



COMMUNITY REUSE ORGANIZATION

two states, one future



2014
ANNUAL
REPORT

2014

ADVOCACY— “The act of arguing in favor of something, such as a cause, idea or policy.”



As mapped out during the SRSCRO strategic planning meeting and being implemented during my first year of a two-year term as SRSCRO Chair, the focus and energy of the organization needs to be one of proactive versus reactive advocacy and action. Further described, this new strategic direction recognized that the SRSCRO has mainly been a reactive voice in many endeavors and has played that role for many years. Outcomes from

this role for the community have been mixed.

This new strategic direction recognizes the traditional advocacy role still has relevance, but the organization needs to strive to be more in a proactive position whenever it can. We need to harness the SRSCRO energy to chart a course where the community can achieve greater control of its future. We are focusing our energy on conditions we can change – in other words – we are becoming more proactive rather than only reactive advocates.

You can read about several of these proactive initiatives in this report. I would like to emphasize the communication and direct engagement initiatives. For the first time in many decades, a candid dialogue with DOE has started. This includes the

community discussions with the Secretary of Energy during his recent visit to SRS and continues with frank and respectful conversations with other high-ranking DOE officials.

The following are benefits you can expect from these engagement activities.

- Cooperating on activities and, at times, on policy development that result in enhanced community confidence
- Improving community access to emerging issues to create trust and confidence in joint problem solving approaches
- Enhancing two-way communication pathways to achieve better understanding of issues and concerns

The establishment of a proactive two-way open communication process between the DOE and the community has resulted in communication, opinions and proposals flowing in both directions. The process is not linear; rather it is an iterative process. By being more proactive rather than reactive, the SRSCRO hopes to continue the enhancement of constructive communication with DOE while developing relationships of mutual respect and trust that result in successful outcomes for the broader community.

Dr. Susan A. Winsor, Chair

Regional Workforce Study

The SRSCRO along with Board leadership from workforce and economic development, education, and the private sector— are hoping to gain a better understanding of the area’s working population through a comprehensive, regionally focused plan. Currently, there is no written articulation of a coordinated regional strategy to address human capital skill needs, coordination/development of training activities, industry skill needs, and critical system barriers that need to be addressed. The study will commence this year but will not be available until later in 2015.

The objectives of the study are:

- To gain a better understanding of the characteristics of the area’s labor force
- To provide accurate, reliable workforce skill information
- To better inform and help direct economic development in the region

Together the leadership group settled on the TIP Strategies, Inc. (TIP) to conduct the study. Tip Strategies is a privately held Austin, Texas-based business and economic development consulting firm committed to providing quality solutions for

both public and private-sector clients. Established in 1995, the firm’s areas of practice include economic development consulting, strategic planning, site selection, economic impact analysis, regional economic development, target industry analysis, cluster analysis, technology audit, transit-oriented development, workforce analysis, feasibility studies, market analysis, and redevelopment analysis and planning.

The SRSCRO urban-rural region is fortunate to have a diverse job market; it is attractive to both businesses and job seekers, and this study aims at providing detailed occupational, educational level and work location preference of our region’s labor force to support our competitive marketability to other competing areas for business retention and new business location needs. The Study will target but not be limited to the following four industry sectors:

- Cyber Security/ IT/telecommunications
- Advanced Manufacturing
- Nuclear
- Medical



Nuclear Workforce Initiative

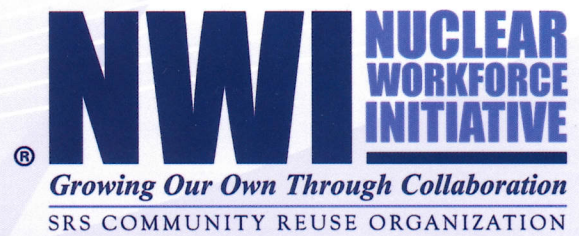
The SRSCRO's Nuclear Workforce Initiative (NWI®) is actively promoting and expanding nuclear workforce capabilities in the region through integrated partnerships with educators and employers. NWI® activities include a focus on the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) skills needed in the nuclear industry and many other industries nationwide.

Through NWI®, the SRSCRO hosted STEM Career Connections in partnership with employers and educators in the region. Over 200 high school juniors and seniors from 18 high schools across the SRSCRO region attended the interactive forum focused on career pathways built on STEM skills. Students learned about future career opportunities in nuclear technology and other high technology fields. They also learned about the associated college and university programs available locally.

