbon dioxide capture.

"This development further strengthens the good working relationship between SRNS, the National Laboratory and Aiken County," said Dwayne Wilson, President and CEO of SRNS. "All along, the intent of our company and our parent company organizations has been to

strategically invest corporate dollars in ways that would enhance the National Laboratory's competitive position. This is a concrete example of that commitment.”

Dr. Terry Michalske, Executive Vice President of SRNS and Director of SRNL, said the investment would yield multiple benefits to SRNL.

“This will add to what is already a first-rate laboratory complex at the county's facility,” said Michalske. “In addition to providing us with new, contemporary research labs, the addition of more off-site laboratory space makes it that much easier for us to partner with universities and private companies. As we continue to grow our business in the clean energy arena, it's clear that there are tremendous opportunities to build research partnerships that will be good for the region. I believe that public / private partnerships are critical to our future, in terms of both facilities and of business development.”

Ronnie Young, Chairman of Aiken County Council, said, “This is another step in furthering Aiken County's goal of creating jobs for the future through advancement of technology from the SRNL. We are very appreciative of the commitment and partnership of SRNS and SRNL as we grow jobs for the future. I appreciate the vision and hard work of the Economic Development Partnership in this initiative and the work of Ernie Chaput in overseeing this project. As partners with SRNS, I see great potential for the Energy Materials Research Laboratory as together with the Hydrogen Research Technology Laboratory we establish Aiken County as a technology leader.”

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC, is a Fluor partnership comprised of Fluor, Newport News Nuclear and Honeywell, responsible for the management and operation of DOE's Savannah River Site, including the Savannah River National Laboratory.

The Applied Research Center is a subsidiary of the Economic Development Partnership concentrating on economic development and job creation based on technology. The Center for Hydrogen Research promotes fuel cell and hydrogen technology through education, training and research and development.

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