

# SRR set to take over waste

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Today marks the beginning of a new era at the Department of Energy's Savannah River Site as a new liquid waste contractor is in place.

As of midnight Savannah River Remediation became the new contractor in charge of the 36 million gallons of high level liquid waste at SRS.

The new liquid waste contract is a cost-plus-award-fee contract valued at approximately \$3.3 billion over the entire contract, consisting of a base period of six years, plus an option to extend for up to two additional years. The six-year base period of the contract is today through June 30, 2015.

Speaking Tuesday, SRR President Jim French said the goal of the contract period is tank closure.

"We have a target, the closure of 22 high-level waste tanks 85 feet across, 42 deep full of radioactive material today," French said.

DOE awarded SRR the liquid waste contract on Dec. 8. A three-month transition period began on March 30.

At 12:01 a.m. today, SRR took over as the new liquid waste contractor, replacing Washington Savannah River Company, who operated the Site's radioactive liquid waste program at SRS for nearly two decades.

"We have assembled a team of partners who are experts in the nuclear industry when it comes to maximizing output and closing tanks," French said. "Most importantly, we have a workforce that has proven experience in liquid waste operations and safe performance. I look forward to leading this team and helping to position SRS for the future."

A document signing ceremony was held Tuesday signifying the liquid waste contract exchange from WSRC to SRR. All liquid waste employees gathered to witness the signing.

Both incoming and outgoing contractors are owned by the same parent company – URS Corp. French believes that the transfer has been aided by this continuity.

"We enjoyed the fact that the management staff are incumbent members in the team," he said.

"Washington Savannah River Company has moved away from the Site now. It was a smoother transition and, I believe, less stressful for the workforce."

"Today a new era begins at SRS as Savannah River Remediation takes the liquid waste operations helm. It is the hard work, skill and commitment of the Site's federal oversight and contractor workforce that brings us to this successful juncture," said Jeff Allison, SRS DOE manager. "We are confident that SRR is committed to the Department of Energy's No. 1 risk reduction priority ... the safe and aggressive closure of SRS waste tanks. I look forward to working with SRR to continue delivering real progress and results that establish SRS as the benchmark of success in the DOE liquid waste community."

"As we move forward together to achieve our critical cleanup responsibilities, our primary objectives will be an unwavering pledge to safety, protection of our employees, the public and the environment and good stewardship of federal resources," he concluded.

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