

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

SRS, known as the Savannah River Plant prior to 1989, produced plutonium and tritium for use in the manufacture of nuclear and thermonuclear weapons during the Cold War. Nine separate industrial process areas - five heavy-water moderated production reactors, two chemical separation areas, a fuel and target fabrication area, and a heavy water production area - were constructed as well as research and development facilities, administrative and support properties, and plant infrastructure. Du Pont, as prime contractor for the Atomic Energy Commission, constructed these facilities and the landscape that envelops them between 1950 and 1956 as an integrated plant. The close of the Cold War in 1989 ended the original production mission and many of the original production facilities were shut down or adaptively reused to suit ongoing or new missions.

The Department of Energy owns the 310-square mile Site that is located in Aiken, Barnwell and Allendale counties. The Savannah River Operations Office (SR) oversees the site's operation. In addition, a second DOE entity, the National Nuclear Security Administration - Savannah River Site Office (NNSA-SRSO), oversees the tritium production complex while the newly named Savannah River National Laboratory (SRNL) and the Savannah River Ecology Laboratory (SREL) occupy research facilities on Site. Westinghouse Savannah River Company (WSRC) and its partners are the Site's management and operations contractor. In 1992, the Site's original production mission ended and the Site's focus turned to accelerated clean up that compelled compliance with Federal regulations concerning the evaluation of SRS Cold War historic resources. Prior to 2003, compliance with Federal preservation laws for threatened historic Cold War resources was completed on a case-by-case basis under SR's Environmental Quality Management Division.

In 1997, DOE elected to fund a multi-year History Project to develop a narrative on SRS's technical history in preparation for SRS's fiftieth anniversary. In addition to the narrative, SR contracted for surveying significant Cold War resources that had reached or would reach 50 years of age by year 2000. This was expanded to an inventory of Cold War resources constructed between 1950 and 1989 to help fulfill DOE's Sections 110 and 106 responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

Between 1998 and 1999, the inventory of the Site's Cold War era resources was conducted and a Cold War context, *SRS: Cold War Context and Resource Study*, was developed to provide an evaluative framework for the SRS's Cold War historic properties under the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) criteria. The document recommended that 220 properties and the Site's layout comprised a National Register-eligible Cold War Historic District that possesses national, state, and local significance. The NRHP boundary coincides with the Site's perimeter. The inventory and context were completed in 1999 and accepted by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) in 2003.

Given the Site's ongoing missions, the SR and the NNSA-SRSO recognize that site operations may impact Cold War NRHP-eligible properties over the next decade and that a plan is needed to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse affects to these properties.

As a result, DOE chose to develop a Programmatic Agreement (PA), in consultation with the South Carolina State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (the Council or ACHP), the SRS Citizens Advisory Board (SRS CAB), the Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness (CNTA), and the cities of Aiken, Augusta, and New Ellenton,

for the preservation, management, and treatment of the NRHP-eligible historic properties within the SRS Cold War Historic District.

The PA (see Appendix D) stipulates that a management plan (CRMP) be developed and contain the process for reaching decisions concerning the future treatment of SRS Cold War NRHP-eligible historic properties, taking into account their historical significance, integrity, future interpretation and treatment. The development of this document (the CRMP) was guided by the National Historic Preservation Act, Executive Order 13287, comments from those parties signing and concurring with the PA, and balancing these with DOE missions and safety and security needs.

In addition, the SRS Cold War Built Environment CRMP was developed using the *Environmental Guidelines for Development of Cultural Resource Management Plans* (August 1995 and as revised in 2004, DOE/EH-0501); the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Preservation Planning* (48 FR 44716-20); and NHPA Section 110 Guidelines (53 FR 4727-46) and in consultation with the PA signatories.

This management plan is applicable for only Cold War NRHP-eligible historic properties not for below ground archaeological resources. SR entered into an agreement with the SHPO for the management of archaeological resources in 1989. A separate CRMP titled *Archaeological Resource Management Plan* (ARMP) developed by the Savannah River Archaeological Research Program (SRARP) in the same year treats those resources.

**Availability of Funds** – Nothing in this CRMP will be construed as obligating the United States, DOE, the State of South Carolina, or any other public agency, their officers, agents, or employees to expend funds, in excess or advance of appropriations authorized and allocated by law.