

SRS

COMMUNITY REUSE ORGANIZATION

two states, one future

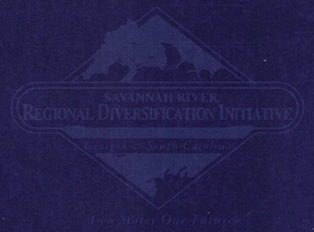


ENGAGE

ADVOCATE

EDUCATE

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



Economic Development Collaboration

Last year's SRS Community Reuse Organization (SRSCRO) Chair, Robbie Bennett, Executive Director of the Development Authority of Columbia County emphasized the SRS Economic Impact Study commissioned by the SRSCRO. As with previous studies, this study highlighted SRS as a major economic driver in our region — and rightly so.

Robbie also noted that a critical issue moving forward for the SRSCRO is to ensure a balanced approach as it related to workforce and economic development. As the new SRSCRO Chair, I could not agree more.

Economic development addresses the functioning of the microeconomics of the regional economy. As a Regional Economic Developer, I must ensure the economic well-being of the entire region under my responsibility. This means a region that can improve its economic, political, and social welfare.

In my opinion, economic development is programs, policies or activities that seek to improve the economic well-being and quality of life for a broader community. Strong partnerships are essential to the success of all economic development activities. Partnerships help to leverage resources, build capacity, and encourage collaboration.

In addition, economic development work needs a strong community foundation. It is important to have the support of your community for everything from project plans and budgets to marketing and promotion – community stakeholders, like you, are very important.

This annual report highlights the work of the SRSCRO in three key collaboration endeavors:

- **Workforce**
- **Community Outreach**
- **Partnerships**

As a community stakeholder, you can find additional details highlighting activities related to these topics in our annual report.

I would like to thank the SRSCRO staff for their commitment to our goals and hard work. In addition, I would like to thank our directors for their patience and support during my first year as Chair.

I look forward to my second year as the SRSCRO Chair as we continue to build upon the economic collaboration of this organization. Working together, we can assure our continued and mutual success.



Will Williams
Chair

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Will Williams', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

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.*

Partnerships

Through the DOE-SR established Asset Transition Program (ATP), the SRSCRO can distribute economic development funds to member counties. Over the past eight years, the SRSCRO has invested more than \$6 million in regional programs. One of this year's projects was supported with matching funds through the Southern Carolina Alliance to help update and expand the forensic training laboratory at the USC Salkehatchie campus.

A similar distribution plan for economic development funds to member counties will be initiated when the sale of all donated surplus property from the closed Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility (MOX) is complete. The SRSCRO has also been partnering with the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) to help facilitate the disbursement of the SRSCRO revenue generated from the MOX assets.

From time to time, the SRSCRO can offer designated items under the ATP program as a special property request listing. These "quality of life" donations are specialized items for specific



community training or community service uses. If during the designated 14-day posting period multiple requests are received, the selection is based on a due diligence process performed by the SRSCRO to determine the greatest need from the information supplied to the SRSCRO.

This year there were three special property postings. One was a donation of a heavy rescue vehicle which went to Aiken Public Safety. The second was a one-time donation of school supplies to the Allendale School District. The third was two training glove boxes that went to Aiken Technical College for training in the Nuclear Fundamentals Certificate program for operators or Radiation Protection Technology (RPT) associate degree courses.



In addition, this year the SRSCRO submitted its pledge of \$100,000 matched funds to the Augusta Regional Airport for the Small Community Air Service Development (SCASD) grant, which helped to provide a subsidy or revenue guarantee to defray some of the costs and risks associated with direct flights to Washington, DC. ■

Workforce

The SRSCRO strongly believes that helping local citizens develop skills for local jobs is an important role. Over thirteen years we have built a collaboration of partners that are achieving that task.

During 2022, these partners gathered for the SRSCRO-hosted event called Nuclear & Education Connections. Representatives from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) traveled to participate along with 100 local educators and nuclear employers. Participants focused on strengthening regional connections that help address local workforce demands.

Kristen Ellis, Acting Director of Regulatory, Intergovernmental, and Stakeholder Engagement &

Senior Advisor for STEM and Talent Acquisition for the U.S. DOE Office of Environmental Management (EM) Headquarters spoke to the audience. She provided insight into DOE's current focus on workforce and shared demographics showing the eager need for new workers.

