



**Savannah River Site** Citizens Advisory Board

**2026**  
**ANNUAL WORK PLAN**



## INTRODUCTION

We, the 10 members of the Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board (CAB), are pleased with having developed this 2026 Work Plan to help us keep focused during the year as we provide informed and timely recommendations at the request of the United States Department of Energy, through the Savannah River Operations Office.

Our recommendations fall in the areas of environmental restoration, waste management, and related activities. Each January, the Department of Energy-Savannah River presents a list of planned and ongoing activities at the Savannah River Site that assists us in identifying issues and topics that are of particular interest to the CAB and will be considered as a request for public advice during the current calendar year. From this list, we developed the 2026 Work Plan as a tool to help us target appropriate topics in these program areas:

- Facilities Disposition and Site Remediation
- Long-Term Missions and Budget
- Nuclear Materials
- Waste Management

The CAB activities for 2026 are structured to focus on the topics identified in this Work Plan.

We invite members of the public to meet with us at our scheduled meetings and assist us as we review the topics in our Work Plan.

## Facilities Disposition and Site Remediation Subcommittee

The Facilities Disposition and Site Remediation Subcommittee addresses the remediation of contaminated soil, groundwater, and surface water. The Facilities Disposition and Site Remediation Subcommittee deals with issues related to the Federal Facility Agreement, risk management/assessment, the regulatory process, and other cross-cutting issues pertaining to environmental restoration. The Facilities Disposition and Site Remediation Subcommittee also follows deactivation and decommissioning actions taken to reduce risk and costs following shutdown of excess industrial, radioactive, and nuclear facilities. Topics under consideration for the Facilities Disposition and Site Remediation Subcommittee in 2026 include:

<b>Topic 1</b>	<b>Work Plan Item:</b>	<b>SRS Use of Drones in the Clean Up Program</b>
	Description:	<p>SRS is always looking for ways to improve efficiency in our programs, and one way we are doing that is by increasing the use of drones during inspections. Drones have already proven to be valuable for capturing aerial images and assessing areas that are difficult or hazardous for human personnel to access. However, there are several other autonomous or unmanned technologies that could be leveraged to further optimize our clean-up program.</p> <p>Provide a recommendation on other ways besides inspections in which SRS could use autonomous or unmanned technologies to optimize the clean-up program.</p>
	Recommendation Deadline:	
<b>Topic 2</b>	<b>Work Plan Item:</b>	<b>Artificial Intelligence for Contamination Clean-Up</b>
	Description:	<p>SRS would like to optimize how it addresses emerging contaminants, such as PFAS, by exploring the potential of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies. Emerging contaminants present a challenge due to their novel properties and the need for timely and efficient detection, monitoring, and remediation strategies. Artificial intelligence, including machine learning algorithms, predictive analytics, and data mining, can analyze vast amounts of environmental data to identify contamination patterns, predict the spread of contaminants, and optimize remediation approaches.</p> <p>Provide a recommendation on the implementation of artificial intelligence to study its usefulness and capability to address emerging contaminants.</p>
	Recommendation Deadline:	
<b>Topic 3</b>	<b>Work Plan Item:</b>	<b>Effective Application of Tools and Techniques for Accelerated Clean Up</b>
	Description:	<p>SRS utilizes the application of non-time critical (NTC) removal actions as a mechanism for clean up, including remediation and decommissioning, to address long-term environmental challenges. NTC removal actions allow for a structured and systematic approach to remediate contaminated sites and deactivate obsolete facilities, ensuring environmental safety and regulatory compliance. This charge focuses on institutionalizing the effective use of NTC removal actions to enhance their effectiveness and secure consistent funding.</p> <p>Provide a recommendation to institutionalize the effective use of NTC removal actions and increase the probability to secure funding.</p>
	Recommendation Deadline:	

## Long Term Missions and Budget Subcommittee

The Long-Term Missions and Budget subcommittee was established to study strategic issues that are relevant to the Environmental Management clean-up program at the Savannah River Site. This includes performance assessments as well as long-term policy, planning and cross-cutting issues related to other CAB subcommittees. Specific areas of interest are development and deployment of technology, the Department of Energy–Savannah River budget decision-making process, long-term stewardship, future land use, and relevant national environmental policy.

