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For Immediate Release

## TVA REACTOR USES SRS FUEL TO PRODUCE ELECTRICITY

AIKEN, S.C. (April 25) – Blended low-enriched uranium (BLEU) from the Savannah River Site (SRS) is now in an Alabama reactor being converted into electricity.

For two years, SRS has been preparing and shipping BLEU to be used in commercial reactors to produce power under a National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) nonproliferation program.

The first of the site's BLEU was loaded into the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) Brown's Ferry, Alabama reactor in March. The reactor began last week making electricity from the BLEU.

The SRS BLEU work is part of a nationwide effort by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to convert surplus highly enriched uranium (HEU) to BLEU for commercial nuclear power reactor fuel. Converting HEU from the Cold War stockpiles to BLEU makes it no longer useful for nuclear weapons.

“The arrangement is a win-win opportunity,” said Phil Breidenbach, H-Area Completion Project Manager of the Westinghouse Savannah River Company (WSRC). Breidenbach oversees the BLEU work for WSRC. “Not only are we making the world a safer place by disposing of the nation's excess nuclear material, we are also providing a valuable and needed energy product, electricity, in the process. I am particularly proud of our Savannah River Team who has done an excellent job achieving this milestone safely and efficiently.”

Safety remains a top priority at SRS, and other DOE sites, as comprehensive efforts for safe disposition of all legacy nuclear materials remains a focus.

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### THE WSRC TEAM

Westinghouse Savannah River Company LLC · Bechtel Savannah River, Inc. · BNFL Savannah River Corporation  
BWXT Savannah River Company · CH2 Savannah River Company · Polestar Savannah River Company

In February 2003, H Canyon began making BLEU. BLEU is produced by blending HEU with natural uranium. To date, 125 BLEU shipments have been made from SRS to the TVA contractor for conversion to fuel.

The SRS BLEU is the first of many tons that will be beneficially dispositioned as fuel rather than waste. The fuel is cheaper than virgin material and gives TVA a cost advantage for plant operations.

This project is estimated to save taxpayers more than \$750 million in storage and disposal costs for the surplus uranium. The project will also save TVA about \$150 million in uranium costs. In addition the project supports efforts to reduce dependency on coal produced electricity.

SRS is owned by DOE and operated by a team of companies led by WSRC. WSRC is a wholly owned subsidiary of Washington Group International.

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