



ARRA *at* SRR

DECEMBER
2010

Year In Review

ARRA 2010 Funding Fueled SRR Accomplishments



At the Savannah River Site (SRS), accelerating high-level nuclear waste processing and moving more underground liquid waste storage tanks toward closure were the major accomplishments resulting from American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding in 2010.

Seven million dollars of Recovery Act funding fueled installation of bubbler technology at the Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF), the nation's largest nuclear waste processing facility. DWPF's average annual waste canister production will increase from 215 to 325 with installation of the bubblers which inject argon gas into a superheated glass and waste mixture resulting in an increased production of canisters. When all process enhancements are in place, average annual canister production is expected to increase to 400. The increased annual production rate will enable Savannah River Remediation (SRR) LLC to meet its contract commitment of closing 22 tanks in eight years.



In September, staffers from DOE-SR and SRR management provided Thomas Johnson Jr. with a special tour highlighting Savannah River Site projects funded with American Recovery & Reinvestment Act dollars. Johnson, (2nd from left) is the DOE Acting Director, Environmental Management Recovery Act Program. The tour included an overview of SRR-ARRA projects including the Melter-Bubbler mockup at 717 F, Tank 50 Return to Service and Tanks 18 & 19 Closure Project. Also pictured from left are: Jim Folk, Johnson, Rod Rimando, Brandon Hodges, Jewell Lee, Mark Schmitz (SRR-ARRA Program Manager); Jean Ridley, John Lopez and John Lindsay.

(Photo by Timothy Cox)

Due in large part to Recovery Act funding, more underground waste storage tanks are in the tank closure process at SRS than at any time in the site's history. ARRA funding has supported the development and deployment of robot devices to sample the composition of tank waste. Two tanks are nearing operational closure and, following regulatory approval, will be ready for grouting and final closure in 2012. Four other tanks, also with Recovery Act support, are following closely behind in the operational closure process.

Significant improvements to aging SRS liquid waste operations infrastructure—some of which is more than five decades old—have also been beneficiaries of RA funding. Upgrades to infrastructure will avoid delays due to equipment failure and avoid disruptions to scheduled waste processing. Enhancements to electrical systems, added protective pipe shielding and construction of waste transfer facilities will prepare SRS liquid waste operations for integration with the Salt Waste Disposition Facility (SWPF) now under construction and slated to be operational in 2014.

SRR was allocated \$200 million of ARRA funding in September 2009. Peak employment reached more than 600 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions either created or retained with Recovery Act funding.



In October, representatives from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control joined the SRR management team while reviewing ongoing construction activities involving the building of a Waste Concentrate Hold Tank (WCHT) at the Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP) site in H Area. SRR Control Account Manager, Dick Whitehurst, said construction of the WCHT should be completed and the holding tank placed onto its permanent foundation by the end of February 2011. The WCHT is an integral part of returning Tank 50 to general waste service. Pictured in first row from left: Dick Whitehurst, Jean Ridley, Barry Mullinax, Bridget Clarke, Crystal Rippy and Byron Amick. Second Row: Ron Campbell, Randy Wilkerson, Ted Millings, Keith Harp, Joshua Yon, Mark Schmitz, Bill Van-Pelt and Owen Stevens.

(Photo by Timothy Cox)

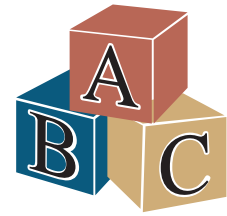


The ARRA Team:

The SRR ARRA workforce: 269 FTEs as of Dec. 1, 2010.

For more information, contact the SRR-ARRA Public Affairs Department:
John Lindsay at 208-6253,
Timothy Cox at 208-6073, or
log on to www.srremediation.com.

SRR Workers participate in successful 2010 Toys for Tots campaign



Hundreds of Savannah River Remediation (SRR) employees participated in the 20th annual SRS Toys for Tots campaign on Thursday, Dec. 9 at Central Shops.

The SRS Toys for Tots event is considered the largest campaign of its kind in the Central Savannah River Area (CSRA). James Delaney, SRR Construction Manager, was particularly satisfied with his department's participation this year. "Anytime you can help children during the holidays, it's gratifying. We anticipate being a part of this successful event every year," he said. Toy collections were held at various SRR work sites including DWPF, HTF, FTF,

Saltstone and at 766-H administrative offices. Several labor union employees working on SRR Recovery Act projects helped load toys onto trucks prior to an H Area kick-off parade which preceded the formal program at Central Shops which was assisted by Santa Claus, U.S. Marines Reservists and Salvation Army officers. Dan Armstrong, SRNS Project Management/Construction Services, along with Sheri Still, SRS Toys for Tots chairperson, were both enthused about this year's campaign. Armstrong said 2010 toy collections totaled more than 12,000. The event is sponsored by SRS construction employees along with SRR, Department of Energy-Savannah River, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, WSI-SRS Team, Parsons, Shaw Areva Mox Services, The Augusta Building and Construction Trade Council, Tyler Brothers Construction and Stone Ridge Construction.

Safety at SRR

Outstanding Job on Behavior Based Safety Observations

By Jim French, SRR President Project Manager

I want to commend the SRR workforce for the excellent job you did conducting Behavior Based Safety Observations (BBS) in November. An SRR record of 696 BBS observations was set last month, which beats the previous record by more than 150.

It's one thing to simply increase observations, but the data tells me the observations conducted were of high quality. You identified the behaviors you saw and took time to discuss what you had observed, just as the process was designed. Observations are important because it gets us to talk about our behaviors. The observations help us focus on reinforcing safe behaviors and encourage the identification of at-risk behaviors. It tells me that we are involved and care about the safety of each other.

The last two months of the year are when we see a decline in observations due to vacations and holidays, but you reversed that trend in a big way. Please continue to stay focused during this hectic time of the year and keep the trend going.

I want to thank each of the observers, as well as those who agreed to be observed. You each made a difference in helping us to potentially eliminate injuries.

Observations are one of the key indicators of the safety pulse of the workforce. There is no question that SRR has a world-class culture based on the care you demonstrate for each other through the BBS process. Keep up the good work and continue to "Do the Right Thing."

*Wishing You a Safe
Holiday Season*



I would like to wish every one of you a very merry and safe holiday season. Take advantage of your time off from work to relax and enjoy your family and friends. It is a great time to re-energize and get ready for the upcoming new year.

I encourage you to take vacation, if you have it available and if your team work schedule supports it. It has been a very busy year for SRR and, as a team, we have accomplished a lot. In every area of our organization, you can be proud of your success this year.

If you are traveling during the holidays, be safe in your journeys and please obey all of the laws. This is a hectic time of year and others may be preoccupied, so be very careful. Your safety and your safe return to work after the holidays are paramount to your family and me.

I look forward to seeing you in 2011 for another productive year.

Happy Holidays!

Jim French
SRR President and Project Manager