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## Update from our Executive Director

CNTA has had a busy start to 2023! We are actively getting back to our in-person activities including our education outreach programs. We have already visited 9 schools and have a few more scheduled before the end of the school year. We participated in the Earth Day Aiken event and Dreams Imagination Gifted (DIG) STEM event in Williston. CNTA sponsored the Best Use of Nuclear Technology Award at the Future City competition and chose Kennedy Middle School as the winner for their use of a molten salt reactor in their city.

We conducted a Lifelong Learning class at USC Aiken on the current energy climate and how nuclear is key to guaranteeing energy security and meeting our clean energy goals. Thanks to CNTA Board Members Steve Sheetz for teaching a class on advanced reactor technologies under development and Joel Leopard for providing an overview of the exciting happenings at Plant Vogtle.

We received a record number of great essays from area students and selected 10 winners with monetary awards ranging from \$500 to \$1000. The students represented 9 different schools! We also awarded five \$500 grants to area educators for innovative instruction in their classrooms.

As I write this note, we are actively planning the annual golf tournament. This is our major fundraiser and we always appreciate the support of our members as players, volunteers, and donors of the great raffle prizes. I will again be out there for the "Beat the Executive Director" Challenge on the 8<sup>th</sup> hole of the Dogwood nine. Note, I just had an excellent 2-year checkup on my repaired hip so watch out!

As always, if you have any suggestions or would like to chat, please feel free to contact us or stop by.

Jim

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## Mission of CNTA

*Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness, Inc.*, is an education and advocacy group promoting the safe and effective use of nuclear power, nuclear research and nuclear medicine.

We provide education, networking, and a voice of understanding from a technical perspective in a world often influenced by **inaccurate and unwarranted fear**.

CNTA membership encompasses individuals, families, and businesses who support the use of nuclear science and technology for many applications, including: energy, national security, nuclear medicine and diagnostics, and industrial applications.

## Education Committee Updates

### Lifelong Learning Class at USC Aiken

Aiken's Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness (CNTA) recently taught a class at the University of South Carolina Aiken Center for Lifelong Learning to give participants an overview of the world's current energy climate and the need for nuclear energy as a solution.

"CNTA was excited to again participate in the Lifelong Learning program," said CNTA Executive Director Dr. Jim Marra. "The class was full of eager learners, and we had a lot of good discussion during the three-day session."

Titled "Energy Supply and the Promise of Nuclear," the course was led by Marra, CNTA Board of Directors Chair Steve Sheetz, and CNTA Board of Directors Member Joel Leopard. The classes provided an overview of the challenges pertaining to energy supply, security, and impact on the environment.

Approximately 25 people attended this three-day course for an hour each day. The first day featured Marra, a retiree from the Savannah River National Laboratory and a frequent subject matter expert for the United Nations International Atomic Energy Agency. Marra introduced energy issues and the need for alternative and cleaner energy sources as well as near- and long-term alternatives. Sheetz, who works for TechSource, Inc. to provide consultation on SRS missions, provided an overview of the current energy climate and the ways that advanced nuclear energy is answering the charge. The final session was led by Leopard, who serves as a Communications Coordinator for Southern Nuclear. He provided an overview of the process leading to deployment of Plant Vogtle's Units 3 & 4 in 2023.

"The class was excellent, and I would like to give a shout out to the speaker from Southern Nuclear. He gave a simple explanation on how nuclear reactors work and provided an overview of the exciting events at Plant Vogtle with the soon start-up of Units 3 and 4," said one attendee.

CNTA is proud to support the Center for Lifelong Learning and its mission to provide continuing education opportunities for adults in the CSRA. CNTA teaches one class each spring. Presentations and other resources from the class can be found here: <https://cntaware.org/lifelong-learning-resources/>



### Future City Competition

CNTA was a sponsor of the 2023 South Carolina Regional Future City Competition.

Held in January, CNTA judges reviewed the schools cities and essays and awarded Kennedy Middle School the special award for "Best Use of Nuclear" in their city "Vinyl City".



## Advocacy/ Public Outreach Activities

The Communications committee has written and published eight news releases so far in 2023, which have been published over a dozen times in different outlets. The committee is starting to gear up for the Fall Nuclear Science Week Insert partnership with *The Aiken Standard* soon! If you have interest in helping the committee with this great outreach and advocacy project, please let us know!

**HELP CNTA & HELP THE COMMUNITY**

Support local business by purchasing items or gift cards & donate them to CNTA!  
 Donations can also be made at:  
<https://cntaware.org/about-us/>  
 & CNTA will purchase gift cards from local businesses.  
 Contact Allison ([office@cntaware.org](mailto:office@cntaware.org)) for details

\*All donors received by September 1, 2023 will be entered into a drawing for two tickets to the Fall Low Country Boil on October 7, 2023!



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### The Community Gift Card program is back for 2023!

This program provides raffle prizes for CNTA raffles and supports local businesses. Individuals can donate cash, gift cards, or raffle prizes purchased from local businesses and be entered to win two tickets to the fall Oyster Roast!

**Since 2020 this program has raised over \$5,000!**

The communications committee is also busy working on CNTA's social media presence, the [CNTAaware.org](https://cntaware.org) website, and updating CNTA's promotional items and flyers.

CNTA members have been busy in area schools and at STEM Events this spring!

#### A few of our 2023 activities include:

- Williston-Elko High School Career Day
  - Mead Hall Teach-In
- Millbrook Elementary Career Day,
- Jefferson Elementary Career Day,
- Leavelle McCampbell Middle School Leadership Expo,
- Aiken Scholars Academy Teach-In
  - Earth Day Aiken
- May 6th- DIG STEM Festival in Williston



## 2023 Essay Contest Winners Announced

The winners of the 17th annual writing contest are:

### \$1,000 Winner

- Kaeleigh Seigler, Aiken Scholars Academy, for “Nuclear Technology in Medicine”

### \$750 Winners

- Alya Akhtar, Lakeside High School, for “Nuclear Technology Revolutionizing Today and Tomorrow’s Medicine”
- Monica Burns, Richmond County Technical Career Magnet School, for “Nuclear Technology in the Medical Industry”

### \$500 Winners

- Blaise Bell, Richmond County Technical Career Magnet School, for “How Nuclear Technology has improved the Medical Field”
- Paige Dayton, South Carolina Governor’s School, for “Nuclear Science in Medicine”
- Treshon Hinkins, Lucy C. Laney High School, for “Impact of Nuclear Technology on Medicine”
- John Ledbetter, South Aiken High School, for “Clean Energy Sources and Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions”
- Kaitlyn Redd, Williston Elko High School, for “Nuclear Technology in the Medical Field”
- Maria Reyes, Mead Hall Episcopal School, for “Nuclear Medicine and How it Saves Lives”
- Alan Sairany, Greenbrier High School, for “The Impacts and Implications of Nuclear Energy on Emerging Technologies”

CNTA received the most essays in over a decade, and had entries from 14 different high schools across the CSRA. Thank you to all those who entered, and to the 17 volunteer judges who read the entries!

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## Educator Grants Program

CNTA recently awarded five grants to local teachers to help fund science-related curriculum in their classrooms.

The grants, each \$500, will be used to fund projects that promote an increased understanding of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) through hands-on activities in the classroom.

The 2023 grant winners are:

- Carrie Lucas, elementary special education, Warrenton Elementary School;
- Michalene Langford, elementary special education, Warrenton Elementary School;
- Jennifer Donaldson, elementary STEM, Richmond Hill K-8;
- Crystal McDowell, 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade biology, Greenbrier High School; and,
- Leslie Olig, media specialist, Euchee Creek Elementary School.

