United States Department of Energy

Project Management Excellence Award

Presented to

The Office of Environmental Management's Saltstone Disposal Unit #6 (SDU 6) Project

The SDU 6 project supports the liquid waste program's objective of managing and safely processing radioactive waste at the Savannah River Site. The SDU 6 is the first "Mega Cell" SDU with approximately 32.8 million gallons of storage capacity for radioactive low level waste combined with grout. The SDU 6 design was more than 10 times the size of the previous SDU cells and is projected to generate a lifecycle savings of over $500 million for the SDU program. The SDU 6 cell is a reinforced concrete disposal unit, 375 feet in diameter and 43 feet in height, and constructed with over 13,000 cubic yards of concrete. The cell is pre-stressed vertically and horizontally with 289 miles of 3/8 inch wire cable wrapped in seven layers. The SDU 6 project finished more than $25 million below the $143 million total project cost and 18 months ahead of the original schedule established at Critical Decision (CD)-2. Additionally, the design and processes used, and the lessons learned from SDU 6 will facilitate the construction of subsequent "mega cells". The SDU 6 project team is commended for their outstanding accomplishment.

Rick Perry

Rick Perry
Secretary of Energy

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