

News from the Savannah River Site

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For Immediate Release

Installation of SRPPF temporary HVAC completed at Savannah River Site

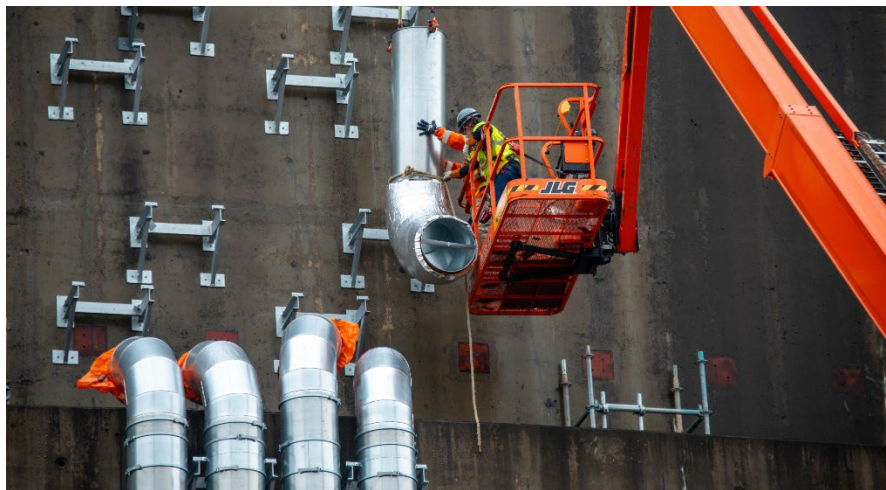
AIKEN, S.C. (APRIL 16, 2024) – The installation of a temporary HVAC system to provide temperature and humidity controls for the Savannah River Plutonium Processing Facility (SRPPF) at the Savannah River Site (SRS) was completed in March.

“We are working steadfastly to accelerate work and accomplish milestones like this to meet schedule requirements for the SRPPF pit production mission,” said Dennis Carr, President and CEO of Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS), managing and operating contractor.

Once constructed and operational, SRPPF will produce plutonium pits for the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) in support of the nation’s nuclear deterrent.

“The pit production mission is a priority for the NNSA,” said Carr. “The Savannah River Site is already ramping up construction activities at SRPPF and preparing to support this enduring mission.”

The SRPPF Main Process Building is a 400,000-square-foot, seismically-qualified, concrete structure. It was originally designed to dispose of surplus weapons-grade plutonium, converting it into fuel assemblies for use in commercial nuclear power plants.



Crews at the Savannah River Site (SRS) completed the installation of a temporary HVAC system for the Savannah River Plutonium Processing Facility (SRPPF) in March. The system is designed to support cooling for construction personnel as they work to transform the structure into a modern production facility in support of national security.

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The temporary HVAC system was installed in preparation for future craft personnel who will be constructing SRPPF so they have a suitable work environment. The system is designed to support cooling for workers inside SRPPF as they transform the structure into a production facility. It ensures a constant supply of clean, cool air for the workers; and the system provides air exchanges from the exhaust fans to ensure that the air does not become stagnant from construction work activities.

The HVAC project involved installation of 30-ton and 50-ton rooftop units, as well as installation of indoor portable HVAC units, exhaust fans, portable indoor air curtains and internal ductwork to distribute the new cooling system.

The temporary HVAC system was designed to fit the building and is designed to provide optimum temperature and humidity control. The system will be maintained, and the indoor ductwork will be modified as required to facilitate the complete buildout of SRPPF. Once the permanent HVAC system is installed, the temporary HVAC system will be phased out.



The installation of a temporary HVAC system for the Savannah River Plutonium Processing Facility (SRPPF) at the Savannah River Site (SRS) was completed in March. In this photo, workers transport air ducting in preparation for installation at SRPPF.

The plutonium pit production mission is an essential part of the NNSA's long-term strategy for nuclear stockpile sustainment. Under federal law and to meet national security requirements, NNSA must be able to produce no fewer than 80 pits per year to maintain and replenish the nuclear stockpile. Responsibilities for manufacturing 80 pits per year will be shared between SRS and Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL).

SRS is a 310-square-mile site located near Aiken, S.C., on the Savannah River, which borders South Carolina and Georgia. SRS covers 198,046 acres, including parts of Aiken, Barnwell and Allendale counties in South Carolina. The SRS annual budget is approximately \$3.8 billion, with a workforce of about 12,700.

Established by Congress in 2000, NNSA is a semi-autonomous agency within the U.S. Department of Energy responsible for enhancing national security through the military application of nuclear science. NNSA maintains and enhances the safety, security, and effectiveness of the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile; works to reduce the global danger from weapons of mass destruction; provides the U.S. Navy with safe and militarily effective nuclear propulsion; and responds to nuclear and radiological emergencies in the U.S. and abroad.

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, a Fluor and HII partnership company, is responsible for the management and operations of the Department of Energy's Savannah River Site, located near Aiken, South Carolina.

B-ROLL VIDEO

Link to B-Roll video of temporary HVAC installation: [SRPPF TEMP HVAC BROLL on Vimeo](#)