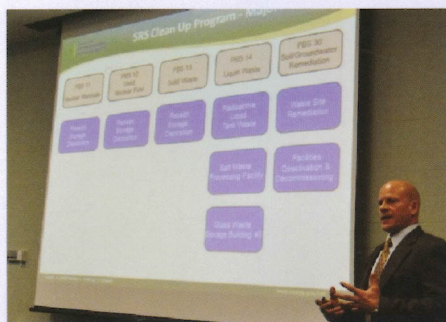
Annually, NWI® hosts the Nuclear Science Week (NSW) Regional Committee to coordinate the area celebration of advances made through nuclear technology. During 2014, employer and educator partnerships reached more than 600 students and teachers through education days, nuclear facility tours and other events during the October 20-24 celebration.

NWI® facilitated partnerships that resulted in a new program titled Nuclear in Action, funded through a grant from the New Mexico Community Foundation. Nuclear in Action is an interactive presentation about nuclear technology that involves art. The program includes information about the importance and opportunities of the Savannah River Site. Ten presentations were conducted during the year, involving 280 middle and high school students.

Regionally, NWI® meets with local employers who continue to convey a steady long-term need for employees with strong STEM skills particular to the nuclear industry. NWI® promotes programs that support employer needs through active involvement in teacher workshops, workforce and education organizations, SRS Information Pods and other nuclear and energy workforce organizations.



"Students learn how technology relates to local jobs at STEM Career Connections."



"Doug Hintze of the DOE-SR discusses the SRS budget."

SRS Budget Forum

"The current mission is not discretionary - it is a federal obligation to address the cold war environmental legacy cleanup and honor its regulatory commitments." – Dr. David Moody – SRS Site Manager

For the second year in a row, the SRSCRO hosted a community forum in April of this year, where some 100 local citizens gathered at the Aiken Technical College Amphitheater to hear top Department of Energy - Environmental Management officials discuss the 2015 fiscal year and expectations for funding Savannah River Site operations.

It was noted that the Environmental Management portfolio is one of our nation's largest liabilities – DOE-SR managers stressed that they have a responsibility to relieve future generations of this environmental and financial liability. Furthermore, they noted the work

is urgent and essential to the health and economic vitality of our communities and the nation, and positions our Sites for future missions and use. The overall theme was SRS delivers! Several slides in the presentation noted the significant progress and demonstrated value SRS has made for the American Taxpayer in the past several years in reducing risks and the overall liability.

SRSCRO MISSION

The mission of the SRS Community Reuse Organization is to facilitate economic development opportunities associated with Savannah River Site technology, capabilities and missions and to serve as an informed, unified community voice for the five-county, two-state region.

Advocacy

When Dr. Ernest Moniz, the nation's 13th Secretary of Energy, visited the Savannah River Site (SRS) on July 28, 2014, he was quick to recognize that SRS still has unique capabilities that lend themselves to new Department of Energy and international missions. He singled out the Savannah River National Laboratory as a "national treasure" and H-Canyon, the only secure nuclear chemical separations plant in the U.S.

He also noted that SRS is the only site in the DOE complex to actually empty and permanently close high-level waste tanks and successfully convert high-level waste into glass – a process pioneered at SRS that no other site has been able to duplicate.

During his "question and answer" period, several SRSCRO Board members in attendance queried the Secretary on MOX, SRNL and third-party financing, and workforce challenges and preparations.

In addition, at the invitation of the Energy Communities Alliance (ECA), representatives from Aiken County and the Savannah River Site Community Reuse Organization (SRSCRO) joined several other DOE communities for meetings in Washington, DC on June 23, 2014. In addition to a meeting with DOE Secretary Ernie Moniz, the group met with recently confirmed Administrator of NNSA General Frank Klotz and the management team at DOE-EM. Discussions were also held with representatives from the Office of Management and Budget and staff members from both the House and Senate Armed Services Committees.



"Secretary Moniz speaks during a community "question and answer" session during his visit to SRS on July 28, 2014."



"Energy Communities Alliance (ECA) and representatives from Aiken County and the Savannah River Site Community Reuse Organization (SRSCRO) joined several other DOE communities for meetings in Washington, DC with Secretary Moniz."

Advancing Nuclear Skills Regionally

Nuclear workers are needed in the SRSCRO region because of retirement, attrition and new growth. In fact, up to 50% of local workers are eligible to retire within the next three years at Savannah River Site for some nuclear career fields. Significant nuclear workforce needs also exist nearby at Southern Company's Plant Vogtle and SCE&G's V.C. Summer nuclear power station – each with two new plants under construction and existing plants in operation.

SRSCRO leaders were considering this scenario in 2009 when they commissioned a nuclear workforce study. Results from the study described the very situation our community is experiencing in 2014. Fortunately, leaders in our community also worked to answer the anticipated workforce needs – creating opportunity for new nuclear workers.