The teachers use the grant funds to purchase STEM kits such as Introducing Solar Electricity to Special Education Students, Hands-On Coding Robots Challenges, and Implementation of Illuminating Cancer with Cancer Fighting Proteins.

In addition to CNTA, sponsors of the CNTA Educator Grants Program include American Nuclear Society-Savannah River, Huntington Ingalls Industries, Battelle Savannah River Alliance/Savannah River National Laboratory, and private contributions.

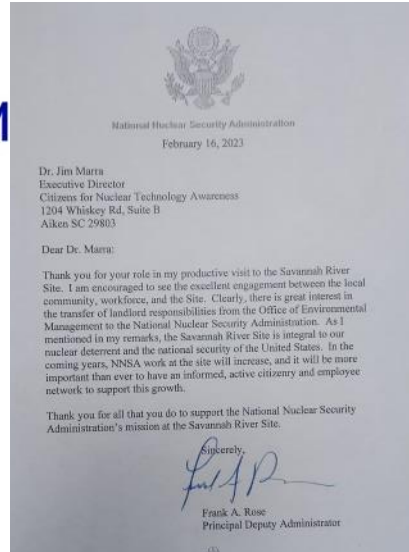
CNTA is honored to continue this important grant program to facilitate more local educational outreach by the organization, said Dr. Jim Marra, CNTA Executive Director.

“These grant awards are part of our continued partnership with area educators to provide instruction in the areas of science and math,” Marra said. “We hope students find these activities informative, interesting, and fun, and spark an interest in pursuing a future career in the STEM fields.”

# Up & Atoms



- February 2, 2023- "Savannah River Site: Landlord Transition from DOE to NNSA"
  - NNSA Principal Deputy Administrator Frank Rose & DOE Senior Advisor for Environmental Management Ike White participated in a moderated discussion on the upcoming transition.
  - Video available at [CNTA's YouTube Page](#)
  - Read about their tour of the CSRA here: <https://www.energy.gov/em/articles/white-joins-nnsa-deputy-administrator-south-carolina-listening-tour>
- March 8, 2023- "Here Comes the Sun...Almost"
  - Dr. Fred Beranek, Director of Engineering & Fusion Program Manager for Fluor Nuclear Power presented on the advances in nuclear fusion
- April 20, 2023- "Vogtle 1-4: Soon-to-be America's largest reactor site"
  - Joel Leopard, Senior Communications Specialist for Southern Nuclear-Plant Vogtle presented on the progress made with units 3 & 4.



## 2023 Maher Memorial Scholarship

The 2023 Maher Memorial Scholarship application is available! The \$5,000 scholarship is sponsored by Savannah River Mission Completion (SRMC). SRMC is the liquid waste contractor for the U.S. Department of Energy at the Savannah River Site (SRS).

This scholarship will be awarded to a Junior or Senior at a college or university in South Carolina or Georgia who demonstrates an outstanding academic achievement in nuclear science/ engineering or a directly related field, such as chemical engineering, mechanical engineering, environmental science, materials science, etc., with applications to the nuclear field.

The Robert Maher Memorial Scholarship is a joint project of CNTA and SRMC. Maher, Vice President and General Manager for Strategic Mission Development at SRS, passed away in 2002 after a 48-year career at the Site. A visionary with a broad view of the Site's potential, Maher helped shape SRS.

The annual scholarship was established in Maher's memory to support students pursuing science and engineering degrees in preparation for careers in the nuclear field.

**Scholarship Opportunity** **\$5,000**

**Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness (CNTA) & Savannah River Mission Completion**

**Invite you to apply for the:**

**2023-2024 Robert Maher Memorial Scholarship!**

The \$5,000 Scholarship will be awarded to one student who demonstrates outstanding academic achievement in a nuclear science/ engineering related field!

- Must be a Junior/Senior in Fall 2023 at a College/University in South Carolina or Georgia
- Must have an overall a "B" overall GPA & "B" average in science/ engineering & mathematics
- Must be a U.S. Citizen

**DEADLINE July 1, 2023**

Application materials and more information available on our website:  
<https://cntaware.org/maher-memorial-scholarship/>

## Young Professionals Committee

### Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness Recognizes 5 Years of Young Professional Outreach

Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness (CNTA) is celebrating five years of outreach to young professionals in the nuclear industry.

In 2018, CNTA launched a committee to promote interest among the under-40 generation in CNTA's mission: to educate the public by providing objective information on the value of nuclear technology with respect to our health, economy, environment, and national security. The Young Professionals Committee recruits and engages CNTA's young professional members by providing them with mentorship and professional development opportunities and raising money to support free membership for those under 40. Fundraising events, such as an annual oyster roast, help cover the cost of CNTA memberships for young professionals.

To help spark interest, the Young Professional Committee began its "Tap Into Nuclear" series in 2018 and has held dozens of these events since. This professional development series gives young professionals a chance to interact with each other and CNTA's senior members in a group mentoring setting, according to Sally Bartelmo, CNTA young professional committee chair.

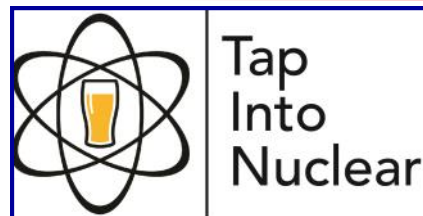
"CNTA's Tap Into Nuclear is often our most popular networking event," Bartelmo said. "One-on-one mentoring often arises from these group events. Topics covered have ranged from 'Deciding Between a Technical or Management Career Path,' to 'You Won't be CEO Tomorrow.' I believe it is crucially important to engage the younger generation of professionals to get involved in the future of nuclear advancement."

Tap Into Nuclear events are typically held every other month on the fourth Thursday at various locations throughout the Aiken/Augusta area. Past locations have included SRP Park, Aiken Brewing Company, the SRS Museum, and Café Scientifique. Admission is free and is open to CNTA members and non-members alike.

### Tap Into Nuclear

On March 31st, the 2023 Kickoff Tap Into Nuclear was held at Café Scientifique. Emily Saleeby & Matt Blackwell discussed the importance of government relations for the community, contractors, and employees!

Next Up- June 15, 2023- "CNTA Night at the Ballpark" 7:05pm with the Augusta Greenjackets at SRP Park! CNTA Members tickets are free. RSVP to [cnta@bellsouth.net](mailto:cnta@bellsouth.net) by May 31st to attend!



### Fall Young Professional Fundraising Event

The Annual Fall Young Professionals Fundraiser is set for October 7, 2023 at Palmetto Golf Club! This event raises funds for all of CNTA's young professional outreach, the Tap Into Nuclear series, and the free memberships for young professionals.

The committee will start organizing this event in June and we need your help! About 25 young professionals are needed to help on the committee and that evening. In return you get to attend the event with a guest for free! Contact [cnta@bellsouth.net](mailto:cnta@bellsouth.net) if you can help with this event, or if you'd like sponsorship information.

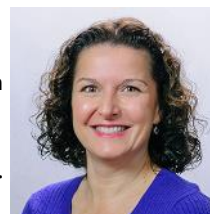


## CNTA Welcomes New Board Members



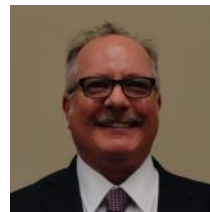
**Susan Ferrara** is the Cold War Historic Preservation Program Manager for Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS) at the Savannah River Site (SRS). Her responsibilities include the preservation, management, and treatment of historic properties, equipment, archival records, and documents; Cold War Heritage tourism and outreach; and the partnership with the SRS Heritage Foundation's SRS Museum. Previously, Ferrara was the Nuclear Operator Production Apprentice and Technical Schools Interface Programs Manager at SRS. She has a Bachelor's in Journalism from the University of South Carolina and has over 33 years of experience in community and government relations, communications, program development, and training. Ferrara is the 2022 Board Chair of the Aiken County United Way and is a member of the SRS Heritage Foundation Board and the Aiken Historical Society.

