

# The Board Beat

*Celebrating  
30 Years*

**Direct Waste Transfers  
Optimize Process for SRS  
Liquid Waste**

**Shipping SRS Waste to Offsite  
Facility Improves  
Overall Safety**

**Savannah River Site Marks  
Waste Canister Double-Stack  
Milestone**

**Meet the Citizen's  
Advisory Board's  
Newest Members**



Visit our website at:  
[srscitizensadvisoryboard@srs.gov](mailto:srscitizensadvisoryboard@srs.gov)

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# Savannah River Site Marks Waste Canister Double-Stack Milestone

Savannah River Mission Completion (SRMC) has completed canister storage modifications in one of two glass waste storage buildings (GWSB), effectively doubling that facility's waste storage capacity and avoiding construction of a third storage building.

GWSB 1 consists of a below-grade concrete vault containing support frames for vertical storage of the canisters, which are 10 feet tall, 2 feet in diameter and filled with radioactive waste mixed with glass produced at the Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF). The building is also seismically qualified, meaning it was built to withstand and operate after an event such as an earthquake.

Canister storage capacity in GWSBs 1 and 2 is less than the projected number of canisters expected to be produced to complete the site's liquid waste mission. Radioactive liquid waste is generated at SRS as byproducts from processing nuclear materials for national defense, research, medical programs and for NASA missions. The waste — totaling 33 million gallons — is stored at SRS in two groupings of underground waste tanks known as tank farms.

An evaluation in 2015 concluded that, with some minor changes to each vertical position in GWSB 1, two canisters could be stored one on top of the other in an area previously used to store only one. Double-stacking canisters would allow for completion of the mission using existing space without construction of additional storage buildings.

In GWSB 1, space in all 2,262 original storage positions have now been modified to allow storage of a total of 4,524 canisters.

To achieve double-stack modifications, workers used a specially designed cutting tool to remotely remove an existing steel crossbar from each canister support. The elevated crossbar is replaced with a plate that rests on the storage vault floor. This change increases the height available and allows stacking of canisters.

The glass waste storage buildings are for interim storage of canisters, which are destined for final disposal in a future federal repository.

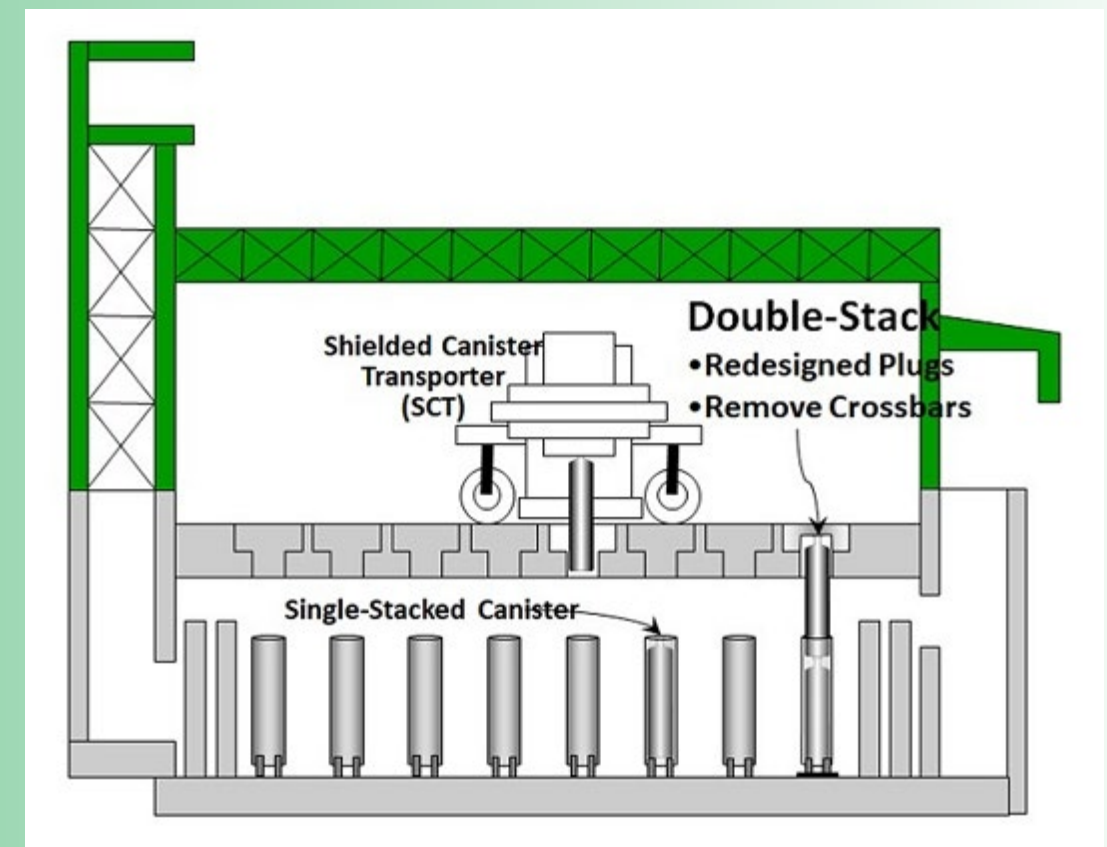
SRMC President and Program Manager Dave Olson said the canister double-stack project demonstrates exceptional work by SRMC employees.