Five colleges and universities partnered with the SRSCRO during 2010. Together, they initiated the Advancing Nuclear Skills Regionally (ANSR) program that includes new college degree fields - Nuclear Quality Systems, Nuclear Welding, Nuclear Science Tracks in Chemistry and Physics, Chemical Technology and Environmental Remediation and



Restoration. Each new degree program fulfills workforce needs directly related to U.S. Department of Energy Environmental Management (DOE-EM) missions in the region and the nation.

During May 2014, DOE-EM awarded \$994,000 to continue the ANSR program. The award marks the fourth year for the collaborative program with a total of \$3.8M in DOE-EM funding. Another \$4.6M has been leveraged by the five college/university partners. The SRSCRO administers the grant involving Aiken Technical College, Augusta Technical College, Georgia Regents University (GRU), University of South Carolina Aiken (USCA) and University of South Carolina Salkehatchie.

Consideration and planning that began five years ago is paying off with results. Over 350 college students are enrolled in ANSR degree programs. More than 1043 K-12 aged students have been directly involved in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) programs created through ANSR. Already, 118 students have graduated and are moving into employment in the region.

SUMMARY STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of June 30, 2014 and 2013

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

	2014	2013
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 1,267,878	\$406,675
Investments	\$ 4,529,213	\$5,101,970
Inventory	\$ 289,136	\$235,479
Accounts Receivable	\$ 67,503	\$23,639
Grant Reimbursements Receivable	\$ 53,943	\$48,372
Total Current Assets	\$ 6,207,673	\$5,816,135

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

CURRENT LIABILITIES

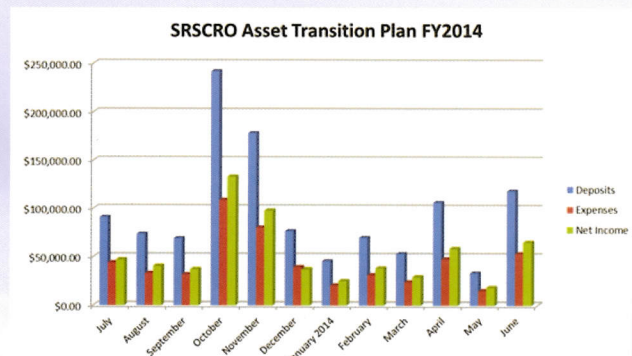
Accounts Payable	\$ 144,631	\$125,244
Accrued Expenses	\$ 2,134	\$1,525
Total Liabilities	\$ 146,765	\$126,769

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted	\$ 6,060,908	\$5,689,366
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 6,207,673	\$5,816,135

Asset Transition Program

This surplus material is first made available to organizations which create jobs, increase economic development capacity, or improve the quality of life in the two-state, five-county region. Recipients may be local governments, non-profit organizations or private businesses. Groups have 30 days after surplus material is made available to request items at very reasonable prices. After 30 days, if not claimed for economic development purposes, the material is then released to be sold to the public on the open market. Proceeds from sales are used to defray expenses in operating the program and for use in economic and workforce development projects in the region.



In Fiscal Year 2014, the Asset Transition Program returned approximately \$627,403 in revenue to the SRSCRO.

SRSCRO BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2014

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*Southern Carolina Alliance
Congressional Appointment*

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*North Augusta Chamber of Commerce;
North Augusta Chamber of Commerce Appointment*

Fred E. Humes

*Applied Research Center;
Economic Development Partnership Appointment*

J. David Jameson

*Greater Aiken Chamber of Commerce;
Greater Aiken Chamber of Commerce Appointment*

Dr. Sandra J. Jordan

*University of South Carolina Aiken;
Congressional Appointment*

Anna G. Loadholt

*(Retired);
Southern Carolina Alliance Appointment*

Anne P. Rice, SRSCRO Treasurer*

*(Retired);
Allendale/Barnwell County Council Appointment (Rotate)*

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*Southern Carolina Alliance;
Southern Carolina Alliance Appointment*

Chuck Smith

*Edward Jones Investments;
Aiken County Council Appointment*

Will Williams

*Economic Development Partnership;
Economic Development Partnership Appointment*

Dr. Susan A. Winsor, SRSCRO Chair*

*Aiken Technical College;
Congressional Appointment*

Georgia

Robert F. Bennett

*Development Authority of Columbia County;
Development Authority of Columbia County Appointment*

Sanford Loyd, SRSCRO Vice Chair*

*Sanford Loyd, CPA; PC;
Augusta Metro Chamber of Commerce Appointment*

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Congressional Appointment*

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*(Retired);
Columbia County Commission Appointment*

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*Augusta Technical College;
Congressional Appointment*

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Augusta Metro Chamber of Commerce Appointment*

John Ray

*WRDW-TV;
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*Columbia County Chamber of Commerce;
Columbia County Chamber of Commerce Appointment*

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*Parlay Political, Parlay Marketing & GovComms;
Congressional Appointment*

**Executive Committee Member*



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