**Dr. Michele Harmon** is a Professor of Biology at the University of South Carolina Aiken and the Editor of the *Journal of the South Carolina Academy of Science*. She is the coordinator of USCA's Environmental Restoration and Remediation program and a Principal Investigator on the SRS Community Reuse Organization WORC grant. Previously, Dr. Harmon was a Professional Fellow at the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education and an Environmental Scientist at Halliburton NUS Environmental Corporation. She earned her B.S. in Biology and her M.S.P.H. and Ph.D. in Environmental Health Sciences from the University of South Carolina. Dr. Harmon has authored numerous research publications, literature reviews, and book chapters and is a member of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry and the Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professors.



**Natalia Johnson** is the Manager of the Environmental Bioassay Laboratory for SRNS. Her responsibilities include laboratory operations, staff leadership, interfacing and partnering with mission support organizations, and serving as the laboratory point of contact. Johnson is the recipient of the 2019 South Carolina Top 20 Under 40 Award, the 2020 SRNS Aspiring Mid-Career Professionals "Be the Change" Leadership Award, and the 2021 South Carolina Women in Business Award. She is a member of the Claflin University Biotechnology Advisory Board, the Barnwell YMCA Board of Directors, SRS Women in Nuclear, and President of the Board of Directors for Redefined Women, Inc. Johnson is also a 2022 graduate of Leadership Salkehatchie and is active in the United Way and Toys for Tots. Natalia has a B.S. in Biology/Chemistry from Claflin University and M.S. from South Carolina State University.

**Scott Kirk** manages the Environmental Compliance and Waste Disposal Authorities Department for Savannah River Mission Completion (SRMC) at SRS. His responsibilities include compliance with environmental regulatory requirements, waste characterization, waste packaging and transportation, and waste closure activities. Previously, Kirk managed the Department of Environmental Compliance for Liquid Waste Operations for Savannah River Remediation. He is a recipient of the 2005 National Service Award from the Health Physics Society, the 2017 Richard S. Hodes, M.D., Honor Lecture Award from the Southeast Compact Commission for Low-Level Radioactive Waste Management, and the 2019 inaugural Nuclear Service Award from CNTA. Kirk has a B.S. in Geology/Physics from Appalachian State University and a Master of Science in Environmental Health from East Tennessee State University. He is also a Certified Health Physicist.



**BooBoo Roberts** is the Regional Technical School Loaned Executive and the Deputy Program Manager of Apprenticeship and Pipeline Training Programs for SRNS. She has 23 years' experience at SRS in a variety of roles including Radiation Protection Technician, Detailed Radiation Protection First Line Manager, and Principal Site Training Specialist. She earned Associates Degrees in Radiation Protection from Aiken Technical College (ATC) and Mathematical Science from North Greenville University. Roberts has been an adjunct instructor at ATC since 2019.

**Azadeh Samadi-Dezfouli** is the Tank Farms Process Engineering Facility Support Manager, a position to which she was appointed in 2021. Azi was previously the Project Engineering Manager for Salt and Sludge batch preparation and prior to that she worked as a design authority engineer at the Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF). Azi received a B.S. and a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from Clemson University and is also a graduate of Savannah River Mission Completion (SRMC) Leaders' Forum. She began her career at Savannah River Site (SRS) in 2009.



CNTA also thanks non-returning board members Roger Burnett and Craig McMullin for their dedicated support and contributions over the last several years.

## 11th Annual Members' Mixer

Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness (CNTA), the area's non-profit organization for nuclear education, recently held its membership appreciation night and annual meeting on March 28.

Sponsored by Bechtel at Newberry Hall in Aiken, the event highlighted the exciting progress CNTA made in 2022. Some of the accomplishments included:

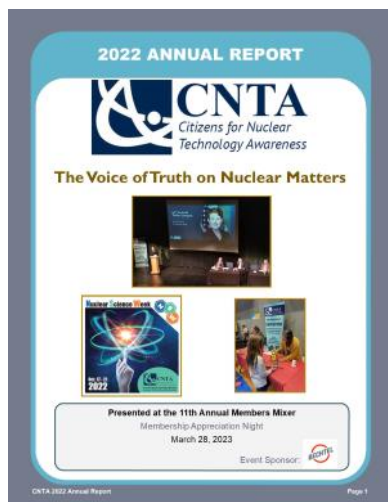
- Celebrating 31 years of being the voice of truth on nuclear matters across the Central Savannah River Area;
- Interacting with thousands of community members, educators, and students at multiple STEM events, eight Up & Atom breakfasts, three Tap Into Nuclear events, two DOE summer courses, and a Lifelong Learning class at the University of South Carolina - Aiken;
- Reaching over 30,000 households by publishing the Nuclear Science Week insert in the *Aiken Standard*;
- Publishing over a dozen press releases and news articles in local/regional news outlets;
- Awarding more than \$11,000 in scholarships and grants to area students and teachers;
- Raising over \$9,000 for young professional outreach;
- Hosting the 31st Annual Teller Lecture & Banquet at the Amentum Performing Arts Center in downtown Aiken with the DOE Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Energy Dr. Kathryn Huff as the keynote speaker;
- Hosting the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual CNTA Charity Golf Tournament;
- Holding the 2022 CNTA Young Professionals Oyster Roast and Low Country Boil; and
- Continuing to expand CNTA's social media outreach on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, YouTube, and Instagram.

Come June 2023, CNTA will revise its membership levels to include Champion (\$500), Advocate (\$250), Benefactor (\$125), Patron (\$70), and Supporter (\$35). In addition to free memberships already given to Students and Young Professionals (Under 40), free memberships will be further extended to K-12 Educators to further CNTA's outreach to these key educational partners.

"Thanks to our members and company sponsors, CNTA continued its successful record of advocating and educating on all things nuclear," said CNTA Executive Director Jim Marra. "2023 is already shaping up to be a banner year for circulating nuclear-related information and fact-based opinion across our community."



Executive Director Dr. James Marra presents CNTA's Annual Report to the assembled membership.  
Photo courtesy of Todd Lista.



The 2022 Annual Report presented at the Members Mixer can be found online at: <https://cntaware.org/newsletters-and-reports/>



Linda Wright receives a certificate for free attendance at the 2023 Teller Lecture as part of the membership perks raffle.  
Photo courtesy of Todd Lista.



## Vogtle 3 & 4 nuclear units take significant steps toward operations

*Unit 3 successfully generates electricity, connects to grid for the first time*

*Unit 4 Hot Functional Testing began last month*

Submitted by Southern Nuclear-Plant Vogtle

Georgia Power announced today it has achieved another important milestone for the new nuclear units under construction at its Vogtle 3 & 4 nuclear expansion project near Waynesboro, Ga. The generator at Vogtle Unit 3 has generated electricity for the first time, and the unit has successfully synchronized and connected to the electric grid. Meanwhile, at Vogtle Unit 4, nuclear operators began hot functional testing last month. Both achievements represent significant steps toward operations.

“What an incredibly inspiring time to join Georgia Power as we celebrate this milestone that marks the first day of generating clean, reliable power at this new nuclear unit, which will serve our customers over the next 60 to 80 years,” said Kim Greene, chairman, president and CEO of Georgia Power. “I consider myself very fortunate to have worked onsite at Vogtle 1 & 2 early in my career as an engineer, learning so much that I have carried with me over the years while also gaining an appreciation of the value of nuclear energy as a critical, long-term investment for our state. As we approach commercial operation for Unit 3, I know that every professional who has been involved in this project or worked at Plant Vogtle is proud of the role they have played in helping build a clean energy future for Georgia.”