The SRSCRO and its partners are at the forefront of improving the talent pipeline for science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields that support DOE and other industries in the region. With over \$23M in grant awards from DOE and the National Nuclear Security Administration, the SRSCRO and its academic partners have built new training programs and provided over 2,000 scholarships to students since 2011. More than 70% of the



scholarships have been awarded to non-traditional or minority students that are finding careers locally.

Nuclear & Education Connections highlighted these regional accomplishments, with thoughtful focus on the perspectives of employer and employee needs. This was the fifth event in the "Connections" series that the SRSCRO has held since 2016. Previous events focused on other industry sectors including manufacturing, cybersecurity, and healthcare. ■

Community Outreach

The SRSCRO continued its public outreach and communications activities across the region in 2022, including a wide variety of regional advocacy and educational opportunities.

To heighten community understanding of the SRS Economic Impact Study, released last December, presentations were made to the Augusta Exchange Club, the Greater Aiken Chamber of Commerce's First Friday event, the Augusta Rotary Club, the University of South Carolina Aiken Lifetime Learning Class, and the SRS Citizens Advisory Board.

The staff continued to support community advocacy activities related to SRS, nuclear education, and workforce issues across the region. In March, the SRSCRO was invited to speak at the Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness

(CNTA) Up & Atom breakfast on our workforce activities. Ongoing efforts to promote workforce opportunities were further highlighted through the SRSCRO participation on workforce committees across the region, including various Chamber of Commerce education committees, regional school districts and the Alliance for Cybersecurity Education (ACE) Committee, a consortium of education and community partners working to raise the effective value of the middle through high school educational system and its integration into post-secondary education.

Through our Nuclear Workforce Initiative (NWI®), the SRSCRO has worked diligently to spread the nuclear message to the broader community by participating in the international Nuclear Science Week Committee and being a catalyst and champion for local nuclear science week activities.

On a national front, the SRSCRO was featured this year on a nuclear podcast called Gone Fission, which covers the latest developments in environmental cleanup across the DOE complex. Locally, the

SRSCRO participated in the Teaching Radiation, Energy and Technology (TREAT) Workshop, an event for area educators held by the DOE Savannah River Operations Office since 1995. Through an environmental justice grant, DOE partners with Savannah State University (SSU) to develop and carry out the workshops. As part of the CSRA College Night, hosted by Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, staff spoke to parents and high school seniors on local career opportunities and grant scholarships.

The SRSCRO continued its wide-reaching efforts related to DOE by attending regular Energy Communities Alliance meetings, including Peer Exchanges across the country and the annual National Cleanup Workshop in Washington, D.C. In addition, the SRSCRO presented or facilitated panels at national conferences like the annual Waste Management Symposia conference series. Furthermore, the SRSCRO continued to meet regularly with local DOE management and helped them connect with local elected officials about the SRS budget and Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) issues. ■



10th Year for STEM Career Connections®

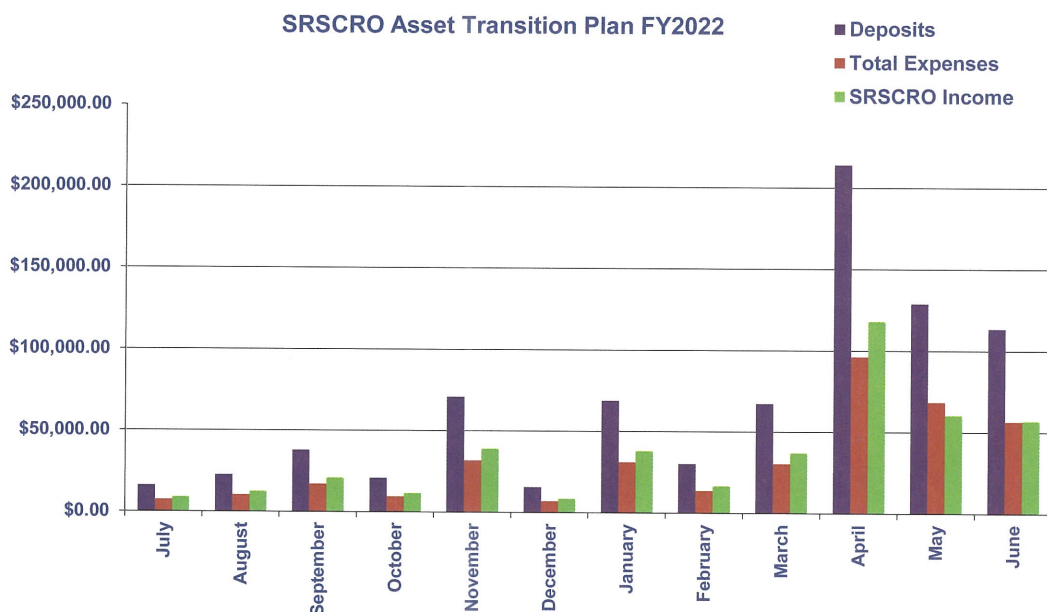
Are local students aware of robust job opportunities at Generac, Amazon, Dominion Energy and Southern Nuclear Plant Vogtle and many other regional employers? The answer is a resounding "YES" for thousands of highschoolers that have participated in STEM Career Connections®.

