

# **Citizens Advisory Board Nuclear Materials Committee**

## **Surplus, Non-Pit Plutonium Consolidation at the Savannah River Site**

**H. Allen Gunter**

**Senior Technical Advisor**

**Assistant Manager**

**Nuclear Material Stabilization Project**

**Savannah River Operations Office**

**April 28, 2009**



# Purpose

- To update the SRS CAB on the status of the Plutonium Consolidation



# Acronyms

- Pu Plutonium
- DOE Department of Energy
- MT Metric Tons
- STD Standard
- DNFSB Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board
- NDE Non-destructive Examination
- DE Destructive Examination
- DWPF Defense Waste Processing Facility
- MFFF Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility



# Plutonium Consolidation

## ■ Scope

- Quantity: 12.8 Metric Tons (MTs)
- Material: Surplus, Non-Pit Plutonium-239
- Form: Solid form (metal, oxide powder, scrap, and unirradiated fuel)

## ■ Shipping and Storage

- DOE Standard 3013 Storage Container, except unirradiated fuel
- DOE 9975 Shipping Package (also storage)
- Safe, Secure Transport Trailers

## ■ Storage Location

- K-Area
- Existing Reactor Building
- Meets 2005 Design Basis Threat Guidance
- Continuous Surveillance to Ensure Safe Storage



# 3013 Containers



PU Metal Button



Bagless Transfer Can



Sectioned Outer 3013 Can with One Bagless Transfer Can



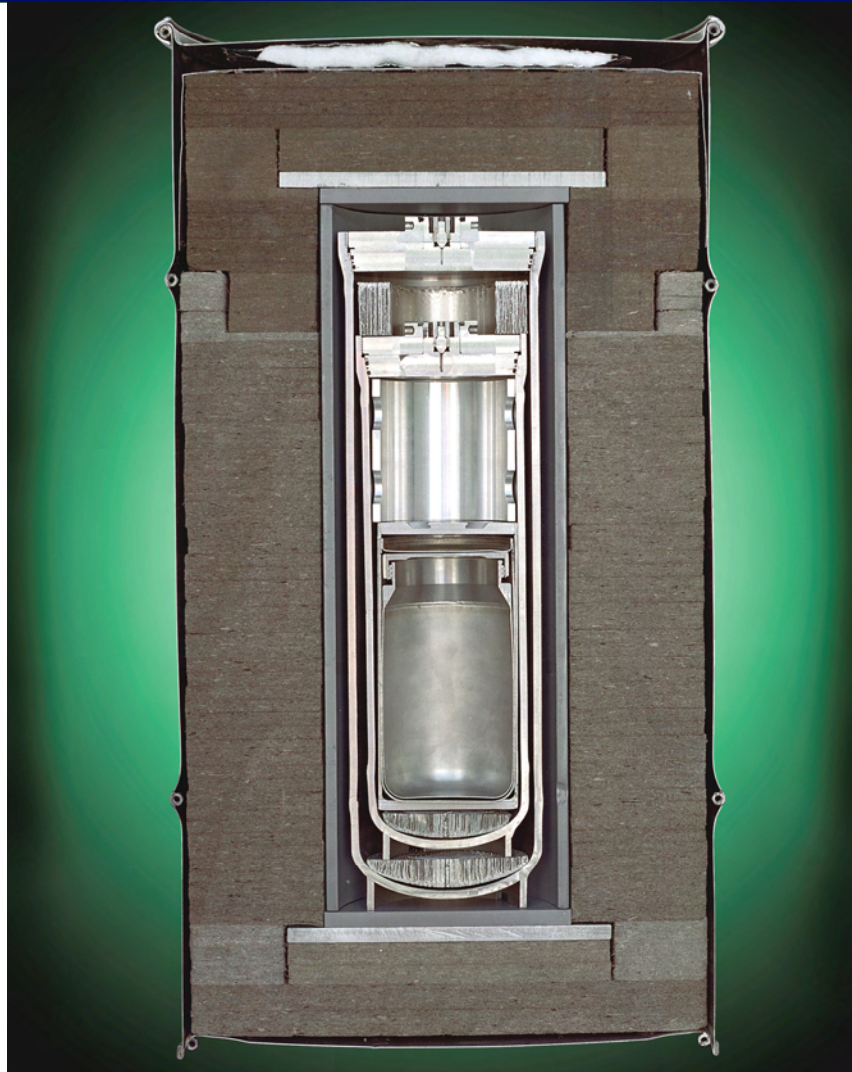
Outer 3013 Can



# Exterior View of 9975 Shipping Container



# Cross Sectional View of 9975 Shipping Container





# KAMS in 2000





# KAMS in 2009



# Plutonium Consolidation

## ■ Shipping Sites

- Savannah River – 910 containers (completed)
- Rocky Flats – 1889 containers (completed)
- Hanford – 2257 containers
- Hanford Unirradiated Fast Flux Test Reactor Fuel – 13 casks
- Lawrence Liver National Laboratory – 115 containers
- Los Alamos National Laboratory – 96 containers
- Potential Future Surplus Material Receipts
  - » LLNL and LANL – 500 containers

