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For Immediate Release

Small Business Awarded Recovery Act Contract to Close Ash Basin

SRNS Commitment to Small Business Facilitates Recovery Act Project

AIKEN, S.C. – Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS) has awarded Grade South, a small business in Beech Island, a contract for \$6.3 million to provide closure of the Savannah River Site's (SRS') P-Area Ash Basin and a nearby outfall. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act contract adds to the more than \$155 million in contracts SRNS has already directed to area businesses.

"SRS continues to direct procurement opportunities to local small businesses, a commitment that is putting Americans across the Central Savannah River Area to work," said Greg Ryan, SRNS procurement manager of the Recovery Act Portfolio. "The Recovery Act program at SRS has provided a real opportunity for smaller businesses to provide the Site with skills and expertise that are unique to small specialty contractors."

The ash basin is an unlined, earthen containment basin that received coal ash for 40 years, from 1951-1991, from the operation of a coal-fired powerhouse used to generate steam and electricity in P Area. Located to the north of the ash basin, the outfall received process line discharge originating from the P-Reactor Disassembly Basin, which water-cooled irradiated nuclear material targets and spent nuclear fuel while providing a radiological shield to workers at the facility.

Scott Stephens, Grade South president and chief executive officer, plans to put 24 union employees to work on the project in roles including laborers, a carpenter, a cement mason, operators and teamsters.

"The project will have different phases," Stephens explained. "It will vary the whole time, and as the project progresses, we will fill the staffing needs."

Stephens and his crew will place stockpiled material into the 25-acre basin by layers 10-12 feet deep, compact each layer, provide an earthen cap consisting of four inches of soil. When finished, the basin will be covered with sod and have a domed shape to facilitate runoff. Grade South will also remove

contaminated soil from the 5-acre outfall and replace it with soil and sod. It, too, will have a domed shape.

Stephens expects to mobilize in December and continue work until July 2011.

Additional information on the Department of Energy's Office of Environmental Management and the Savannah River Site can be found at <http://www.em.doe.gov> or <http://www.srs.gov>. For more information about the SRS Recovery Act Project, visit www.srs.gov/recovery.

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