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For immediate release

## **Washington Savannah River Company Earns DOE Legacy of Stars Award**

AIKEN, S.C. (Dec. 7) – The Washington Savannah River Company was recently recognized by the Department of Energy for earning the DOE Voluntary Protection Program Legacy of Stars Award, culminating six years of “Star Status” achievement. This is the highest level of safety recognition in that program. The award was presented to WSRC by Glenn Podonsky, DOE Chief Health, Safety and Security Officer, during a visit to SRS last week.

In order to receive a Legacy of Stars Award, a contractor must earn the Star of Excellence Award for three consecutive years. In order to receive the Star of Excellence Awards, WSRC had to maintain their injury rates at least 75 percent below industry averages, maintain safety program excellence worthy of emulation, and initiate outreach and mentoring activities to promote safe operations throughout the community. The WSRC VPP Core Team is also advising other DOE-complex sites to help them develop a strong safety culture and become eligible for the Voluntary Protection Program.

The DOE Voluntary Protection Program mirrors that of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. The purpose of the program is to recognize contractor organizations, like WSRC, that have maintained successful safety and health programs. In order to be recognized as a participant in the DOE-VPP, a contractor must demonstrate excellence in the following safety program areas: management leadership, employee involvement, worksite analysis, hazard prevention and control, and safety and health training.

Bob Pedde, WSRC president, said “It is an honor to accept this award on behalf of the nearly 10,000 employees who have worked as a team to earn this significant recognition. This award is a direct result of the safety culture of our site and company, which continues to strive for a zero injury environment. We are a team that places safety first—our own and our co-workers.”

WSRC team recently reached 10 million hours without a lost-time injury, and more than 8.6 million hours without an employee being placed on work restrictions as a result of an injury. The site’s construction workforce has exceeded 19 million hours without a lost time injury.

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### **The WSRC Team:**

Washington Savannah River Company LLC • Bechtel Savannah River, Inc. • BNG America Savannah River Corporation  
BWXT Savannah River Company • CH2 Savannah River Company