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Update on the Environmental Management National Laboratory

Dr. Terry Michalske Laboratory Director

CAB Strategic and Legacy Management Subcommittee June 23, 2014



To Satisfy Strategic and Legacy Management Committee Work Plan by:

 Providing periodic update to CAB on SRNL business status / direction in response to recommendation 316



Celebrating Ten Years as a National Lab









Savannah River National Laboratory ~

What is a National Lab?

- Single purpose facilities
- Smaller staff size
- Budget range of \$30 million and up











What is a National Lab?

- Multi-program "MegaLabs"
- Annual budgets \$1 billion and up
- Regional economic engines





Proudly Operated by Battelle Since 1965











Savannah River National Laboratory

SRNL: A Multi-Program Lab Supporting National Needs

The value of SRNL is measured every day by the investments of its federal clients and private sector partners.



Office of Environmental Management



Renewable Energy







Nuclear Energy





SRNL at a Glance

- ~ 825 Staff
- ~ \$214M (FY13 work performed)
- ~ 300 Discrete Work Activities
- Multi-Program Laboratory
 - >65% of funding from non-SRS customers

Environmental

Core Nuclear Capabilities

- Environmental Remediation and Risk Reduction
- Nuclear Materials Processing and Disposition
- Nuclear Detection, Characterization and Assessments
- Gas Processing, Storage and Transfer Systems



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Safest National Laboratory



Some of Our Facilities

Main Campus







Aiken County's Savannah River **Research Campus**

Aiken County Technology Laboratory

Savannah River National Laboratory 🗠 BY SAVANNAH RIVER NUCLEAR SOLUTIONS

Unique Facilities for Managing Radioactive Materials



Intermediate-Level Cells



Gloveboxes



Shielded Cells



Radiological Hoods



Variety of Facilities for Non-Radioactive Work





Biotechnology Laboratories



Nonradioactive Laboratories



Atmospheric Technologies Center

Engineering Development Laboratory



Glass Development Laboratory



High Pressure Laboratory



Hydrogen Laboratories



Ultra-clean Room

Underground Low-level Counting Facility

SRNL is Critical to DOE Success and has a Worldwide Reputation



Strategic partner at other DOE Sites



Over \$5 billion in projected savings in past five years



Fukushima support



Technical underpinning for SRS missions



In National Security, Our Reach Extends Far Beyond SRS



Port Security



Tritium Expertise







Nuclear Security – Mobile Plutonium Facility



SRNL is Essential to U.S. Nuclear Security Objectives



Savannah River National Laboratory

SRNL Contributes to Regional Clean Energy Initiatives







Safe Nuclear Fuel















SRNL Innovation Can Be an Economic Engine for Region



Hybrid Microwave System

SoundAnchor™



Medical Isotope Production



GrayQb™



SRNL Can Help Drive South Carolina Economic Growth

SRNL is a Catalyst for Future growth

- National and global outreach
- Innovations that drive new opportunities
- Strong partnerships with regional economic development and universities



SRNL Technical Innovations Drive Program Success

Phased Remediation of Contaminated Soils:

- SRNL determined soil washing inadequate to clean shallow soils and sediments contaminated with depleted uranium at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Site 300
- SRNL recommended alternative phased remediation approach that included radiological surface survey, strategic excavation, and off-site disposal of highly contaminated material.

Benefit: This strategy saved \$40 million and reduced impacts to sensitive ecological habitats.





Remediation of Contaminated Groundwater:

SRNL identified efficiencies in characterization and remediation of industrial solvent contamination and associated large groundwater plume in complex geohydrologic setting at Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant, including

- improvements to source zone thermal treatment
- phased remediation to allow changes in strategy where performance is inefficient or ineffective.

Benefit: Cost savings are projected at \$18 million with additional savings in the future resulting from natural attenuation science support.



SRNL Technical Innovations Drive Program Success

Improved High-level Waste Loading:

SRNL has increased waste loading of the Defense Waste Processing Facility glass high-level waste form by approximately 25% through employment of a tailored approach to frit composition.

Benefit: The improvement in waste loading has permanently reduced the number of canisters needed to contain vitrified high-level waste by 25%. Total reduction of approximately 1400 canisters over the life of DWPF.

Specialized Grout for Tank Closure:

SRNL developed an all-in-one improved zero-bleed, flowable grout/ concrete, enabling the 2012 closure of the second pair of waste tanks in the DOE Complex.

Benefit: Largest risk reduction in the state of South Carolina since 1997, when Tanks 17 and 20 were operationally closed using 3 different grouts also developed by SRNL.



SRNL Technical Innovations Drive Program Success

Deep Groundwater Plume Contaminated with Metals Impinging the Los Alamos National Laboratory Site Boundary: SRNL identified technical strategies including treatment and hydraulic control options that provide pathways to address contamination and avoid implementation of costly pump-and-treat remedial strategy at the site boundary.

Benefit: Potential cost saving (>\$10M) associated with elimination of large, marginally-effective treatment system at site boundary

A Better Treatment Option for Mercury Removal from Water: SRNL innovated a chemical reduction and air stripping technology to remove mercury from water and supported full-scale deployment of a 500 gpm treatment system.

Benefits: The operating treatment removes >95% of the mercury and meets emerging-stringent "part-per-trillion" water quality standards. The full-scale process protects the downstream ecosystem, has saved over \$1.5 million in capital costs, and reduced operating and maintenance costs. Nationally the new technology will often be simpler and less expensive than traditional treatment processes.









SRNL is Demonstrating Leadership Worthy of a National Lab

- Expanded visibility at DOE-HQ via Laboratory Policy Council
- SRNL Liaison now established at Environmental Management Headquarters
- Leading vessel testing program for Hanford Waste Treatment Plant
- Leading tank vapor review at request of DOE-Office of River Protection
- Leadership role for WIPP Technical Assistance Team
- Assuming management of national Historically Black Colleges and Universities / Minority Serving Institution program at EM's request
- Providing world-class gas processing and storage competency; coordinating strategic activities for NNSA for Tritium and Gas Transfer systems



- Expanded Environmental Management business role, both in DOE complex and via international opportunities
- Innovative approaches for nuclear materials management
- Application of existing core competencies to targeted clean energy business opportunities (i.e., natural gas)
- Expanded support to national security customer base

