

III. Alignment with the Environmental Management Program

The information in this section reflects the strategic planning effort for the Savannah River EM Program. Specifically included is the EM Mission, which supports the SRS vision, and the following EM Mission components: Waste Disposition, Nuclear Materials Management, Area Completion, and the Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL). The specific mission of each EM component, along with strategies to accomplish that mission and critical results, are addressed. Site Services and Infrastructure, EM landlord functions, are also included.

1. Overall SRS EM Mission & Strategic Approach

SRS EM Mission Statement

Safely and efficiently cleanup the environmental legacy of our nation's nuclear weapons program at the Savannah River Site to protect public health and the environment and transform the Site for the future.

EM Mission

The EM Program provides a responsible resolution to the legacy of nuclear weapons production in order to protect public health and the environment. The EM work at SRS supports missions of national importance and is clearing the way for future DOE missions at SRS. The SRS EM Program is delivering reliable progress, meaningful near-term results, and significant reductions in cost and schedule on the massive challenges of processing and shipping radioactive waste, removing excess nuclear material, decommissioning contaminated facilities, and remediating contaminated soils and

groundwater. While meeting all regulatory agreements, the SRS EM Program places special emphasis on the preservation of human health, safety, and the environment.

SRS is the third largest, and arguably the most complex, of the DOE facilities nationwide (310 square miles, 11,000 employees, \$2 billion annual budget). As a result of its long history as a vital component of the nation's nuclear weapons complex, SRS faces a tremendous legacy of waste, excess nuclear materials, and environmental challenges.

- Over 800 contaminated facilities
- 37 million gallons of radioactive liquid waste in 49 underground tanks (2 tanks already closed)
- Tons of excess enriched uranium and plutonium
- Hundreds of acres of contaminated soils and groundwater
- Massive quantities of hazardous and radioactive solid waste

SRNL is the "corporate laboratory" for the DOE EM Program, supporting DOE cleanup missions nationwide. It anticipates a long future as a leader in new energy technology supporting US energy independence through organizations like the Center for Hydrogen Research. SRNL is expected to continue to grow and develop into a premier applied technology laboratory and long-term asset for our nation.

In recognition of the important missions underway at SRS and long-term value of SRS to our nation, the EM Program Mission addresses the urgent need to resolve the significant threats to public health and the environment posed by the legacy of nuclear weapons production. SRS' unique facilities and capabilities enable it to support consolidation and processing of nuclear materials from other locations (other DOE facilities, as well as other U.S. and foreign sources). This is important for reducing terrorist and proliferation threats, avoiding the additional costs of protecting materials at multiple Sites (security costs and the expense of new facilities), and enabling other facilities to close.