Connecting to the electric grid is part of ongoing startup testing for Vogtle Unit 3, and operators will continue to raise reactor power for electricity generation while performing tests at various power levels. This Unit 3 milestone follows initial criticality, [reached on March 6](#), when operators safely started the nuclear reaction inside the reactor, generating nuclear heat to produce steam. Once all startup testing is successfully completed and the unit is available for reliable dispatch, the unit will enter commercial operation.

At Unit 4, hot functional testing, which began last month, marks the last series of major tests underway for the new nuclear unit ahead of initial fuel load. The testing is being conducted to verify the successful operation of reactor components and systems together and confirm the reactor is ready for fuel load. As part of the testing, the site team will begin running Unit 4 plant systems, without nuclear fuel in the reactor, and advance through the testing process towards reaching normal operating pressure and temperature. Nuclear operators will use the heat generated by the unit’s four reactor coolant pumps to raise the temperature and pressure of plant systems to normal operating levels. Once normal operating temperature and pressure levels are achieved and sustained, the unit’s main turbine will be raised to normal operating speed using steam from the plant. During these series of tests, nuclear operators will be able to exercise and validate procedures as required ahead of fuel load.

The in-service date for Unit 3 is projected during May or June 2023. Vogtle Unit 4 is projected to enter service in late fourth quarter 2023 or first quarter 2024.

The new Vogtle units are an essential part of Georgia Power's commitment to delivering clean, safe, reliable and affordable energy to its 2.7 million customers. Once operating, the two new units, which will be clean energy sources that produce zero emissions, are expected to power more than 500,000 homes and businesses. Southern Nuclear will operate the new units on behalf of the co-owners: Georgia Power, Oglethorpe Power, MEAG Power and Dalton Utilities.

### About Georgia Power

Georgia Power is the largest electric subsidiary of Southern Company (NYSE: SO), America’s premier energy company. Value, Reliability, Customer Service and Stewardship are the cornerstones of the company’s promise to 2.7 million customers in all but four of Georgia’s 159 counties. Committed to delivering clean, safe, reliable and affordable energy, Georgia Power maintains a diverse, innovative generation mix that includes nuclear, coal and natural gas, as well as renewables such as solar, hydroelectric and wind. Georgia Power focuses on delivering world-class service to its customers every day and the company is recognized by J.D. Power as an industry leader in customer satisfaction. For more information, visit [www.GeorgiaPower.com](http://www.GeorgiaPower.com) and connect with the company on Facebook ([Facebook.com/GeorgiaPower](https://www.facebook.com/GeorgiaPower/)), Twitter ([Twitter.com/GeorgiaPower](https://twitter.com/GeorgiaPower)) and Instagram ([Instagram.com/ga\\_power](https://www.instagram.com/ga_power/)).

### Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

Certain information contained in this release is forward-looking information based on current expectations and plans that involve risks and uncertainties. Forward-looking information includes, among other things, statements concerning future operations of and the projected in-service dates for Plant Vogtle Units 3 & 4. Georgia Power cautions that there are certain factors that can cause actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking information that has been provided. The reader is cautioned not to put undue reliance on this forward-looking information, which is not a guarantee of future performance and is subject to a number of uncertainties and other factors, many of which are outside the control of Georgia Power; accordingly, there can be no assurance that such suggested results will be realized. The following factors, in addition to those discussed in Georgia Power’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2022, and subsequent securities filings, could cause actual results to differ materially from management expectations as suggested by such forward-looking information: the potential effects of the continued COVID-19 pandemic; the ability to control costs and avoid cost and schedule overruns during the development, construction, and operation of facilities or other projects, including Plant Vogtle Units 3 and 4, which includes components based on new technology that only within the last few years began initial operation in the global nuclear industry at this scale, due to current and/or future challenges which include, but are not limited to, changes in labor costs, availability and productivity, challenges with the management of contractors or vendors, subcontractor performance, adverse weather conditions, shortages, delays, increased costs, or inconsistent quality of equipment, materials, and labor; contractor or supplier delay, the impacts of inflation, delays due to judicial or regulatory action, non-performance under construction, operating, or other agreements, operational readiness, including specialized operator training and required site safety programs, engineering or design problems or any remediation related thereto, design and other licensing-based compliance matters, including, for Plant Vogtle Unit 4, inspections and the timely submittal by Southern Nuclear of the Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria documentation and the related investigations, reviews and approvals by the NRC necessary to support NRC authorization to load fuel, challenges with start-up activities, including major equipment failure, or system integration, and/or operational performance, continued challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic or future pandemic health events, continued public and policymaker support for projects, environmental and geological conditions, delays or increased costs to interconnect facilities to transmission grids, and increased financing costs as a result of changes in market interest rates or as a result of project delays; the ability to overcome or mitigate the current challenges at Plant Vogtle Units 3 and 4 that could further impact the cost and schedule for the projects; legal proceedings and regulatory approvals and actions related to construction projects, such as Plant Vogtle Units 3 and 4, including Public Service Commission approvals and NRC actions; under certain specified circumstances, a decision by holders of more than 10% of the ownership interests of Plant Vogtle Units 3 and 4 not to proceed with construction; the notices of tender by Oglethorpe Power Corporation and the City of Dalton of a portion of their ownership interests in Plant Vogtle Units 3 and 4 to Georgia Power, including related litigation; the ability to construct facilities in accordance with the requirements of permits and licenses (including satisfaction of NRC requirements), to satisfy any environmental performance standards and the requirements of tax credits and other incentives, and to integrate facilities into the Southern Company system upon completion of construction; the inherent risks involved in operating and constructing nuclear generating facilities; the ability of counterparties of Georgia Power to make payments as and when due and to perform as required; the direct or indirect effect on Georgia Power’s business resulting from cyber intrusion or physical attack and the threat of cyber and physical attacks; catastrophic events such as fires, earthquakes, explosions, floods, tornadoes, hurricanes and other storms, droughts, pandemic health events, political unrest, wars or other similar occurrences; and the direct or indirect effects on Georgia Power’s business resulting from incidents affecting the U.S. electric grid or operation of generating or storage resources. Georgia Power expressly disclaims any obligation to update any forward-looking information.



Teams at Plant Vogtle have safely completed initial synchronization to the grid for Unit 3

Video provided with this release available at: <https://www.georgiapower.com/company/news-center/2023-articles/vogtle-steps-toward-operations.html>

## Aiken Tech, SRS Apprenticeship Team Receive A. Wade Martin Innovation Team of the Year Award

### Submitted by Aiken Technical College

Aiken Technical College's (Aiken Tech) Nuclear Fundamentals Apprenticeship Team has received the prestigious A. Wade Martin Innovation Team of the Year Award from the South Carolina Technical College System (SCTCS) Foundation. The annual award recognizes SC Technical College System employees who have worked together to make a significant contribution to their college or SCTCS.

"The Nuclear Fundamentals Apprenticeship Team has created a model for future workforce development initiatives. College leadership, project team members, and key stakeholders working together to solve complex workforce development challenges are key to success," said Aiken Tech President Forest Mahan, Ph.D.

Aiken Tech's team members are Dean Steven Simmons, Ed.D., School of Technical and Continuing Education; Dean Crystal Ratliff, Ph.D., Office of Student Success and Retention; and Department Chair Aherial Polite, Chemistry, Physics, and Nuclear Technology Department.

