

PART III – LIST OF DOCUMENTS, EXHIBITS, AND OTHER ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENT J-12

COMMUNITY COMMITMENT PLAN

Battelle Savannah River Alliance, LLC Community Commitment Plan

In response to Clause H.50, DOE-H-2045 Contractor Community Commitment, Battelle Savannah River Alliance, LLC (BSRA) proposes the following Community Commitment Plan (CCP) for the counties and local municipalities surrounding the Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL).

BSRA believes strongly in contributing to the communities in which we serve. Battelle, Longenecker & Associates (L&A), TechSource, Inc. (TechSource), and the five university partners are all deeply committed to public service. Battelle has a strong history of engagement and philanthropy in the communities in which its employees live and work. Further, BSRA is aware of the educational and economic challenges facing many of the communities surrounding the SRNL. The five university partners—Clemson University (Clemson), Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech), South Carolina State University (SCSU), University of Georgia (UGA), and University of South Carolina (UofSC)—bring regional knowledge, experience, and educational prowess to help interpret and address local and regional challenges.

While the existing management contractor for the consolidated Savannah River Site has shown a commitment to the community, the future independent administration of the SRNL will allow BSRA to greatly increase the Laboratory's focus on community activities that directly align with its mission. We anticipate that the passion of the management team, university partners, and the SRNL employees will have a noticeable positive impact on the community.

BSRA is committed to partnering with the community, the Office of Environmental Management (EM), the Office of Science (SC), and the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) across the spectrum of issues to enhance the region. The BSRA CCP focuses primarily on the following areas of engagement with the community: regional educational outreach programs; economic opportunity; and philanthropy, sponsorships, and employee engagement. BSRA will evaluate and assess the CCP at least annually to ensure that our partner investments have the highest impact possible for the counties and local municipalities in the two-state region surrounding the Laboratory.

BSRA will commit an annual investment of \$250,000 from earned fee (i.e., on a fiscal year [FY] basis and prorated for the first year of the operating contract) for contributions to advancing science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education and economic opportunity, supporting charitable organizations, and enabling SRNL staff participation in community service initiatives. These BSRA investments will be coordinated with Department of Energy (DOE)-funded activities in similar topical areas. The goal will be to use BSRA resources in a way that is complementary with federal investments.

To further demonstrate BSRA's commitment to the community, the SRNL Director's Office will provide oversight and management of this CCP. Our proposed Deputy Laboratory Director, Operations, Ms. Sharon Marra, will be directly responsible for managing execution of this plan. She will report on program progress semi-annually and adjust the CCP on an annual basis to reflect the needs of the community, with input from the DOE. To help ensure the effectiveness of this plan, metrics will be used to track the year-over-year performance of key indicators.

Regional Educational Outreach Programs

Education is a foundational component of the BSRA CCP. We believe the best use of our educational engagement will take five forms: Rural STEM Collaborative for Educators, STEM Ambassadors, STEMx™, Educational Program for Veterans, and STEM Scholarships and Mentoring for students of the region. Special attention will be given to educational outreach efforts that reach underserved communities.

The educational investments described below are designed to be complementary and directly supportive of the workforce development initiative described in BSRA's Vision for the Laboratory (as described in Volume II of this proposal). That initiative seeks to recruit and prepare the wide spectrum of talent needed to fulfill the Laboratory's mission and is tied to the expertise of Clemson, Georgia Tech, SCSU, UGA, and UofSC. Our educational investments will serve, in many cases, as feeder programs into that comprehensive workforce development initiative.

Rural STEM Collaborative for Educators: BSRA will develop a Rural STEM Collaborative as a year-long cohort of educators from across the five-county region. The goal is to ensure all students have access to high-quality STEM learning opportunities by exposing them to 21st century skills and local STEM career pathways. The program will be designed to deepen knowledge in STEM educational issues and exercise educator voices to bring positive change within the community. The collaborative also identifies assets within the community that can support high-quality STEM and work-based learning while expanding educators' spheres of influence within their respective schools, districts, and region. The collaborative provides professional development for educators that will build confidence and a foundation for implementing effective STEM teaching strategies.

The Rural STEM Collaborative program is designed to mirror the engineering design process. Participants will begin with a kick-off event that is designed to build a sense of community across the state, deliver targeted professional learning concepts, and collaborate on solutions around the three areas of focus for cohort members' STEM initiatives. Cohort members will submit a proposed solution to an identified STEM gap that is tailored to their rural community and receive feedback from program leads on their STEM project plan. Cohort members will implement their STEM project plan within their school or community, with technical assistance from program leads, making adjustments as needed. To build influential leadership skills, cohort members will develop an initiative showcase presentation for their region to identify what went well, what changes could be made, and how students reacted to the experience. Finally, cohort members will tour STEM schools and local STEM industries within their region to expand their professional network and access to resources.

