



Updated May 2022

# By the Numbers Savannah River Site

The Savannah River Site was constructed in the 1950s to produce the basic materials necessary in the fabrication of nuclear weapons, primarily tritium and plutonium-239. Five reactors were also built in an effort to produce these materials for our nation's defense programs. In 1951, the Savannah River Laboratory was created to support these efforts.

## 22.7M

**gallons of material**, including decontaminated salt solution, transferred to the Saltstone Production Facility, resulting in more than 31 million gallons of saltstone produced.

## 1/3

**of the U.S. weapons grade plutonium** was produced at Savannah River Plant from 1953 to 1988.

## >4,300

**canisters of glassified radioactive waste** produced at the Defense Waste Processing Facility since it began operations in 1996.

## 341 miles

**of pre-tensioned wire strand was used to wrap the wall of SDU 8.** The tank's wall was designed to expand outward as the Saltstone Disposal Units are filled, and the wire strand ensures the structural integrity of the tank wall is maintained while waste is being added.



## 2 of 5

**reactors deactivated and decommissioned (P and R).** Two of the remaining SRS nonoperational reactors (L and K) have been retrofitted to allow for nuclear material storage. The third non-operational reactor (C) is used for training.



## >3,300

**Spent Nuclear Fuel Bundles** are stored in L Basin, which provides safe underwater storage of SNF from Foreign and Domestic Research Reactor programs.

## 8 waste tanks

have been operationally **closed to date.**

## 20 years

**The Accelerated Basin De-inventory (ABD) project will reduce the time needed to de-inventory SRS's L Area Disassembly Basin of spent nuclear fuel (SNF) by 20 years.**

ABD will use the H Canyon chemical separations facility to dissolve SNF and then, instead of processing it further into low enriched uranium, send it through SRS's liquid waste program to be vitrified and safely stored onsite until a federal repository is identified. ABD also represents a lifecycle cost reduction of more than \$4B.

## By 2028

**the Surplus Plutonium Disposition project** in K Area will have expanded the capacity to dilute surplus plutonium oxide. Following waste characterization activities, the diluted plutonium will be packaged for shipment to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) for geological repository disposal.

## 374

**out of 460 cubic meters of legacy transuranic waste remains.** All remaining SRS legacy transuranic waste will be disposed of at WIPP. The solid waste program continues to characterize, store and disposition all newly site-generated wastes in compliance with applicable regulations and requirements.



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