The team also includes industry partners from Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS). Those representatives are Dorian Newton, D. Eng., Savannah River Site (SRS) Apprenticeship Steering Committee and SRNS Program Manager for the Apprenticeship School and Pipeline Training; BooBoo Roberts, SRNS Technical College Loaned Executive and Deputy Program Manager for Apprenticeship and Pipeline Training; and David Jackson, SRNS Apprenticeship School Lead.

The Nuclear Fundamentals Apprenticeship Program began in the spring of 2020 and has since had four cohorts to complete the program. In January, the program welcomed its largest cohort yet, with over 100 apprentices from SRS contractors SRNS, Savannah River Mission Completion, and Savannah River National Laboratory.

During the program, the apprentices spend two days a week in nuclear fundamentals courses taught by Aiken Tech instructors and two days a week at SRS, gaining practical, on-the-job experiences. Those who complete the program earn the Nuclear Fundamentals Certificate from Aiken Tech.

"Savannah River Nuclear Solutions has grown to appreciate the vision and contribution of ATC and the fruitful partnerships we have established in numerous areas," said Dr. Newton. "Their efforts in support of nuclear fundamentals and workforce development are worthy of recognition because of the impact they have on national, state, and regional interests. Combining a focus on national defense and the development of a viable workforce, we applaud the exceptional work accomplished by ATC."

For more information about the Nuclear Fundamentals Apprenticeship Program, please visit <https://www.atc.edu/Study/Programs-of-Study/Technical-and-Continuing-Education/Nuclear-Fundamentals>.

### **About Aiken Technical College**

Aiken Technical College is a two-year comprehensive college located in Graniteville, South Carolina. Founded in 1972, the College provides educational and workforce development opportunities through academic programs, continuing education, and corporate training services. Visit [www.atc.edu](http://www.atc.edu) for more information.



*Pictured (from left to right): Dorian Newton, D. Eng., SRS Apprenticeship Steering Committee and Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS) Program Manager for the Apprenticeship School and Pipeline Training; Dean Crystal Ratliff, Ph.D., Aiken Tech Office of Student Success and Retention; David Jackson, SRNS Apprenticeship School Lead; Department Chair Aherial Polite, Aiken Tech Chemistry, Physics, and Nuclear Technology Department; BooBoo Roberts, SRNS Technical College Loaned Executive and Deputy Program Manager for Apprenticeship and Pipeline Training; and Dean Steven Simmons, Ed.D., Aiken Tech School of Technical and Continuing Education.*

## North Wind Continues Work on the AMC Project

### Submitted by North Wind Group

To kick off 2023, North Wind broke ground on the Advanced Manufacturing Collaborative (AMC) Facility in late March. Last year, North Wind was awarded a \$50-million contract by the Department of Energy (DOE) to design and build the AMC facility, a research center at the University of South Carolina Aiken, located about 20 miles from the Savannah River Site. The Facility will provide accessible, modern, and flexible laboratory space for DOE-EM's Savannah River National Laboratory and its collaboration partners.

North Wind was awarded its third environmental support services contract with SRNS to support the Environmental Compliance and Area Completion Projects (EC&ACP). Since 2014, North Wind has completed over 60 task orders involving drilling oversight, engineering, ASER support, turn-key injection programs, and a variety of technical support task orders. We are currently hiring technical staff in Aiken, SC.

North Wind is dedicated to creating and maintaining a culture in which environmental stewardship, social consciousness, and ethical governance are all deeply embedded and upheld in our everyday operations. To reflect these values and to mirror transparency, North Wind has an active Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) committee and corresponding sub-committees that worked together to launch our recent 2022 ESG Sustainability Report. North Wind views ESG as an opportunity to provide value to all our stakeholders through a sustainable future. We strive to manage our resources in an efficient and responsible manner for the betterment of the environment and society.

*North Wind Group companies are small business leaders providing engineering, construction, environmental, and technical services to federal and state agencies and private industry. Founded in 1997, North Wind has grown to a group of companies employing more than 2,000 scientific, engineering, management, and professional personnel. Since 2010, North Wind has been a wholly-owned subsidiary of Cook Inlet Region, Inc. (CIRI), an Alaska Native corporation (ANC). North Wind is headquartered in Idaho Falls, Idaho, and has a presence in 35 states and three countries. For more information, visit the North Wind website at [www.northwindgrp.com](http://www.northwindgrp.com).*



Crews from North Wind Construction Services begin site preparation for construction of the Advanced Manufacturing Collaborative on the campus of the University of South Carolina Aiken. The facility is expected to be completed in 2024 and will be managed and operated by EM's Savannah River National Laboratory.



## Dozens of Canine Teams converge on Savannah River Site for Certification Trials

Submitted by Centerra-SRS

The award-winning Savannah River Site Canine Program recently helped host 41 teams from South Carolina, Georgia and North Carolina as they participated in annual trials of the nation’s oldest and largest police K-9 organization.

The United States Police Canine Association conducted its spring canine detection trials for the region at SRS. The event was jointly hosted by the SRS Law Enforcement Department, Aiken County Sheriff’s Office, Aiken Department of Public Safety and North Augusta Department of Public Safety.

“We have helped host this event with local law enforcement for over 20 years,” said Norris Bunch, supervisor of the canine section of security services contractor Centerra-SRS. “During certification trials, each team is held to a measured level of proficiency that must be maintained for certification, which is attained through proper training and demonstration through various testing events.”

The association held explosive training and certification at SRS and the narcotics training and certification at several locations in Aiken. A cadaver dog team from North Carolina joined the region’s spring trials for the first time this year.

The association is the universally accepted certification authority for canine working teams, and its testing procedures follow currently accepted police canine practices. To test fairly, law enforcement canine professionals serve as evaluators to observe and document canine team performance.

During trials, narcotics and explosives test sources are hidden on vehicles or in packages and the canine teams must successfully locate the items within a designated time period. Certification of a working canine team is an indicator of successful training and that the team is capable of successfully performing its assigned mission, whether it be explosives, narcotics or cadaver detection.

“After certification, handlers and their dogs are retested on an annual basis to ensure they maintain the proper fundamentals of training and technique,” added Bunch. “At the trials, all of our site canine teams once again achieved certification.”

The SRS Canine Program has earned numerous local, regional and national awards over the years and has been called upon to support local law enforcement and federal agencies, when site missions allow.

“We train constantly at SRS to ensure that our working dogs are able to provide critical support to our security mission at the site,” said Bunch. “As part of that training, we conduct internal testing that is based on United States Police Canine Association standards and certification methodology. As a result, we have a very robust canine program that is fully capable of providing explosives and narcotics detection support at any time.”



*Security Police Officer Ryan Brady and his canine, “Dogo,” conduct an explosives search on a vehicle at the United States Police Canine Association Region 2 Spring Detection Trials. The SRS canines are trained to sit when they detect the odor of potential explosive materials, and are then rewarded with playtime after a successful detection.*



# Omega Technical Services Celebrates Opening of Aiken Program Management Office to Expand SRS Support

Submitted by Omega Technical Services

On March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Omega Technical Services (Omega), in partnership with the Aiken Chamber of Commerce, celebrated the opening of their Aiken Project Management Office (PMO) located at 4259 Whiskey Road Suite 100 in Aiken, SC. Omega is a Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) that provides technical and professional support services to the Department of Energy’s (DOE) National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA). Established in 1995 by Tim Trapuzzano, a former U.S. Navy submarine reactor operator, Omega has a presence at many nuclear production sites across the complex. While the corporate office is in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, the opening of this PMO signifies local support to the many Omega personnel working at the Savannah River Site (SRS).