Topic 1	Work Plan Item:	Budget Process and Update
	Description:	The Budget provides Savannah River Site funds to accomplish scope for the year.  From a community perspective, provide a ranking of the site's budget priorities.
	Recommendation Deadline:	March 2026

# Nuclear Materials Subcommittee

The Nuclear Materials Subcommittee was established to study issues that involve nuclear materials (generally uranium and plutonium) that have an impact on present or future Savannah River Site activities. Issues include spent nuclear fuel program activities (foreign and domestic), nuclear materials management, and nuclear materials integration. The Nuclear Materials Subcommittee addresses consolidation, storage, and disposition issues related to legacy materials that were once part of the nuclear weapons production cycle. The Nuclear Materials Subcommittee also studies issues related to the receipt and storage of foreign research reactor spent nuclear fuel. Topics under consideration for the Nuclear Materials Subcommittee in 2026 include:

<b>Topic 1</b>	<b>Work Plan Item:</b>	<b>Legacy TRU Waste Disposition Update</b>
	Description:	<p>The SRS Citizens Advisory Board issued Recommendation 379, requesting DOE to accelerate the disposition of remaining legacy TRU waste to 2027 and provide annual status updates. Although DOE partly accepted this recommendation, acknowledging funding constraints, it committed to keeping the CAB informed of any acceleration opportunities and updating the CAB annually on progress. FY25 progress indicates that EM is on track to complete the legacy TRU waste disposition sooner than 2030.</p> <p>Provide a recommendation on the timeline and communication strategies for the disposition of legacy TRU waste.</p>
	Recommendation Deadline:	Continue to support Recommendation 379.
<b>Topic 2</b>	<b>Work Plan Item:</b>	<b>Completion of F/H Laboratory Deactivation and Initiation of Facility Decommissioning</b>
	Description:	<p>The SRS is on schedule to complete the deactivation project for the F/H Laboratory by FY27. The deactivation of this laboratory is a critical step in the site's overall effort to reduce its environmental footprint, improve safety, and optimize the use of resources.</p> <p>Consider a recommendation on SRS F/H Laboratory deactivation project that supports the Site; 1) to complete deactivation activities in FY27, and 2) to start working with EPA and DESC to develop the end state for the facility to enable the near-term initiation of facility deactivation</p>
	Recommendation Deadline:	May 2026
<b>Topic 3</b>	<b>Work Plan Item:</b>	<b>H-Canyon and L-Basin Spent Nuclear Fuel Programs Update</b>
	Description:	<p>The CAB has provided numerous recommendations on H-Canyon utilization and Spent Nuclear Fuel. Recently, they issued Recommendation 378, requesting the Department of Energy – Savannah River to: (1) identify the criteria for integration between Nuclear Materials and Liquid Waste to ensure successful completion of both organizational missions; (2) provide a joint briefing to the CAB on the identified criteria; and (3) provide the CAB periodic updates on criteria completion and impacts to mission performance. These annual updates would continue to support Recommendation 378 and provide the CAB with the status of progress on SNF processing and the utilization of H-Canyon.</p> <p>Provide a recommendation on the integration criteria between Nuclear Materials and Liquid Waste to ensure successful mission completion.</p>
	Recommendation Deadline:	Continue to support Recommendation 378

Topic 4	<b>Work Plan Item:</b>	<b>Future Disposition Capabilities of Spent Nuclear Fuel Stored at SRS</b>
	Description:	<p>The CAB has provided numerous recommendations in the past on H-Canyon processing of Spent Nuclear Fuel for reuse and/or disposition and the continued viable operation of H-Canyon issued Recommend 378 that requested the Department of Energy – Savannah River perform the following: 1) identify the criteria for integration between Nuclear Materials and Liquid Waste to ensure successful completion of both organizational missions; 2) provide a joint briefing to the CAB on the identified criteria; and 3) provide the CAB periodic updates on criteria completion <b>and impacts to mission performance.</b></p> <p>Provide a recommendation on developing SNF disposition capabilities for materials not compatible with H-Canyon processing, including those remaining or received post-ABD when the Liquid Waste system is unavailable.</p>
	Recommendation Deadline:	July 2026

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## Waste Management Subcommittee

The Waste Management Subcommittee reviews the management, treatment, storage and disposition of radioactive wastes, including transuranic waste, low-level waste, mixed low-level waste and radioactive liquid waste and provides advice and recommendations to the Savannah River Site on these activities. Principal goals of the Waste Management Subcommittee are: to see (1) a trend of reduction in risk to the public, workers, and the environment posed by these wastes, and (2) integrated and comprehensive system approaches used in weighing Savannah River Site waste management and disposition options. Topics under consideration for the Waste Management Subcommittee in 2026 include:

