LW PRE-SOLICITATION SITE

TOUR SCRIPT

POINT OF ENTRY BRIEFING

WELCOME TO THE SAVANNAH RIVER SITE.

AS A VISITOR, YOU ARE REQUIRED TO RECEIVE A POINT OF ENTRY BRIEFING BEFORE YOUR VISIT BEGINS. THIS BRIEFING WILL COVER SRS SAFETY, SECURITY AND RADIOLOGICAL CONTROLS.

SAFETY IS OUR FIRST PRIORITY AT SRS.

TO ENSURE YOUR SAFETY AS WELL AS TO ADHERE TO SECURITY REQUIREMENTS, YOU ARE OBLIGATED TO STAY WITH YOUR ESCORT.

SRS POLICY IS TO PLAN FOR ACCIDENTS THAT COULD OCCUR AT THIS SITE.

SPECIAL ACTIONS ARE REQUIRED IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY.

EMERGENCY SIGNALS USED AT SRS INCLUDE NUCLEAR INCIDENT ALARM, FIRE SIGNAL, AND EMERGENCY ALARM SIGNAL.

IF ONE OF THESE SIGNALS IS HEARD DURING YOUR VISIT, YOUR ESCORT WILL INSTRUCT YOU ON PROPER ACTIONS TO TAKE TO REMAIN SAFE.

OBEY ALL WARNING SIGNS, BARRICADES, AND OTHER SAFETY NOTICES.

OBTAIN PERMISSION FROM YOUR ESCORT BEFORE ENTRY.

WALK, DO NOT RUN, AND DO NOT TAKE SHORTCUTS.

STAY ON SIDEWALKS OR OTHER DESIGNATED TRAILS OR WALKING SURFACES.

WHEN ASCENDING/DESCENDING STAIRS, STAY TO THE RIGHT AND USE THE HANDRAIL.

WHILE IN THE VAN OR BUS, WEAR YOUR SEATBELT AND STAY SEATED WHILE THE VEHICLE IS IN MOTION.

SMOKING IS NOT ALLOWED IN GOVERNMENT VEHICLES OR BUILDINGS.

HARD HATS, HEARING PROTECTION AND SAFETY GLASSES WITH SIDE SHIELDS, IF REQUIRED, WILL BE PROVIDED FOR YOU.

YOU MAY ENCOUNTER HEAVY EQUIPMENT IN SOME AREAS OF THE SITE.

ALWAYS USE CAUTION AND DO NOT ENTER AREAS WHERE HEAVY EQUIPMENT IS BEING OPERATED. NEVER WALK NEAR UNLOADING ACTIVITIES.

STAY A SAFE DISTANCE FROM MOVING EQUIPMENT AND MATERIAL TO AVOID POTENTIAL PINCH OR CRUSH INJURIES.

REPORT ANY INJURY, INCIDENT, NEAR-MISS, OR UNSAFE CONDITION IMMEDIATELY TO YOUR ESCORTS OR FACILITY TOUR GUIDES.

IN ORDER TO PROTECT EMPLOYEES, VISITORS AND GOVERNMENT PROPERTY, SRS MAINTAINS A HIGH LEVEL OF SECURITY.

YOU'LL SEE THE SECURITY POLICE OFFICERS OF WACKENHUT SERVICES INC. (WSI) IN NUMEROUS LOCATIONS ACROSS THE SITE.

THE WSI LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS HAVE THE SAME LEGAL AUTHORITY AS ANY SC LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENT.

UNDERSTANDING THE FOLLOWING SECURITY PRACTICES WILL HELP YOUR VISIT TO SRS GO SMOOTHLY.

VISITORS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED AT ALL TIMES BY AN ESCORT.

ALL VISITORS MUST BE BADGED BEFORE TOURING SRS.

THE BADGE MUST BE WORN IN THE CHEST AREA AND VISIBLE AT ALL TIMES.

IF YOUR BADGE IS MISPLACED, NOTIFY YOUR ESCORT IMMEDIATELY SO IT CAN BE FOUND OR REPORTED.

