

from Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC

Contact: DT Townsend  
SRNS Corporate Communications  
803.952.7566  
[dt-lawrence.townsend@srs.gov](mailto:dt-lawrence.townsend@srs.gov)

**For Immediate Release**

## SRS Leadership Association Names Executive and Leader of the Year

*Two SRNS managers win top awards for leadership skills*

AIKEN, S.C. – (July 5, 2012) –This year the “SRS Leadership Association” (Savannah River Site chapter of the National Management Association) presented awards to outstanding Savannah River Site leaders, Beth Bilson and Dennis Cheeks.

Bilson, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS) Senior Vice President, Support Services, and Chief Business Officer, was awarded Executive of the Year, while Dennis Cheeks, Manager, H (Area) Materials Disposition and F Area Maintenance, was awarded Leader of the Year at an awards banquet recently held at the Savannah River National Laboratory’s Center for Hydrogen Research.

The Executive of the Year Award recognizes a senior executive who has gained significant recognition for managerial and leadership accomplishments, conducted both personally and through business affairs in accordance with the National Management Association’s Code of Ethics. Bilson has demonstrated her leadership skills through more than 25 years of management experience in environmental and chemical processing industries including executive level positions within the U.S. Government and private sector. She worked for the Department of Energy (DOE) headquarters for 12 years. While there, her responsibilities included oversight of the Nuclear Material and Facility Disposition Management Programs at DOE sites in Idaho, Washington, California, and Tennessee.



*Beth Bilson (top), SRNS Senior Vice President, Support Services, and Chief Business Officer, was awarded SRS Executive of the Year.*

*Dennis Cheeks, Manager, H Materials Disposition & F Area Maintenance, was awarded SRS Leader of the Year.*

*The Savannah River Site is owned by the U.S. Department of Energy and is managed and operated by Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC.*

Bilson is considered an outstanding communicator and is well respected by her peers as well as her employees. She has been involved in setting up many successful teams since coming to SRS and participates in mentoring younger employees. In addition, Bilson is a member of the SRNS Executive Committee, a management sponsor for the Employee Engagement Forum, member of the Health and Welfare Committee, and chair of the SRNS Change Control Board and a member of the SRS Mission Development Council.

The Leader of the Year Award recognizes a SRS manager, who has demonstrated the same outstanding qualities as the Executive of the Year. Dennis Cheeks embodies these qualities in his role as Manager for H (Area) Materials Disposition and F Area Maintenance. Cheeks is a strong supporter of safety programs at SRS using his motivational and leadership skills to promote an exceptional safety culture for his organization.

In 2011, Cheeks was recognized by Ideas America for promoting employee involvement and process improvements in the work place. He was presented an internationally recognized award for this effort after competing against other companies such as Honda, Ford, and the Dubai Municipality.

Cheeks supports SRNS sponsored charity events that include the annual Celebrity Waiter Night that benefits Children's Place in Aiken, S.C., the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and Habitat for Humanity. He also conducts an average of twelve auctions per year in support of local charities and wildlife conservation.

Visit the SRS Leadership Association on the web at: <http://srsla.org>

Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC, is a Fluor Partnership comprised of Fluor, 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.

Visit us on the web at [www.savannahrivernuclearsolutions.com](http://www.savannahrivernuclearsolutions.com)

SRNS-12-44