“Our workforce has safely performed this necessary work inside Glass Waste Storage Building 1,” Olson said. “Our work continues as we seek safe and innovative methods to complete our mission by 2037. Further, these cost savings allow additional funds to be used for tank cleanup and closure.”

Double-stack modification of GWSB 2 is underway. The canisters will be stored on site temporarily until a federal repository is identified.



*The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Environmental Management's canister double-stack project at Savannah River Site's Glass Waste Storage Building 1 required numerous employees from across Savannah River Mission Completion's liquid waste workforce. Standing in front of the shielded canister transporter are construction, project management and radiological control representatives.*



*The canister double-stack project at Savannah River Site modifies each canister storage position to provide enough room to add a second canister on top of the first, saving more than \$100 million by deferring the expense of constructing another storage building.*

Source: SRS.gov

# Meet the Citizen's Advisory Board



Janie Scott (Not Pictured)



Phyllis Britt  
Chair



Kandace Cave  
Vice Chair

# New Members



Nate Hartley



Pat Kilroy



Marty Ball



Kevin de l'Aigle



Scott McKay



Carlos Cato



Michelle Bush



Hubert van Tuyll



Carolyn Fortson



Kenneth Sajwan



Donald Colson



Sade Shofidiya



John Thomas

Kandace Cave, a dedicated community advocate, proudly hails from Aiken, South Carolina. A graduate of Aiken High School and the University of South Carolina Aiken, Kandace has devoted over a decade to making a meaningful impact within the non-profit sector, where she rose to prominence as a seasoned director.

While her expertise spans program and project management, Kandace's passion lies in community education and youth empowerment. Her certifications in facilitating evidence-based curriculums evidence her commitment to excellence.

In December 2018, Kandace became the inaugural Executive Director of Keep Aiken County Beautiful, a groundbreaking initiative launched by the Aiken County Council to combat litter, enhance recycling efforts, and promote community beautification. Her leadership garnered national recognition when she presented the Aiken County Litter Index Story Map at the prestigious Keep America Beautiful conference in Memphis, Tennessee, in 2020, during KACB's first year as an affiliate. Her outstanding contributions were honored with the SC Litter Control Association's Central Region Individual Leadership Award in March 2020.

Kandace was invited to lead a workshop at the Keep America Beautiful National Conference in Washington, DC, in 2023 about community engagement for litter abatement events. She also participated in a panel discussion during the American Public Works Association's inaugural Solid Waste Summit in March 2023. She continued to lend her expertise as a panelist at the Keep America Beautiful National Conference in 2024. Cave was awarded the Green Horse Award in environmental conservation from the City of Aiken in 2024.

