News from the Savannah River Site
US DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY • AIKEN • SC 29808

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March 14, 2016

DOE's SWPF Integration Involves Contractor Teamwork at SRS

AIKEN, S.C. (March 14, 2016) – The Salt Waste Processing Facility (SWPF), currently under construction at the Department of Energy's (DOE) Savannah River Site (SRS), involves multiple SRS contractors successfully integrating work to complete the project's construction and connection to the existing liquid waste facilities.

A key objective for DOE-SR in the next few years is to fully integrate SWPF into the liquid waste system. Accomplishing this objective requires close partnering between DOE and its contractors. Savannah River Remediation (SRR), the liquid waste contractor at SRS, DOE and Parsons, the SWPF engineering, procurement and construction contractor, have been closely interfacing on integration of SWPF with the liquid waste system.

A recent example of this interface involves a transfer of electrical equipment to SWPF, which resulted from successful integration between various DOE-SR contractors. Electrical equipment needed to complete electrical connections for SWPF was identified at SRS and transferred to the SWPF project. Once electrical connections are complete, the equipment transfer will result in approximately $20,000 total cost savings for DOE-SR for the SWPF project.

SWPF construction completion date is scheduled for April 2016, well ahead of schedule according to Frank Sheppard, Parsons Vice President and SWPF Project Manager.

"The Electrical Equipment transfer is an example of many other implemented strategies to safely accelerate the SWPF construction schedule," Sheppard said. "Effective integration between Parsons, SRR and DOE is key for this project to reach early completion and enable this critical component of the DOE's cleanup plan for the legacy liquid waste at SRS."

SRR led the interface between Parsons, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS), the SRS management and operating contractor, and DOE-SR which approved the transfer of equipment from one contractor to another. The equipment was transferred in February 2016 at the SRNS Electrical Equipment Yard.

Shayne Farrell, Deputy Federal Project Director for SWPF, said the transfer of equipment from SRNS to Parsons displayed an excellent example of teamwork and partnering.

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"SRR, Parsons, SRNS and DOE provided integral assistance and support to make this happen," Farrell said. "The transaction took place over a very short time period, was very well coordinated, and the reuse of on-hand, spare equipment resulted in a substantial cost savings to DOE-SR and the taxpayer."

Parsons requested support from the SRR SWPF Integration Program for the electrical equipment, and according to Keith Harp, SRR SWPF Integration Program Manager, SRR working with SRNS Utilities and Operating Services identified the needed materials housed in an SRNS electrical lay down yard on Site.

"We recognized an opportunity to take advantage of the integration process with SRS contractors, and it turned into a success for DOE," Harp said. "We're seeing the strength of the integration team when teamwork and cost savings come together."

SWPF will be the key liquid waste facility for processing approximately 90 percent of the remaining 36 million gallons of tank waste. SWPF will separate the salt waste into a low-volume, high radioactivity fraction for vitrification in the Defense Waste Processing Facility and high-volume, decontaminated salt solution to the Saltstone Facility for disposal as low-level waste.

SWPF will utilize technology currently being used in SRR's Interim Salt Disposition Project Modular Caustic Side Solvent Extraction Unit (MCU). Lessons learned from MCU operations are shared during bi-monthly meetings of the SRS SWPF Integration Team, which includes representatives from SRR and Parsons. SRR also participates in monthly SWPF construction interface meetings with DOE and Parsons.

Background
SRS is owned by DOE. The SRS Liquid Waste contract is managed by SRR, which is composed of a team of companies led by AECOM with partners Bechtel National, CH2M and BWX Technologies. Critical subcontractors for the contract are AREVA, Energy*Solutions* and URS Professional Solutions.

Parsons is the SWPF engineering, procurement and construction contractor at SRS. Parsons provides technical and management solutions to private industrial customers worldwide, as well as federal, regional, and local government agencies. For more information, visit www.parsons.com.

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.

(more)

SWPF Interface
Page 3

An electrical distribution switch gear was transferred from an electrical laydown yard at the Savannah River Site (SRS) to the Salt Waste Processing facility (SWPF) being constructed at SRS. Once electrical connections are complete, the equipment transfer will result in approximately $20,000 total cost savings for DOE-SR for the SWPF project. The transfer was one example of successful integration between the Department of Energy at Savannah River, Savannah River Remediation (SRR), the SRS liquid waste contractor, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS), the SRS management and operations contractor, and Parsons, the SWPF engineering, procurement and construction contractor at SRS.