The SRNL program will begin in FY2021 with at least 25 participants. By the end of FY2025, it is anticipated that more than 50 educators will be participating in the program. Progress of the program will be evaluated by an independent third party. A similar program implemented by Battelle at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) was evaluated by the University of Memphis' Center for Research in Educational Policy. Community members, family members, and students who engaged in STEM initiatives designed by participating teachers will be asked to complete an anonymous, online survey to provide feedback about their experience with the collaborative program. This feedback will be used to improve the program and to align it with the needs of the community.

STEM Ambassadors: The STEM Ambassadors program is an outreach program that will equip SRNL staff with communication tools and resources that empower them to share the science of the Laboratory with students and the broader community. Utilizing hands-on, interactive, table-top displays, scientists will be trained to communicate the work of SRNL in a way that students and community partners can understand and embrace. BSRA will collaborate with the Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness (CNTA) to introduce educational materials that describe the value of nuclear technology as it relates to health, economy, environment, and national security. Student exposure to scientists and the everyday efforts they lead at the Laboratory will reshape what students know about STEM careers. There will be an 8-hour training session to become a STEM Ambassador.

As an example of Battelle's leadership in STEM education, the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) developed the STEM Ambassadors program in FY2018, with 30 STEM Ambassadors in the inaugural effort. Participation in the program tripled by the end of FY2019 due to interest from colleagues across the PNNL. Interest from other Directorates at the Laboratory enabled the program to expand to researchers, technicians, skilled trades, and safety and operations staff. STEM Ambassadors represent the range of STEM career pathways available at national laboratories and are trained to share their passion for science in ways that resonate with different audiences—providing a connection between what students are learning in the classroom with a real-life example of application.

There are currently 107 STEM Ambassadors across seven PNNL Directorates, and every campus of the Laboratory is represented. There are 48 complete displays, with more than 20 displays in development, showcasing research from 15 divisions across the Laboratory.

PNNL has been very purposeful in recruiting STEM Ambassadors with diverse ethnicities, genders, and cultural backgrounds to resonate with a broader community. Ambassador demographics are currently 53% women and 30% persons of color. STEM Ambassadors represent the range of STEM career pathways available at national laboratories and are trained to share their passion for science in ways that resonate with different audiences while providing a connection between what students are learning in the classroom with a real-life example of application.

At SRNL, the STEM Ambassadors program will provide a better understanding of how the Laboratory's work benefits society and integrates SRNL as a trusted and valued part of the community. STEM Ambassadors will be able to volunteer at outreach events in the communities near the Laboratory, enabling some of the work to be demystified and to become a stronger partner in the community. The goal of this SRNL program is to begin with at least 20 STEM Ambassadors in FY2021 and to grow the ranks to more than 50 STEM Ambassadors by the end of FY2025.

STEMx: BSRA will leverage the existing STEMx network, which was developed and is managed by Battelle. STEMx is a multi-state network that provides an accessible platform to share, analyze, and disseminate quality STEM education strategies that transform education, expand the number of STEM teachers, increase student achievement in STEM, and grow tomorrow's innovators. STEMx is already active in the region surrounding SRNL and has a longstanding partnership with Clemson through the South Carolina Coalition for Math and Science and actively supports the coalition's efforts to expand STEM opportunities South Carolina. As the proposed Rural STEM Collaborative and STEM Ambassadors programs are

established, STEMx will incorporate the counties and local municipalities in the two-state region surrounding SRNL into its programming with the coalition. As the region's STEM expertise is expanded, it will be included formally in the coalition's efforts to advance statewide collective impact, providing opportunities for the region's educators to learn and share innovative STEM practices with other educators across the states.

Educational Program for Veterans: The transition from active service to civilian life is a significant challenge for many veterans. BSRA will help with this transition by providing educational and internship opportunities for veterans. A priority will be to help veterans who have held national security posts to enter the workforce at SRNL. Collaboration and coordination with the existing veterans programs at BSRA's five university partners will be a contributing element.

STEM Scholarships and Mentoring: BSRA fully appreciates the financial hardship and barriers posed by the increasing cost of post-secondary education. As part of our community commitment, L&A will establish a *STEM Scholarship Program* for students in the two-state area. The focus of the scholarships will be to aid in the education expenses for first-generation college students at both community college and four-year university levels. Financial assistance will be directly coupled to a mentorship program in which an SRNL staff member will be paired with each scholarship recipient. We strongly feel that by having an engaged scientific or engineering mentor, student outcomes will be greatly enhanced.