“I lived and worked in Aiken for many years. This is where I started Omega, and it is a full-circle moment to have an office in South Carolina again. This office gives our South Carolina employees a home base, better connectivity within Omega, and more immediate assistance should they need it. Omega differentiates by valuing employees as family. Being able to have this in-person touch speaks to who we are,” said Tim Trapuzzano, Omega’s President.

Bill Giddings serves as the Managing Director of the Aiken PMO. Giddings has 35+ years of proven success in nuclear facility Operations, Process Development and Implementation, Engineering, and Management at SRS, Nevada Nuclear Security Site (NNSS), and Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL).

“I have been a technical employee, and now I can see the other side of running a technical business. I think having both perspectives will help Omega better understand our employees and customers. I look forward to strengthening our SRS relationships and working together to support the nation’s nuclear deterrent,” said Giddings.

Haley Trapuzzano serves as the Resource Manager of the Aiken PMO. Trapuzzano is a South Carolina native and graduated from the University of South Carolina-Columbia.

“Growing up, I was exposed to the nuclear industry by my family ties and living close to SRS. I am happy to be in this role to learn more about SRS, connect with employees, and initiate local community involvement on behalf of Omega,” said Trapuzzano.

Omega has completed over 1,000 contracts and employs over 200 Subject Matter Experts (SME), Over 70% of Omega’s workforce holds a security clearance and 50% are veterans. The company has been a CNTA member since early 2023. To learn more about Omega, please visit [www.omegatechserv.com](http://www.omegatechserv.com).



Omega Technical Services President, Tim Trapuzzano, poses with employees and the Aiken Chamber of Commerce as they celebrate the Aiken PMO ribbon cutting.



### ABOUT US

Omega Consultants, Inc., doing business as Omega Technical Services, Inc. (Omega), is a Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB). Omega specializes in providing technical and professional support services to the Department of Energy’s (DOE) Nuclear Security Enterprise. Established in 1995 by Tim Trapuzzano, a former U.S. Navy submarine reactor operator, Omega’s primary focus has been supporting safe and efficient nuclear facility operations and production to maintain and sustain the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile.

- 180+ Subject Matter Experts
- 1,000+ Contracts Completed
- 3 Offices Nationwide
- < 2% Annual Employee Turnover
- 30+ Average Years of Nuclear Experience Per Employee
- > 70% of Expertise Holds Security Clearances

**MISSION STATEMENT**  
To provide subject matter expertise at all Department of Energy (DOE) National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) sites to better enable a responsive capability and capacity within the Nuclear Security Enterprise.

**VALUE STATEMENT**  
To offer specialized worth to clients by curating Subject Matter Experts (SME) to fill technical and professional support needs in a history-making industry. To offer specialized worth to employees by valuing their entire career life cycle creating stable careers in a project-based industry.

**CULTURE STATEMENT**  
To possess a suite of core industry competencies so that all employees can leverage past site operational interface success and build positive relationships with clients and each other demonstrating a passion for learning, a responsive attitude, communication, mutual respect, and integrity.

## First Transfer in ABD Program Completed

### Submitted by Savannah River Nuclear Solutions

After several years of planning and integration, the initial discard of uranium solution from the new Accelerated Basin De-inventory mission at the Savannah River Site (SRS) has been successfully transferred from the H Canyon Chemical Separations Facility to the SRS liquid waste program. This transfer marks the first of many of the ABD mission, which will result in a significant cost reduction and represents multiple years of acceleration over the previous mission.

The newly implemented ABD mission replaces a previously used method of dispositioning spent nuclear fuel (SNF) from the Site's L Area Disassembly Basin through the H Canyon Chemical Separations Facility. The prior method involved dissolving, purifying and blending the highly enriched uranium from SNF into low enriched uranium that could be used to produce fuel for commercial power reactors. ABD dissolves the SNF, as before, but then prepares the resulting dissolved solution for discard to the SRS liquid waste program's H Tank Farm (HTF). Once received in the HTF, the solution is mixed with other sludge waste already stored in underground waste tanks. The sludge waste is vitrified into glass in the Site's Defense Waste Processing Facility (DWPF). The vitrified waste is stored in stainless steel canisters in safe, onsite interim storage until a federal repository is established. The SRS Liquid Waste Program is run by Savannah River Mission Completion (SRMC).

"Taken as a whole, the processing and discarding success of ABD material is highly sensitive to technology development timelines, regulatory requirement impacts, and processing schedules throughout the material's movement through SRS facilities," Savannah River Nuclear Solutions (SRNS) Program Manager James Therrell said. "Integration between SRNS and SRMC with support from the Department of Energy is paramount to ensure the processing systems and associated paperwork stay aligned and optimized in support of the mission."

For material to be added into sludge, it must meet strict criteria to ensure the sludge is the right mixture and doesn't exceed regulatory approved radioactivity limits. The increased amount of uranium in the sludge would have increased the radioactivity, meaning the sludge would have needed to be distributed into a greater number of glass canisters to remain within limits for each canister. To avoid the use of additional canisters, the Department of Energy, SRMC, Savannah River National Laboratory, SRNS and other external stakeholders partnered to demonstrate that the needed increase was acceptable and safe in order to get the regulatory limit increased. "The safe storage of increased amounts of uranium in glass is an example of one of several major technology advancements that has led us up to this initial transfer," said Therrell.

"Adding ABD material to the Site's tank waste represents many months of integration between SRMC and SRNS, as H Tank Farm and H Canyon both have highly complex processing schedules that must align," said Matt Arnold, H Area Facility Manager for SRNS. "The ability to coordinate timing for ABD is essential to prevent extending the mission, avoiding downtime, and adding operating expense."

"All of the preparation for this first transfer will set us up for future success. Getting to this point was really a team effort across the different companies, work groups, and the DOE," said Arnold. "These changes have not only made the ABD mission possible, but have also saved significant lifecycle costs, proving yet again that we are committed to making the world safer."

Radioactive liquid waste from SRS chemical separations processes, like those in H Canyon, is stored in the SRS Tank Farms in both solid and liquid forms. In these tanks, the insoluble solids in the waste settle to the bottom, forming **sludge**. Sludge contains the highest concentration of long-lived radioactivity.



H Canyon Outside Facilities Operator Andrew Pratt (left) and H Canyon Outside Facilities Radiological Control Operator Wanda Patterson load drums of depleted uranium solution that was prepared for addition to ABD material. The depleted uranium addition helps meet the safety limits for each material transfer from H Canyon to DWPF.

## Burns & McDonnell Wins Contract for Architecture Engineering Design Services for the Second Target Station Project at Oak Ridge National Laboratory

### Submitted by Burns & McDonnell

To address emerging science challenges and advance neutron science research capabilities, Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) is upgrading the Spallation Neutron Source (SNS) with a second target station (STS). The Architecture Engineering (AE) Design contract for facilities and infrastructure for the STS was awarded to Burns & McDonnell.

The STS, which is a major upgrade to the SNS, will provide beams with orders of magnitude higher cold neutron brightness compared to the existing first target station (FTS). The facility will enable researchers to use the unique properties of neutrons to advance scientific discovery and solve the most challenging clean energy and technology problems.

The STS upgrade will include site improvements, utilities, a proton beam line tunnel, and new laboratory space in more than 350,000 square feet of new buildings that complement the capabilities of the FTS and High Flux Isotope Reactor at ORNL. The unprecedented high brightness of cold neutrons at the STS will provide new capabilities for research including:

- Time-resolved measurements of kinetic processes and beyond-equilibrium matter
- Simultaneous measurements of hierarchical architectures from the atomic scale to micron and beyond
- Measurements on small samples of newly discovered or synthesized materials
- Exploration of new frontiers in materials at extreme conditions

The Burns & McDonnell team will work with ORNL on the next phases of design and development of facilities and infrastructure for the STS. Facility design will take place through 2025, with construction to follow.