## ■ Future Storage Capability

- Pre-Conceptual Design for new Vault (ECD: Sept. 2009)
- Within existing K-Area Reactor Building
- 500 -900 additional storage locations (3013 containers)



# Plutonium Consolidation

## ■ Plutonium Consolidation Rationale

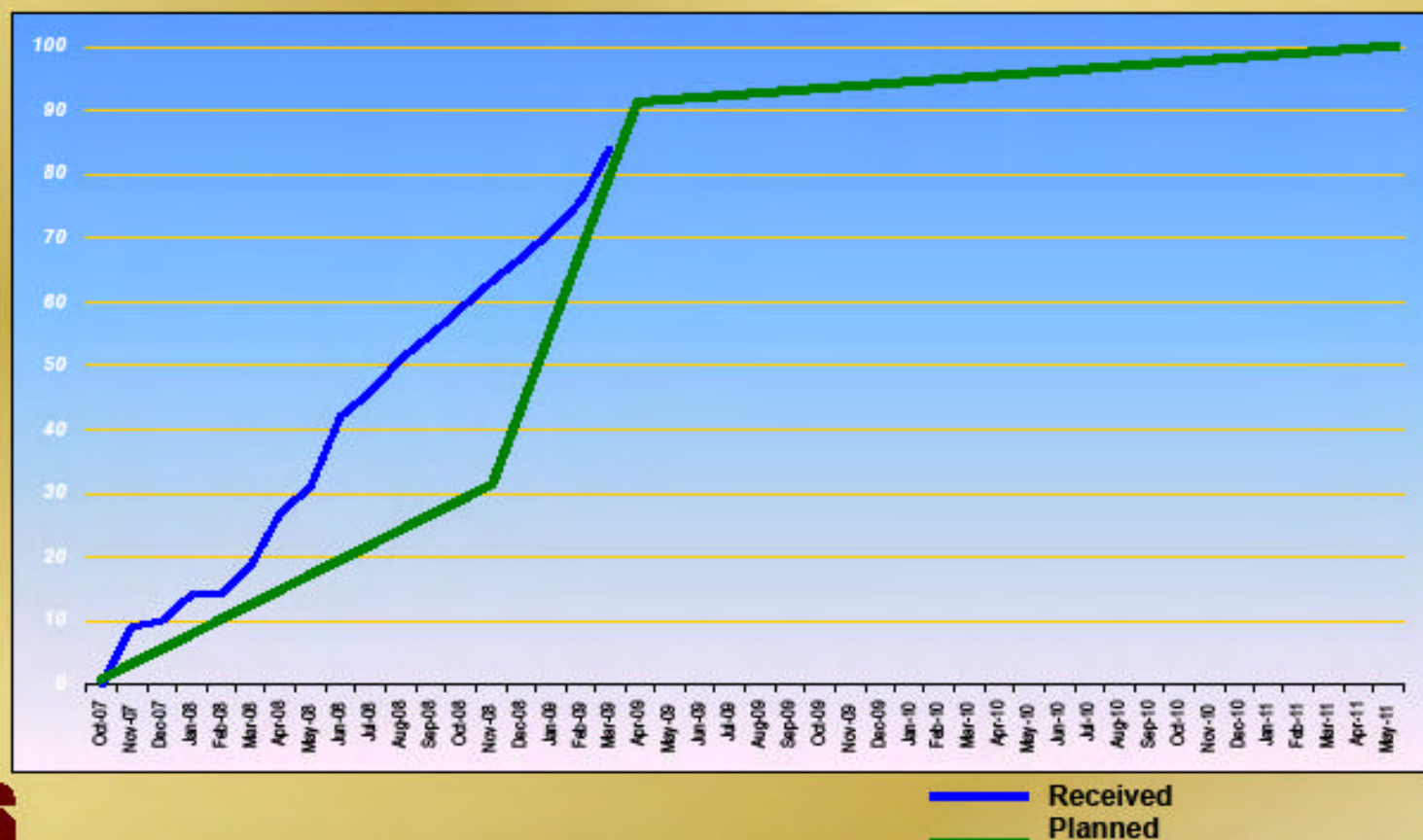
- Reduces risk to public and environment by consolidating to a single location
- Improves Homeland Security
  - » Reduces the number of facilities to protect
- Allow sites to deinventory to meet regulatory commitments
- Significant cost avoidance (billions of dollars) to consolidate surplus nuclear materials at a single location
  - » Eliminates multiple (existing) storage vaults across the complex
  - » Avoid building new storage vaults to replace outdated facilities
  - » Eliminates multiple security projects across the complex
- Allow facilities to close reducing the DOE national nuclear footprint (and avoid operating costs)





## EM Non-Pit Pu Consolidation Receipts

Percent of Containers



Note: Reflects campaign extension due to proposed LANL shipment schedule

Data Date 3/31/09

# Summary

- Plutonium Consolidation is 75% complete with an Completion Date of FY2013
- New Vault may be installed to receive all non-pit plutonium
- All plutonium is safely and securely stored in K-Area
- The Department has a pathway for dispositioning plutonium out of South Carolina (H-Canyon/DWPF and MFFF)
- Evaluating alternatives to optimize Plutonium Disposition, forecast completion summer of 2009