In addition to her professional endeavors, Kandace remains deeply engaged in civic affairs, serving as a South Carolina Litter Control Association member and as Vice Chair of the SRS-CAB, an Environmental Management-Site Specific Advisory Board appointed by the United States Department of Energy. Recognized as an Aiken Standard Young Professional to Follow in July 2021, Kandace exemplifies the spirit of service as a dedicated Rotarian.



# NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION 2024



The Citizen's Advisory Board Orientation was held May 8, 2024 at the Savannah River Site. New members were welcomed by several DOE officials as well as enjoyed an informational tour that included Nuclear Materials and Liquid Waste Processing Facilities.



# Direct Waste Transfers Optimize Process for SRS Liquid Waste

Savannah River Mission Completion (SRMC) has completed the first direct transfer of decontaminated waste from the Salt Waste Processing Facility (SWPF) to the Saltstone Production Facility (SPF), an important new step in optimizing waste processing.

This accomplishment streamlines the inter-area waste transfers by directly routing them from one waste processing facility to another, bypassing a holding tank in H Tank Farm, one of two groupings of underground waste tanks at SRS.

SWPF separates and concentrates the highly radioactive waste components found in the SRS Tank Farms - such as uranium, plutonium, and cesium - from the less radioactive salt solution. The concentrated high-activity waste from SWPF is sent to the Defense Waste Processing Facility to be vitrified into a solid glass form suitable for long-term storage and disposal. The decontaminated salt solution (DSS) from SWPF is sent to SPF where it is mixed with dry materials to create a grout, which is then poured into Saltstone Disposal Units to harden into a form safe for permanent onsite disposal.

Previously, the DSS from SWPF was transferred first to Tank 50 before proceeding to SPF for final treatment and disposal. At 1.3-million-gallons, Tank 50 is one of the larger tanks with the capacity to hold the throughput of material temporarily when SPF is not processing. Tank 50 was initially needed since SPF operated only four days week, and SWPF is a 24-7 facility. Without a hold tank between the two areas, transfers would become backlogged throughout the liquid waste system. SPF has now transitioned to 24-7 operations to support the increased production rate of DSS from SWPF.

SWPF was originally designed to transfer DSS directly to SPF, so no physical modifications were required on transfer lines. Programming and procedural changes were made to make the direct transfers possible. SRMC will maintain the capability to use Tank 50 as a hold tank if needed during times when SPF cannot accept DSS, such as facility outages.

Rerouting waste on a direct path between processing facilities simplifies the transfer process and minimizes operational impacts on the liquid waste system, according to Jim Folk, DOE-Savannah River assistant manager for waste disposition.

“EM’s tank waste cleanup mission is moving forward faster and more efficiently now that all liquid waste facilities are operating 24-7,” Folk said. “These facilities work as an integrated system, so it is crucial that management and personnel communicate and coordinate activities to ensure all operations, especially waste transfers between areas, are completed safely and effectively.”

The option to send waste transfers directly from SWPF to SPF adds a tremendous amount of flexibility to operations, according to Wyatt Clark, SRMC chief operations officer.

“One of SRMC’s primary goals and core values is reliability,” Clark said. “Optimizing waste transfers is just another example that we are ensuring that our systems are robust, reliable, and well-equipped to complete the mission for the Department of Energy. Furthermore, this approach reduces the number of transfers between SWPF, Tank 50, and SPF by 50 percent, which is a significant benefit that resulted from the consolidation of Effluent Treatment Facility and SPF staffing.”

