

# SWPF construction enters home stretch

The Savannah River Site (SRS) will soon get a powerful new tool in its clean-up toolbox as construction of the Department of Energy's Salt Waste Processing Facility (SWPF) enters the 'home stretch.' Contractor Parsons is set to finish construction of the facility next summer and will transition to the Testing and Commissioning phase of the project. Once commissioning is complete, the SWPF will exponentially increase processing rates at SRS tank farms in an effort to empty the site's high-level radioactive waste tanks.

The SWPF will be the key liquid waste facility for processing approximately 90 percent of the 38 million gallons of tank waste stored in underground tanks at SRS. It will separate the "salt" waste into a low-volume, highly radioactive solution for vitrification in the Defense Waste Processing Facility and a high-volume, decontaminated salt solution for disposal as low-level waste in the Saltstone Facility.

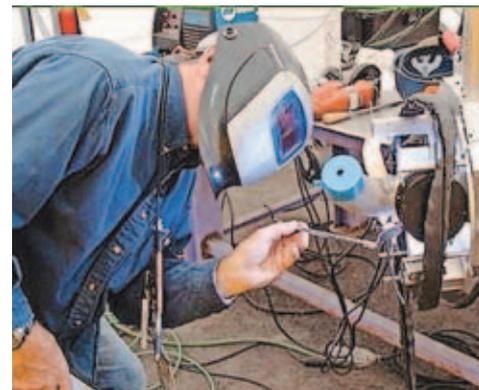
Under the schedule outlined in its contract with DOE, Parsons must complete construction of SWPF by December 31, 2016, at a cost of \$530 million. Construction is set to be completed several months ahead of schedule and significantly under



budget. "We've implemented a number of strategies to safely and efficiently accelerate the schedule," Parsons' SWPF Project Manager Frank Sheppard said. "Our focus on safety as well as the emphasis we've placed on aligning our engineering, construction, and commissioning groups has put us in a position to succeed. We

are working closely with our DOE customer to deliver this project early, save the taxpayers millions of dollars, and get the facility up and running so that it can perform its vital mission in cleaning up the Savannah River Site."

The project workforce currently stands at 825 employees, and construction is



approximately 85 percent complete. Approximately twenty percent of the testing and commissioning work has been completed. This is a key focus for Parsons as the project transitions from construction to startup and commissioning, and then to operations. "Our goal is not to simply deliver the facility, but rather to successfully complete testing and commissioning of the facility and begin hot operations as soon as possible," Sheppard said. "Parsons will deliver this first-of-a-kind facility that will safely and efficiently process salt waste and provide significant risk reduction at the Savannah River Site."



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