“Burns & McDonnell is proud to be selected as STS AE Conventional Facilities design provider,” said Willie Clark, federal strategies director at Burns & McDonnell. “Our extensive experience working with the DOE Office of Science and National Nuclear Security Administration makes our team a perfect fit for this project, and we look forward to designing this state-of-the-art facility at ORNL.”

Burns & McDonnell has completed previous projects at ORNL, including a site utility master plan and a balance of the plant design for the Material Plasma Exposure Experiment (MPEX) project.

#### *About Burns & McDonnell*

*Burns & McDonnell is a family of companies bringing together an unmatched team of 7,600 engineers, construction professionals, architects, planners, technologists and scientists to design and build our critical infrastructure. With an integrated construction and design mindset, we offer full-service capabilities with more than 60 offices globally. Founded in 1898, Burns & McDonnell is 100% employee-owned. Learn how we are designed to build.*

The Savannah River Site Museum is seeking volunteer docents passionate about the impact of SRS on Aiken's history.

Docents engage visitors, share background knowledge, and occasionally assist at events.

As the SRS Museum grows, so too does our team of dedicated volunteers.

Interested individuals may apply at the following link:

<https://www.srsheritagemuseum.org/contact>

## SRS, Regulators Reach Agreement for Liquid Waste Cleanup Milestones

### Submitted by Savannah River Mission Completion

The Savannah River Site, in partnership with state and federal regulators, has finalized a high-level waste tank milestones agreement guiding the work to clean up one of the largest environmental risks in South Carolina.

Over the last several months, the Department of Energy-Savannah River (DOE-SR), state regulator South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC), and federal regulator Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have reviewed, negotiated, and agreed upon revisions to the SRS Federal Facility Agreement (FFA). The FFA establishes procedural framework and directs comprehensive remediation at SRS, including high-level waste tank milestone agreements and other site cleanup priorities.

The revision to the FFA outlines the schedule for the waste removal and operational closure of the 16 oldest-style tanks at SRS. All 43 remaining tanks are slated to be operationally closed by 2037.

The radioactive liquid waste stored at SRS was generated as a byproduct from the processing of nuclear materials for national defense, research, medical programs, and outer space missions. Totalling about 34 million gallons, the waste is stored in underground carbon-steel waste tanks grouped into two tank farms at SRS.

Revising the FFA and the waste tank milestone commitments ensures regulatory requirements align to allow DOE's liquid waste facilities to operate as efficiently and effectively as possible, according to Jim Folk, DOE-SR's assistant manager for waste disposition.

"The number-one goal agreed upon by all parties is to reduce risk to the environment by removing waste and closing tanks," Folk said. "DOE will continue its ongoing positive relationship with our regulators by involving DHEC and EPA throughout each stage of the waste removal process to explain the activities undertaken, results of removal operations, challenges, and next steps."

The revised agreement also outlines a set of shared SRS Liquid Waste Program values and goals, in priority order:

#### **Values**

- Maintain transparency with open communication between regulators, DOE, and the contractor on program progress, and significant emerging issues.
- Ensure DOE's strategy and plans are subject to stakeholder engagement and input, including DHEC permitting processes as appropriate.
- Maximize the amount of curies (especially long-lived radionuclides) vitrified and ready for ultimate disposal out of state.
- Limit disposal of curies onsite at SRS so that residual radioactivity is as low as reasonably achievable.

#### **Goals**

- Reduce risk to the environment by removing waste and closing tanks with a goal of completion of the liquid waste program by 2037.
- Reduce operational and environmental risk by aggressively removing curies from the waste tanks.
- Reduce operational and environmental risk by optimizing operations to minimize liquid waste program total life cycle.
- Complete waste removal and subsequent grouting of all waste tanks and ancillary structures with a risk-based priority order: first to tanks in the water table, followed by F Tank Farm tanks, followed by remainder of waste tanks, followed by ancillary structures, recognizing the potential for future emergent conditions or opportunities.

The liquid waste contractor at SRS, Savannah River Mission Completion (SRMC), assisted with FFA milestone negotiations. For the first time, a single contractor now has responsibility for all the liquid waste processing facilities at SRS, which is a significant benefit to completing the liquid waste mission, according to SRMC President and Program Manager Dave Olson.

"Having the milestones set today allows us to focus on delivering results and executing the work that will drive our mission to completion," Olson said. "With many facility improvements and process optimizations in place and being implemented, SRMC plans to aggressively pursue early success to meet the FFA milestones."

Henry Porter, DHEC's chief of the Bureau of Land and Waste Management, signed the agreement on behalf of the environmental regulator.

"The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control considers the high-level waste at the Savannah River Site one of the largest environmental risks in the state," Porter said. "Collaborating with the federal government to agree upon these milestones, values, and goals is critical in achieving the site's waste cleanup mission and protecting the community and environment beyond the barricades."

Randall Chaffins, EPA's Region 4 acting director for the Superfund and Emergency Management Division, described the importance of partnering with DOE and DHEC to ensure accountability.

"Safely remediating the radioactive liquid waste and removing the tanks from service at the Savannah River Site protects human health and the environment," Chaffins said. "EPA is appreciative of the mutually beneficial partnership with DOE and its contractors."



## Savannah River National Laboratory Qualified Under Network of Analytical Laboratories for Reference Materials and Quality Control to Support IAEA

### Submitted by Savannah River National Laboratory

The Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) recently qualified for an additional mission within the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Department of Safeguards, U.S. Network of Analytical Laboratories (NWAL), specifically for the production of microparticle reference materials suitable for evaluating measurement quality.

With this achievement, SRNL joins a small and select group of NWAL members dedicated to the provision of particle reference materials, which provide fundamental and sustainable support to the IAEA's environmental sampling program. The NWAL is a group of laboratories in IAEA member states officially qualified for the analysis of nuclear material and environmental samples, as well as the provision of reference materials for the Safeguards Analytical Laboratory (SAL).

Particle reference materials are essential to laboratories performing particle analysis of environmental samples for the IAEA. The materials are used for quality assurance, method development, and traceability of measurement results. Production of particle reference materials has been an IAEA Department of Safeguards' priority for many years because challenges in reliable production of particle reference materials has limited their availability.

The qualification is the culmination of more than six years of research and development and technology maturation sponsored by the National Nuclear Security Agency (NNSA) of the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Nonproliferation and Arms Control, Office of International Safeguards, Safeguards Technology Development program. The project was initially seeded as part of the SRNL Laboratory Directed Research and Development program in mid-2010s. Work with the IAEA was supported through the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation. This work was conducted in collaboration with Pacific Northwest National Laboratory and Los Alamos National Laboratory.

As the world's center for cooperation in the nuclear field, promoting the safe, secure and peaceful use of nuclear technology, IAEA has a responsibility for nuclear weapons proliferation deterrence by detecting early the misuse of nuclear material or technology and by providing credible assurances that countries are honoring their safeguards obligations. As part of this mission, the IAEA Safeguards Analytical Laboratories analyze a variety of samples provided by IAEA inspectors. To enhance and extend the IAEA Safeguards Analytical Laboratories capabilities, the IAEA coordinates a worldwide Network of Analytical Laboratories that includes 24 laboratories from 11 member countries, which provide support in:

- Environmental Sample Analysis,
- Nuclear Material Analysis,
- Material Characterization,
- Heavy Water Analysis, and
- Reference Materials and Quality Control.