Source: SRS.gov



*First direct transfer of decontaminated salt solution from the Salt Waste Processing Facility to Saltstone complete*



*Savannah River Mission Completion successfully made the first transfer of decontaminated salt solution directly from one waste processing facility to another, bypassing a hold tank previously used in the transfer process.*



*From left, Torre Mobley, End Stream Delivery (ESD) Control Room Operator; Michael Murray, Shift Operations Manager; Sam Burgh, ESD Shift Technical Engineer; and Control Room Operator Joshua Croft work together to ensure safe receipt of the first transfer of feed to the Saltstone Production Facility from the Salt Waste Processing Facility.*

# 2024 May Full Board Meeting



The May 2024 Full Board Meeting held at The DeSoto Hotel in downtown Savannah, GA was both informative and educational. Members traveled from various locations across South Carolina and Georgia to attend.



# Shipping SRS Waste to Offsite Facility Improves Overall Safety

The Savannah River Site has begun shipping legacy cleanup equipment to an offsite disposal facility after storing some of it since 2006.

Examples of the equipment include a column of drill pipe, known as a sampling drill string, which was used to collect reprocessing waste samples from an underground radioactive waste storage tank; bubblers used to increase efficiency of operations to immobilize the waste in glass at the Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF); and glass pumps that were used before being replaced by the bubblers.

Shipping of the used equipment was made possible by the 2019 interpretation of the high-level waste definition by DOE. The goal of the interpretation is to classify waste according to its radiological characteristics, rather than the waste's origin, so that it can be properly disposed of.

In 2020, the first time the interpretation was used, EM packaged and shipped DWPF recycled wastewater to a licensed facility for commercial treatment and disposal.

Savannah River Mission Completion (SRMC) properly packaged the sampling drill string in a transport container and sealed it for shipment. EM sent the container to a disposal site outside of South Carolina. This first shipment left the site in March 2024.

Future shipments of used bubblers and pumps will continue as DWPF pours glassified, high-level waste into canisters for safe, long-term storage and disposal. The facility replaces bubblers approximately every six months.

SRMC President and Program Manager Dave Olson said the company's workforce is performing well to ensure the equipment is safely packaged and readied for transport.

"Our team developed a strict procedure for managing the waste throughout this process," Olson said. "We adhere to our plan and take all necessary steps to execute the packaging, storing and safe transporting of this equipment. This project is an important step as we properly dispose of the used equipment that has helped move the Liquid Waste Program forward."

Source: SRS.gov



*With the help of a large crane, workers carefully place a drill string container on a flatbed truck. The truck left Savannah River Site, bound for a licensed facility for commercial treatment and disposal of the used equipment. Shipments are planned for the disposal of additional equipment that remains at the site.*

# Get to know our CAB Chair



Phyllis Britt

## Phyllis Britt, CAB Chair

1. What do you do/what did you do for a living?

I am retired after 26 years at The Star newspaper in North Augusta, where I served as a reporter, layout assistant and finally as the editor for 12 years. I started my career as a school teacher, teaching Algebra and Geometry, Latin, Sacred Studies and Computer over the years. In both careers I loved getting to know so many diverse people and sharing insights with them.

2) What's a fun fact about yourself or a hobby you enjoy?

I confess that I am addicted to video games on my iPad. I also enjoy needlepoint, knitting, cross stitching, smocking, as well as reading, listening to audio books and, most of all, spending as much time as possible with my seven grandchildren.

3) What are you most proud of?

I am proud of the work that is being done on the CAB and the small part I have played in that effort over the last four-plus years. On a professional level, I am proud of my work at The Star – when I became the editor, I had big shoes to fill, and while I was there, The Star prospered. On a personal level, I could not be prouder of my three children, who are living happy and successful lives in their own families and careers, and of my seven grandchildren who make me prouder every day. I am loving watching them grow into fine young people.

4) Why did you apply to be a member of the CAB?

I applied to the CAB initially because I felt there was a need for someone who was not an SRS retiree or a technical person to be able to offer a new viewpoint regarding the efforts at SRS. I thought I would be in a position to use my journalism skills to share what I learned in a way that non-technical folks in the community might better understand. Now I'm happy to say there are a number of CAB members who are not strictly from the technical world.

