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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## SRS Contractor Committed to Recycling and Conservation

AIKEN, S.C. February 6, 2017 - Savannah River Nuclear Solutions' (SRNS) recycling and waste minimization programs, run by multiple departments across the Savannah River Site, proved its commitment to protecting the environment and reducing waste in FY15 and FY16.

“The Department of Energy sets ever increasing goals for our recycling and waste minimization numbers, and we take pride in reaching, and sometime exceeding, those goals, said Kim Cauthen, Program Management and Integration, Environmental Compliance and Area Completion Projects. “The Site is made up of many different contractors and departments, all with their specific waste needs and issues. It is imperative that we work together to ensure that we are doing all we can to protect our environment.”



*Site Services Site Trucking and Waste Operations personnel Mike Wiggins and Mike Owen collect failed Diesel Fuel for Recycle Oil going to Energy Recovery.*

Some of the managing and operating contractor's accomplishments from FY15 include:

- Recycling 50,000 burned out light bulbs and fluorescent lights
- Recycling 35,000 pounds of automotive batteries
- Recycling over 24,000 pounds of used tires
- Sending 11,600 gallons of used oil to an electric utility for energy recovery
- Continuing to lead the DOE complex in E85 alternate vehicle fuel usage

Additionally, SRNS saved an estimated \$427,900 in FY16 through shredding and recycling used paper through a contract with an offsite vendor.

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“Unlike many cities, SRNS sends their waste to the onsite waste management facility in a single waste stream. That stream is then sent to North Augusta for sorting and recycling,” Cauthen said. “In FY16, 685 metric tons of trash were sent to the landfill, while 695 metric tons were diverted to recycling. That is a 50.4 percent recycle rate.”

Not all waste at SRS is produced through normal household or office streams, however. Waste is also produced at the nuclear facilities on Site. Each year, these facilities are given waste minimization and pollution prevention goals to help limit their waste, as well.

“Each facility thinks of unique ways every year to meet their goals,” said Betsy Westover of Solid Waste Engineering. “Some examples include recycling nitric acid during material processing in H Canyon, substituting harmful chemicals for those less harmful to the environment, and reducing the level of personal protective equipment needed in certain areas.”

SRNS has also taken steps toward a reduction in energy use. For example, when a facility on Site needs a new roof, they have been replaced with new energy efficient roofs that help keep the building cooler in the summer. There is also a biomass plant on Site that uses wood chips and recycled tires to create steam for use in heating and operating certain facilities.

“We are committed to doing our part to reduce waste, recycle and conserve the environment,” said Cauthen. “Most employees spend more time here than they do at home and generate as much or more waste as they would at home. We treat ourselves as a four star municipality in terms of how we treat the environment.”

*Savannah River Nuclear Solutions is a Fluor-led company whose members are Fluor Federal Services, Newport News Nuclear and Honeywell, responsible for the management and operations of the Department of Energy's Savannah River Site, including the Savannah River National Laboratory, located near Aiken, South Carolina.*

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