This year marks the tenth anniversary of STEM Career Connections®, the SRSCRO's unique forum that connects industries with their future workforce. The annual program delivers honest insight into local career pathways. Students learn directly from employers that are making internationally known products, providing critical services, and making a difference in our community and the world.

Employers help sponsor and participate in the annual STEM Career Connections® event that is coordinated and produced by the SRSCRO. The 2022 video format provides rare, on-location images of area companies with easy-access segments for educators and career specialists to use throughout the school year. See the newly released 2022 production at srsacro.org. ■



In Fiscal Year 2022, the Asset Transition Program and Asset Removal Projects (including the MOX assets) returned approximately \$350,315 to the SRSCRO for its regional programs.



Statements of Financial Position

JUNE 30, 2022 AND 2021

Assets

Current Assets	2022	2021
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 593,631	\$ 371,911
Investments	\$ 5,546,133	\$ 6,393,065
Accounts Receivable	\$ 6,512	\$ 3,516
Grant Reimbursements Receivable	\$ 273,364	\$ 154,996
Inventory	\$ 137,413	\$ 167,531
Total Assets	\$ 6,557,053	\$ 7,091,019

Liabilities & Net Assets

Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$ 319,150	\$ 200,368
Deferred Revenue	\$ 15,500	\$ 9,000
Total Liabilities	\$ 334,650	\$209,368
Net Assets		
Without donor restrictions	\$ 6,222,403	\$ 6,881,651
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 6,557,053	\$ 7,091,019

SRSCRO BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022

South Carolina

Danny Black

*Southern Carolina Alliance;
Congressional Appointment*

Terra L. Carroll

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

Dr. Daniel Heimmermann

*University of South Carolina Aiken;
Congressional Appointment*

Fred E. Humes

*Applied Research Center;
Western SC Economic Development Partnership Appointment*

J. David Jameson

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

Dr. Forest Mahan

*Aiken Technical College;
Congressional Appointment*

Anne Rice, SRSCRO Treasurer*

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

William E. Robinson

*(Retired);
Southern Carolina Alliance Appointment*

Chuck Smith

*Edward Jones Investments;
Aiken County Council Appointment*

The Late Carolyne Williams, SC Representative at Large*

*(Retired);
Southern Carolina Alliance Appointment*

Will Williams, SRSCRO Chair*

*Western SC Economic Development Partnership;
Western SC Economic Development Partnership Appointment*

Georgia

Robert F. Bennett, SRSCRO Immediate Past Chair*

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

Tom Clark

*Alliance for Fort Gordon;
Congressional Appointment*

Lane Keen

*Keen Signs and Graphics;
Augusta Metro Chamber of Commerce Appointment*

Russell Lahodny

*Columbia County Chamber of Commerce;
Columbia County Chamber of Commerce Appointment*

Sanford Loyd, GA Representative at Large*

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

Dr. J. Christopher Noah

*(Retired);
Columbia County Commission Appointment*

Karyn Nixon, SRSCRO Secretary*

*Augusta University;
Congressional Appointment*

Susan E. Parr

*Augusta Metro Chamber of Commerce;
Augusta Metro Chamber of Commerce Appointment*

William R. Toole

*Alfred Benesch & Company;
Augusta/Richmond County Consolidated Government Appointment*

Dr. Jermaine Whirl

*Augusta Technical College;
Congressional Appointment*

Cal Wray, SRSCRO Vice Chair*

*Augusta Economic Development Authority;
Augusta Economic Development Authority Appointment*

**Executive Committee Member*



COMMUNITY REUSE ORGANIZATION

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P.O. Box 696 | Aiken, SC 29802 | P. 803.508.7401 | F. 803.593.4296

www.SRSCRO.org