5) What is your favorite thing about being on the CAB

I learn something new at every meeting I attend. I enjoy meeting the SRS employees, and I find I am very comfortable with the people who, in some ways, hold the future of our community in their hands.

FROM SCRATCH

# S R S C H E R E T I E E

## Chicken Pot Pie

Prep Time: 40 mins  
 Cook Time: 40 mins  
 Additional Time: 4 hrs  
 Total Time: 5 hrs 20 mins  
 Servings: 8  
 Yield: 1 9-inch pie

### Ingredients

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ¼ cup lard
- 6 tablespoons cold water
- ½ cup butter
- ½ cup all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon salt
- black pepper to taste
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped onion
- 3 cups chicken broth
- 1 ½ cups sliced mushrooms
- 3 tablespoons butter
- 3 cups cooked chicken, chopped
- 2 carrot, finely chopped
- 2 stalks celery, finely chopped
- 2 potatoes, peeled and cubed



### Directions

Combine 2 cups flour and 1 teaspoon salt in a large bowl. Cut in lard until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Stir in water until mixture forms a ball. Divide dough in half and shape into balls. Wrap in plastic and refrigerate for 4 hours or overnight. Roll one ball out to fit a 9-inch pie plate. Place bottom crust in pie plate. Roll out top crust and set aside.

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F (200 degrees C.)

Melt 1/2 cup butter in a large saucepan. Blend in flour, salt, pepper, and onion. Gradually stir in chicken broth. Cook, constantly stirring, until smooth and thickened. In a separate pan, sauté mushrooms in 3 tablespoons of butter, then stir into the saucepan. Stir in chicken, carrot, celery, and potatoes; continue to cook until potatoes and carrot are slightly softened, 5 to 7 minutes more. Mix well and pour into bottom pie crust. Cover with top crust, seal edges, and cut away excess dough. Make several small slits in top to allow steam to escape.

Bake in the preheated oven for 30 minutes, or until pastry is golden brown, and filling is bubbly.

# Old-Fashioned Apple Pie

Active Time: 30 mins  
Chill Time: 2 hrs  
Cool Time: 1 hr  
Total Time: 4 hrs 40 mins  
Servings: 8

## Ingredients

Crust:

2 cups all-purpose flour, plus more for work surface

1 cup cold unsalted butter or cold vegetable shortening, cut into small pieces

1 tsp. kosher salt

## Filling:

9 to 10 tart apples such as Granny Smith or McIntosh (about 4 lbs. total), peeled and thinly sliced

1/2 cup granulated sugar

1/4 cup all-purpose flour

1 tsp. ground cinnamon

Dash of kosher salt



## Directions

Prepare the Crust:

Using your fingers, mix together flour, butter, and salt in a large bowl until butter is well incorporated. Gradually sprinkle 2 to 4 tablespoons very cold water into mixture, kneading as you add water, until dough just comes together. (You may not need to add all the water.) Turn dough out onto a lightly floured work surface; knead until it forms a smooth ball, 2 to 3 times. Divide dough in half, and shape into 2 disks. Wrap each disk in plastic wrap; chill at least 2 hours or up to overnight.

Add dough to pie dish:

Unwrap 1 chilled dough disk, and place on a lightly floured work surface. Let stand at room temperature until slightly softened, about 5 minutes. Sprinkle with flour; roll into a 12-inch circle. Carefully fit dough round into a 9-inch deep-dish glass pie plate, leaving a 1 1/2-inch overhang around edges. Refrigerate until ready to use.

