

# News from the Savannah River Site

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## Excess SRS Assets Boost Area Economies

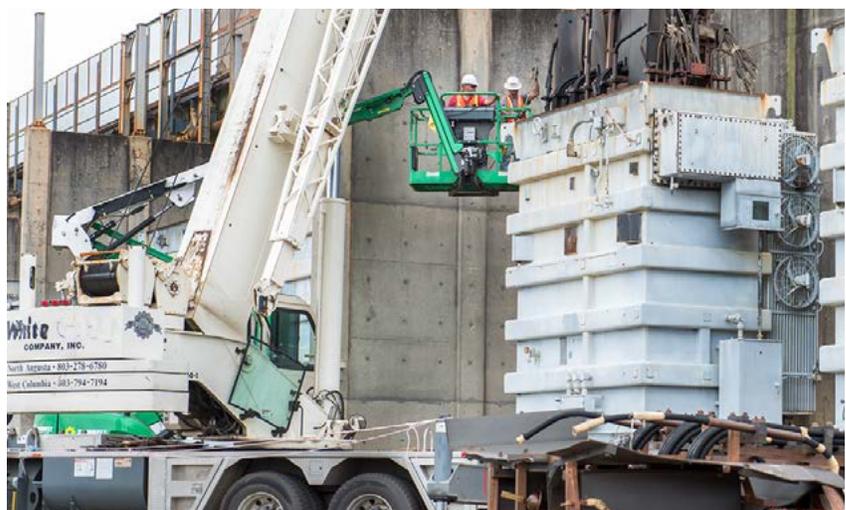
AIKEN, S.C. – July 15, 2015 – One man’s trash is another man’s treasure; however, in this case, the Savannah River Site’s unneeded equipment and excess materials are financially benefiting the Central Savannah River Area.

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS) is working with the Department of Energy (DOE) in partnership with the Savannah River Community Reuse Organization (SRCRO), a non-profit organization, to turn no longer needed equipment and material into money to benefit the counties of Aiken, Allendale and Barnwell in South Carolina and Richmond (Augusta) and Columbia counties in Georgia.

“There are items for nearly all types of applications within an industrial setting,” said Andy Albenesius, SRNS Site Services Program Manager. “Examples could include small items such as office equipment, valves and glassware for laboratory experiments, to large items of potentially much greater value like electrical turbines, diesel powered pumps, fire engines and tons of metal. Much of these are quite old and many use antiquated technology.”

“By taking items in excess of site needs, the SRSCRO serves as our interface organization that sells them and uses the proceeds for the economic good of numerous businesses found throughout a large region surrounding SRS,” added Albenesius.

Approximately \$400,000 annually has been generated for SRSCRO programs in recent years through the sale of surplus items. The proceeds generated from the conversion of excess assets to cash are invested back into the five-county



*SRNS personnel observe subcontractor workers as they remove huge, industrial transformers used for decades at a now closed powerhouse at the Savannah River Site.*

region surrounding SRS for clearly-defined economic development and workforce related purposes.

The proceeds received through the partnership with SRS help the SRSCRO to sponsor initiatives in workforce education (e.g., a “Nuclear Workforce Initiative”), prepare studies and reports (e.g., “SRS Economic Impact Study & Regional Workforce Study”), host public forums and community exchanges and conduct meetings at the local, state and federal level on SRS community issues.

Last year alone, the SRSCRO was able to disburse \$1 million for designated infrastructure improvement projects in the region.

Examples of how this funding was used by the SRSCRO include assisting with site preparation work (grading, roads, parking) involving the construction of a 100,000 square foot speculation (spec) building on a 22-acre parcel within the Sage Mill Industrial Park, near Graniteville, S.C. In addition, these funds were used to help purchase land to add to the Pointe Salkehatchie Industrial Park in Allendale County, S.C., and to assist with the construction of a spec building in the South Carolina Advanced Technology Park in Barnwell County, S.C. The spec buildings will be used to lure new industry to the area, creating employment opportunities and an economic boost for the affected community.

SRNS is currently working with SRSCRO Executive Director Rick McLeod on a new, large scale “assets for services” test project to remove and dispose of dozens of aged trailers formerly used as temporary offices at SRS. This project involves SRSCRO removing the trailers at no cost to U.S. taxpayers and in return receiving assets such as transformers from a now closed power plant within the site’s D Area.

Normal disposal costs for a single trailer at SRS have been as high as \$45,000 over recent years. “The time and manpower needed to safely and efficiently remove utilities, uninstall support infrastructure, demolish and transport a trailer to a landfill is costly,” said Albenesius. “Just with this latest initiative, the program has achieved nearly \$300,000 in cost avoidance for SRS.”

The SRSCRO was originally created as the Savannah River Regional Diversification Initiative in 1993 to promote economic development by addressing changes at the Department of Energy’s Savannah River Site resulting from downsizing at the end of the Cold War.

*Savannah River Nuclear Solutions is a Fluor-led company whose members are Fluor Federal Services, 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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