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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## SRNS Receives Workforce Innovator Award from S.C. Chamber of Commerce

AIKEN, S.C. (Feb. 9, 2017) – The South Carolina Chamber of Commerce awarded the “Workforce Innovator of the Year” in the large business category to Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS), the U.S. Department of Energy’s managing and operating contractor at the Savannah River Site (SRS).

During its Workforce Symposium on Feb. 8 in Columbia, S.C., the Chamber honored companies for creating unique workforce solutions in today’s dynamic environment. The Workforce Innovator award recognizes the outstanding efforts and achievements in workforce development, teamwork in the design and implementation of training for employees and sharing those strategies with other entities.

“We’ve had to think differently about how we hire and retain employees,” said Stuart MacVean, SRNS President and CEO.

“Approximately 50 percent of our workforce will be eligible for retirement over the next five years. We anticipate hiring between 400 and 500 workers annually to bridge the gap for the next generation of scientists, engineers, radiological control inspectors, maintenance mechanics and production operators, among many others.”

As the nuclear industry experiences major growth in South Carolina, SRNS works with a number of colleges, universities and local organizations to prepare for the future. In 2016, SRNS collaborated with Aiken Technical College (ATC) to develop the curriculum for a new certificate program. Students who graduate from the program, which



*Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS) won the “Workforce Innovator of the Year” award in the large business category from the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce. Accepting the award at the Workforce Symposium on Feb. 8 in Columbia, S.C., were Stuart MacVean, SRNS President and CEO; Carol Barry, SRNS Senior Vice President of Workforce Services and Talent Management; Jessica Hall, Technical Services; and Rick Sprague, Senior Vice President of Technical Services.*

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includes courses on applied chemistry, physics and engineering, could qualify for a career in nuclear operations at SRS or another major nuclear facility in the region.

In addition to outreach efforts in higher education, the company has impacted more than 175,000 K-12 students and teachers through company-sponsored STEM programs (science, technology, engineering and math). SRNS also offers a “mini-grant” program every year to provide grants to CSRA public and private elementary and middle school teachers. To date, SRNS has contributed more than \$500,000 to support educators throughout the CSRA.

The company has also focused on providing competitive employment offers and salaries to attract and retain employees. With 1,311 new full-service employees hired in fiscal years 2014-2016, the average age of the SRNS workforce has dropped from 54 to 49, and there has been a 15 percent decrease in attrition of workers seeking other employment.

Additionally, SRNS offers employees the opportunity to explore areas outside of their chosen field or department through rotational assignments, mentoring circles, leadership workshops and Continuous Improvement initiatives. SRNS also sponsors two organizations that promote professional development and business awareness specific to SRS, providing hundreds of employees with activities centered around career development, networking and community outreach, which directly impacts retention and talent acquisition.

“SRNS is committed to making our company a more compelling place to work,” added MacVean. “We strive to simplify our business processes and have satisfied employees who are not only confident in our strategic direction, but also share ownership in our nation’s important missions, as we all work together to make the world safer.”

*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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SRNS-2017-548