Prepare the Filling:

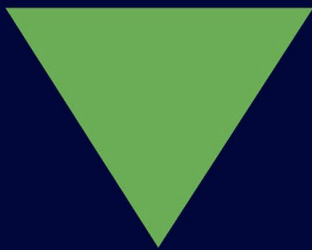
1. Preheat oven to 425°F with oven rack in lowest position. Stir together apples, sugar, flour, cinnamon, and salt in a large bowl until apples are evenly coated. Spoon mixture into prepared piecrust; sprinkle mixture with butter.
- 2.
3. Make lattice topping:
4. Unwrap remaining chilled pie dough disk, and place on a lightly floured work surface. Let stand at room temperature until slightly softened, about 5 minutes. Sprinkle with flour; roll into a 12-inch circle. Cut into 12 (3/4-inch-wide) strips. (Discard remaining dough scraps, or use for another purpose.) Arrange strips in a lattice design over Filling; trim strips as needed to meet the bottom Crust overhang. Fold dough edges under, and crimp using your fingers or a fork.
- 5.
6. Bake pie:
7. Place assembled pie on a rimmed baking sheet. Bake in preheated oven 15 minutes. Reduce oven temperature to 350°F (leaving pie in oven); continue baking 45 minutes. Cover loosely with aluminum foil to prevent excessive browning; continue baking until juices are thick and bubbly, crust is golden brown, and apples are tender when pierced with a long wooden pick, about 30 minutes. Transfer pie to a wire rack, and cool at least 1 hour.



Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board

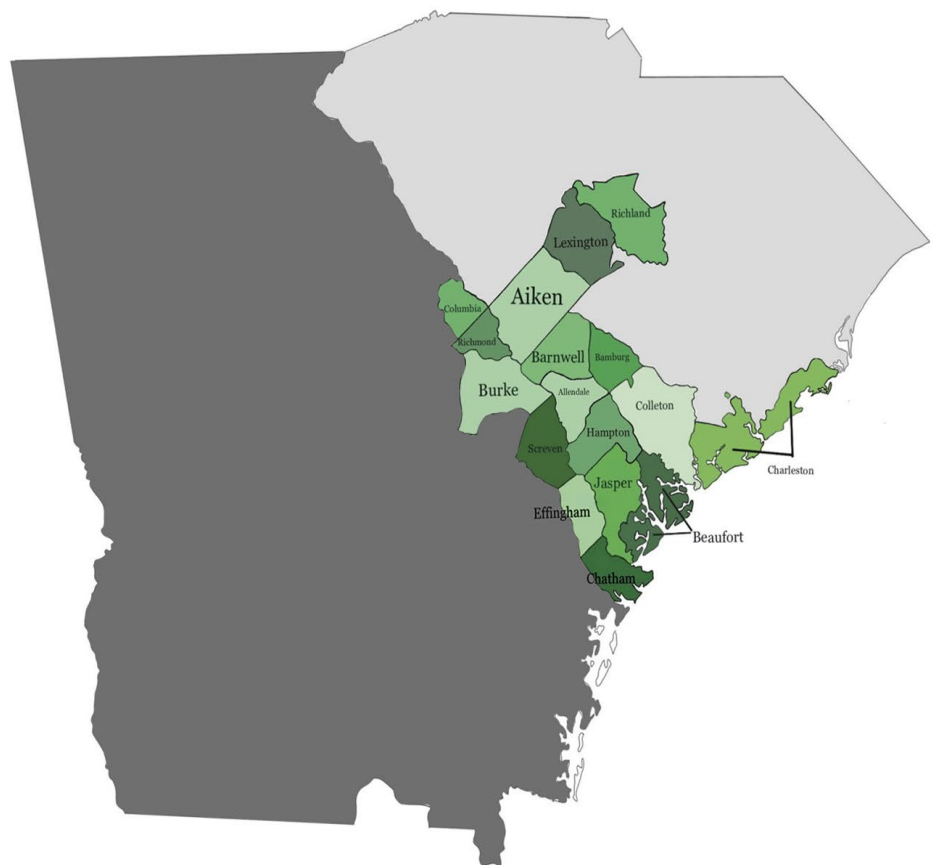
# Where Do CAB Members Live?

**Do you live  
in an area  
affected by  
clean-up  
activities  
at SRS?**



**Would you be  
interested in  
learning about  
SRS and working  
as a team to help  
inform local  
communities?**

## CAB Eligible Counties



**Contact Us Today**  
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OR  
800-249-3121