SRNL was previously qualified to the IAEA NWAL for Nuclear Material Analysis in February 2016 for Thermal Ionization Mass Spectrometry of plutonium. In 2022, SRNL added qualifications for Davies-Gray uranium assay and Isotope Dilution Mass Spectrometry for uranium and plutonium, also under the Nuclear Material Analysis area of support.

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## CNTA COMMITTEE DESCRIPTIONS

Detailed information on ALL of our committees available at: <https://cntaware.org/committees/>

### Communications Committee

The Communications Committee is responsible for ensuring accurate and timely information to the media, stakeholders, and the public and to reflect the goals and objectives of CNTA.

### Education Committee

The goal of the Education Committee is to educate the public on the benefits, uses, and truths of nuclear technology. This is done through several initiatives: "Bringing Nuclear into the Classroom," Nuclear Blitz teach-ins, Lifelong Learning Academy teaching, and awarding the many scholarships and awards to students and teachers.

### Young Professionals Committee

The purpose of the Young Professionals Committee is to recruit and engage young professional members by providing them with mentorship and professional development opportunities as well as raising money to make membership free for those under 40.

## Thank You Business & Individual Members!

### PLATINUM

SAVANNAH RIVER MISSION COMPLETION  
SAVANNAH RIVER NUCLEAR SOLUTIONS

**SILVER**  
JACOBS

### GOLD

ARTHUR RICH  
BATTELLE SAVANNAH RIVER ALLIANCE  
CENTERRA-SRS  
FLUOR MISSION SOLUTIONS  
HII-NUCLEAR

### BRONZE

APPLIED RESEARCH CENTER  
ATKINS  
BECHTEL  
BWXT  
BURNS & McDONNELL  
MERRICK & COMPANY  
NORTH WIND GROUP  
SOUTHERN NUCLEAR- PLANT  
VOGTLE

### BUSINESS

AVANTECH LLC  
CAFÉ SCIENTIFIQUE  
EDGEWATER TECHNICAL ASSOCIATES  
IONEX RESEARCH CORPORATION  
MUNNS ADVISEMENT  
OMEGA TECHNICAL SERVICES  
SECURITY FEDERAL BANK  
SRS COMMUNITY REUSE ORGANIZATION  
UNITECH SERVICES GROUP  
WASEYABEK FEDERAL SERVICES  
WESTERN SC (ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP)  
WESWORKS LLC

### Champion Members

Kim Cauthen      Paul Ebel      Chris Noah

### Advocate Members

|                  |                 |                  |                  |
|------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Jeffrey Allender | Lyddie Hansen   | Jeremy O'Donnell | Robert Sindelar  |
| Fred Beranek     | Joyce Hopperton | James Oldani     | Dale Sivils      |
| Henry Bolen      | Nathan Jones    | Dave Olson       | Tammy Taylor     |
| Wyatt Clark      | Ben Kinlaw      | Sharon Rickman   | Brandon Thorne   |
| Paul Cloessner   | Emily Kirk      | Wayne Rickman    | J.C. Wallace     |
| Alan Dobson      | J. Scott Kirk   | Kent Rosenberger | Craig Williamson |
| Jack Goldenberg  | Jeff Leita      | Ed Sadowski      | Clint Wolfe      |
| Charles Hansen   | Jesus Mancilla  | Steve Sheetz     | Virginia Wolfe   |

## About CNTA

In spring 2023, at the 11th Annual Members Mixer, CNTA did something for the first time in its 32 year history. We renamed many of our membership levels & have added perks to memberships!

The new names are highlighted below, and information on all of the changes are being emailed to members as memberships come due for renewal. If you want to know what the new levels include, or want to complete the new form and renew now, the form and information are online at: <https://cntaware.org/individual-membership/>.

We are also proud to announce that in addition to free membership for young professionals, CNTA is now offering K-12 teachers & students free membership regardless of age!

Thank you to the thousands of supporters, sustainers, patrons, advocates, benefactors, and champions that have helped make CNTA the voice of truth on nuclear matters. As a grassroots organization, we do not exist without you.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Steve Sheetz- Board Chair  
Forest Mahan- Vice Chair  
Charles Hansen- Treasurer  
Daren Timmons- Immediate Past Chair

|                         |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| James Angelos           | Natalia Johnson   |
| Jeff Allender           | Scott Kirk        |
| Sally Bartelmo          | Joel Leopard      |
| Dean Campbell           | Karl Lutterloh    |
| Wyatt Clark             | Zeus Mancilla     |
| Paul Cloessner          | Nick Miller       |
| Musa Danjaji            | Lindsey MonBarren |
| Susie Ferrara           | Charles Munns     |
| Jhivaun Freeman Pollard | Aherial Polite    |
| Michele Harmon          | Booboo Roberts    |
| Joyce Hopperton         | Azi Samadi        |
| Fred Humes              | John Veldman      |
|                         | Tim Worrell       |

James Corley, Ex-Officio  
Walt Joseph, Ex-Officio

**Directors Emeritus**  
Clint Wolfe

### CNTA Staff

Jim Marra– Executive Director  
Allison Hamilton Molnar– Director of Operations

### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

#### **BUSINESS MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS**

Diamond: \$25,000 or more  
Platinum: \$10,000- \$24,999  
Gold: \$5,000- \$9,999  
Silver: \$2,500- \$4,999  
Bronze: \$1,000- \$2,4999  
Business Member: \$500- \$999

#### **INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS**

Champion: \$500 or more  
Advocate: \$250.00  
Benefactor: \$125.00  
Patron: \$70.00  
Supporter: \$35.00  
Young Professionals (under 40), K-12 educators,  
& Students are Free!

Membership Information is available online  
at: <http://cntaware.org/join-us/>

All membership levels include invitations to events, newsletters and opinion letters/editorials. Member Perks by level of support are detailed on the above webpage.

### **YOUR DUES SUPPORT PUBLIC OUTREACH**

Federal ID# 57-0953103

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

**CNTA as a charitable non-profit organization can ALWAYS use help.**

### Opportunities include:

- Donate Items for Raffles/Auctions
  - Donate to Our Community Gift Card Program!
  - Donate to CNTA as a charitable non-profit (<https://cntaware.org/about-us/>)
- Volunteer your time
  - Get involved with a CNTA Committee (committee information on page 17)
  - Help the CNTA Education Committee revamp our educational outreach
  - Help CNTA expand their reach on social media
  - Volunteer to help in our Office (there is always work to be done there!)
  - Be an event-specific volunteer
  - Be an education committee contest judge or outreach volunteer
- Sponsor a 2023 Event or Education Outreach!

For information email Allison at [office@cntaware.org](mailto:office@cntaware.org)

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## CNTA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **May 12, 2023-** 21st Annual CNTA Charity Golf Tournament! Shotgun start at 8:30am. Held at Houndslake Country Club in Aiken SC.
- **June 15, 2023-** CNTA Night at the Ballpark. 7:05 game start at SRP Park in North Augusta SC.
- **July 19, 2023-** Up & Atom “SRS Summer Interns.” 7:30am at Newberry Hall in Aiken SC.
- **September 23, 2023-** Science Education Enrichment Day STEM Festival (SEED) at USCA. CNTA will have a booth and our outreach educational materials.
- **October 7, 2023-** 5th Annual Oyster Roast & Low Country Boil (Young Professionals Fundraiser). 6:30-9pm. Palmetto Golf Club in Aiken SC.
- **October 16-20- Nuclear Science Week!** Details on local events will be available at: <http://www.celebratensw.org/>

More information on CNTA Events & Activities can be found on our website’s events page: <https://cntaware.org/events/>

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**Visit Us At:**  
[www.cntaware.org](http://www.cntaware.org)  
**Facebook: CNTAware**