<b>Topic 1</b>	<b>Work Plan Item:</b>	<b>Engaging Stakeholders through Effective Tracking Tools for Enhanced Liquid Waste System Availability</b>
	Description:	<p>Over the past several years, the Liquid Waste (LW) contractor, Savannah River Mission Completion (SRMC), has implemented a series of innovative improvements across the LW mission that have reduced programmatic risk, improved system throughput, and exceeded regulatory commitments. Key advancements include optimizing salt batch chemistry, upgrading filter capacity, maximizing glass production, modernizing tank inspection, and streamlining analytical turnaround. These efficiencies have resulted in significant cost-savings that are being reinvested into the LW program to increase plant availability. With the success of the Climb to 9, a tracking tool to improve SWPF throughput, SRMC is evaluating the next tracking tool to decrease facility downtime and improve operational reliability. The community is invited to provide insight on effective ways to communicate these strategies and their benefits to stakeholders.</p> <p>From a community perspective, make recommendations that identify a beneficial tracking tool and/or graphic for communicating to stakeholders that outlines the strategy to increase LW system availability and how that enhances mission success.</p>
	Recommendation Deadline:	March 2026
<b>Topic 2</b>	<b>Work Plan Item:</b>	<b>Prioritizing Risk Reduction and Cost-Effective Tank Closures in Liquid Waste Management</b>
	Description:	<p>Over the past several years, the Liquid Waste (LW) contractor, Savannah River Mission Completion (SRMC), has implemented a series of innovative improvements that have reduced programmatic risk, improved system throughput, and exceeded regulatory commitments. By optimizing salt batch chemistry, upgrading filter capacity, maximizing glass production, modernizing tank inspection, and streamlining analytical turnaround, SRMC has efficiently reduced risks and increased throughput. The community is encouraged to suggest ways to prioritize near-term risk reduction efforts, such as waste retrieval and processing, while exploring cost-effective methods for operational closure of tanks, including strategic groupings for grouting.</p> <p>From a community perspective, make suggestions on prioritizing near-term risk reduction (waste retrieval and processing) while seeking ways to minimize costs and to increase the probability to secure funding. to complete operational closure of tanks (i.e. groupings of tanks for grouting).</p>
	Recommendation Deadline:	July 2026
<b>Topic 3</b>	<b>Work Plan Item:</b>	<b>Maximizing Resources for Cleanup Completion: Exploring the End-State Contract Model in Liquid Waste</b>

	Description:	<p>Over the past several years, the Liquid Waste (LW) contractor, Savannah River Mission Completion (SRMC), has implemented a series of innovative improvements that have resulted in significant cost-savings and reinvestment into the LW program. As the LW program operates under an end-state contract designed to complete cleanup and conclude operations, every opportunity to maximize available resources and invest only in what is required for mission completion is pursued. External factors can influence available resources, necessitating continued innovation and efficiencies. The community is tasked with exploring the benefits of this end-state contract model and recommending strategies to prioritize resources for cleanup completion, advancing final closure, and avoiding expenditures on enduring infrastructure and long-term sustainment activities.</p> <p>From a community perspective, explore the advantages of an end-state contract model and consider recommendations that prioritize resources towards cleanup completion and items that advance final closure, as opposed to enduring infrastructure, ongoing overhead, and long-term sustainment activities.</p>
	Recommendation Deadline:	September 2026

## Administrative and Outreach Subcommittee

The Administrative and Outreach Subcommittee shall advise the CAB on any question that arises pertaining to the substance or scope of the CAB Internal Processes. The Administrative and Outreach Subcommittee also oversees the election of CAB and Subcommittee Chairs. Additionally, the Administrative and Outreach Subcommittee directs the public outreach efforts of the CAB, provides comments on membership selection to the Savannah River Site, and coordinates the CAB’s speakers bureau. Topics for consideration provided for the Administrative and Outreach Subcommittee for 2026 include:

<b>Topic 1</b>	<b>Work Plan Item:</b>	<b>Assist the Federal Coordinator with the election of CAB Chair, Vice Chair, and Subcommittee Chairs</b>
	Description:	Encourage members to explore leadership opportunities within the CAB.

<b>Topic 2</b>	<b>Work Plan Item:</b>	<b>Community Outreach</b>
	Description:	Develop a strategy to promote the Citizens Advisory Board to the community. Encourage members to identify and attend events to spread awareness about the CAB.

<b>Topic 3</b>	<b>Work Plan Item:</b>	<b>Member Recruitment</b>
	Description:	Develop a strategy to recruit new board members through board member affiliate organizations.