Economic Opportunity

The community surrounding SRNL remains keenly focused on supporting economic opportunities in the local economy. While jobs at SRNL are highly desirable, and the Laboratory will continue to invest in workforce training related to opportunities at SRNL, BSRA recognizes that investments and technical assistance to facilitate economic opportunities within and beyond the Laboratory is important to building and sustaining a vibrant local economy.

Regional Development Coordination: The South Carolina Research Authority (SCRA) is a state-chartered, public, nonprofit organization whose mission is to fuel South Carolina's innovation economy. SCRA's "SC Launch" program supports early-stage, technology-based companies through mentoring, grants, and investments, and is one of the best programs of its kind in the country. Since the inception of SC Launch in 2006, SCRA and its investment affiliate, SC Launch, Inc. have funded over \$56M in grants and investments. This has led to follow-on funding from venture capitalists, angel investors, etc. totaling over \$1.1B.

SCRA will work with SRNL management to design a program that will provide ongoing training and support to SRNL staff to identify and develop technologies that can serve as the foundation of startup companies. SCRA will provide comprehensive and ongoing support to these startup companies, including the potential to provide both grant and investment funding. Through SC Launch and its other programs (i.e., SC Academic Innovations, SC Facilities, and SC Ventures), SCRA will identify technologies and capabilities within the state's academic, entrepreneurial, and industrial communities that are complementary to SRNL technologies and which will increase the competitiveness and sustainability of the startup companies. SCRA will facilitate these relationships, including the funding of pilot projects.

Community Cyber Training: The economic future of the region surrounding SRNL will be greatly enhanced with greater access to broad-band connectivity. Educational, healthcare, and telework opportunities rely on access to e-connectivity. BSRA will serve as a catalyst for cybersecurity training and education to individuals, businesses, and city/county government officials that is designed to strengthen and harden community response to cyber threats, thus helping to protect against the devastating economic effects of cyberattacks. This program will build on UGA's CyberArch program. This impactful program provides technical assistance and security audits for local governments and regional commissions and offers training that helps chief information officers and other government employees proactively address vulnerabilities that put at risk their sensitive data and infrastructure.

Philanthropy, Sponsorships, and Employee Engagement

SRNL employees have a long history of giving and volunteering in the community. BSRA believes strongly in engaging with the communities in which we live and serve; therefore, we will continue to emphasize and support this tradition at SRNL.

Employee Giving Campaign: BSRA proposes to organize and encourage employee giving to qualified charities in the service area of South Carolina and Georgia that address educational, social, and behavioral needs of the community. This organizational approach has been used at other Battelle-managed national laboratories, and it helps to encourage employee giving in a coordinated manner thereby increasing the magnitude and impact of each employee's gift. The following charities enjoy the support of SRNL employees:

- United Way
- Golden Harvest Food Bank
- Habitat for Humanity
- Children's Place
- Child Advocacy Center
- Heart Walk (American Heart Association)
- Toys for Tots.

Sponsorships: BSRA will allocate funds to "sponsorships" of local, nonprofit events such as clothing drives, school backpack campaigns, chamber breakfasts, YMCA events, Big Brothers/Sisters, etc. The central theme for these sponsorships will be to support the educational and economic challenges facing many of the communities surrounding SRNL. Attention will be given to outreach efforts that reach underserved communities.

Team SRNL: SRNL employees have a long history of supporting community activities. They serve on community boards, support charities with their time and money, and champion many community causes. *Team SRNL* will be formed and branded to help SRNL support these efforts. This "team" concept has been successfully implemented at other Battelle-managed national laboratories, including PNNL and ORNL. At PNNL, employees have volunteered over 500,000 hours since the program began in 1999.

The *Team SRNL* volunteer program will provide a way for SRNL staff to join together in giving time to vital community programs. Projects range from building homes for Habitat for Humanity and supplying Coats for Kids to leading local robotics and math clubs, which

instill a passion for science in local students. The STEM Ambassadors program will be one of the most visible *Team SRNL* programs.

In addition, self-organized groups of employees will receive support and promotion from BSRA under the *Team SRNL* concept. By providing a supportive environment for staff-initiated philanthropic activities, participation will increase, and the image and standing of SRNL in the community will be enhanced.

Finally, the experience, talent, and passion of the BSRA leadership team will be used to help further local community causes and efforts. For example, SRNL executives will serve of the boards of the following community organizations:

- SCRA
- Columbia County Chamber of Commerce
- Aiken Chamber of Commerce
- CNTA
- Savannah River Site Heritage Museum & Foundation
- Aiken County Habitat for Humanity
- UofSC Aiken Engineering Advisory Board.