YOUR TOUR BADGE MUST BE RETURNED AT THE CONCLUSION OF YOUR VISIT.

IF YOU ALREADY HAVE A BADGE, PLEASE CHECK THE EXPIRATION DATE TO MAKE CERTAIN IT IS STILL CURRENT.

VEHICLES AND HAND-CARRIED ITEMS ARE INSPECTED BY WSI OFFICERS AND/OR K-9 TEAMS BEFORE A PERSON IS ALLOWED TO ENTER A SITE BARRICADE AND SOME FACILITIES.

SOME ITEMS ARE NOT ALLOWED ANYWHERE AT SRS.

THESE ITEMS INCLUDE FIREARMS (INCLUDING TOY OR SIMULATED GUNS) AND AMMUNITION, ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, EXPLOSIVE MATERIALS, HAND-HELD WEAPONS, ILLEGAL DRUGS, AND ITEMS PROHIBITED BY STATE AND FEDERAL LAW.

OTHER ITEMS THAT ARE NOT PERMITTED DURING YOUR VISIT INCLUDE CELL PHONES, CAMERAS AND UNDEVELOPED FILM, PALM PILOTS, COMPUTERS, COPYING DEVICES, ELECTRONIC RECORDING DEVICES AND KNIVES WITH BLADES OVER 3" LONG.

IF YOU HAVE ANY OF THESE ITEMS, PLEASE RETURN THEM TO YOUR PERSONAL VEHICLE IN THE PARKING LOT AT THE CONCLUSION OF THIS BRIEFING.

SRS WORKS WITH MATERIALS IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE AND US NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION EFFORTS.

ALL AREAS ASSOCIATED WITH RADIOLOGICAL CONDITIONS AT SRS ARE CLEARLY IDENTIFIED USING SIGNS AND ROPES WITH SPECIFIC COLORS AND SYMBOLS.

YELLOW AND MAGENTA COLORING AND/OR THE INTERNATIONAL RADIATION SYMBOL ARE USED TO IDENTIFY AREAS CONTROLLED FOR RADIOLOGICAL PURPOSES.

IF YOUR TOUR INCLUDES ENTRY INTO A CONTROLLED AREA, YOU WILL BE NOTIFIED BEFORE ENTERING AND MONITORED BEFORE EXITING THE FACILITY. (DWPF)

IN SUMMARY, THERE ARE 3 GENERAL RULES:

1. FOLLOW DIRECTIONS FROM YOUR ESCORTS AND FACILITY TOUR GUIDES.
2. OBEY ALL SIGNS AND POSTINGS
3. COMPLY WITH ALL SAFETY, SECURITY AND RADIOLOGICAL RULES

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS POINT OF ENTRY BRIEFING, PLEASE REVIEW THEM WITH YOUR ESCORT IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THIS BRIEFING.

THANK YOU! ENJOY YOUR VISIT TO SRS.

OUR FIRST STOP ON THE TOUR WILL BE F-AREA TANK FARM. FOR THIS TOUR I WILL GIVING YOU GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT SRS.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT NEITHER PHIL OR I CAN ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS NOR CAN YOUR FACILITY TOUR GUIDES. WE HAVE AVAILABLE 3X5 CARDS FOR YOU TO WRITE DOWN YOUR QUESTIONS.

THE SAVANNAH RIVER SITE IS 310 SQUARE MILES (198,334 ACRES) AND COVERS PARTS OF AIKEN, ALLENDALE AND BARNWELL COUNTIES.

IT'S 1 PERCENT OF THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, JUST A LITTLE SMALLER THAN NEW YORK CITY, ABOUT ¼ THE SIZE OF RHODE ISLAND.

AND THIS IS STILL NOT THE LARGEST WEAPONS SITE IN THE DOE COMPLEX – THE NEVADA TEST SITE, IDAHO NATIONAL ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY AND THE HANFORD SITE, IN WASHINGTON STATE, ARE BIGGER.

ABOUT 7 OUT OF 10 WORKERS LIVE IN SOUTH CAROLINA WITH MORE THAN HALF OF THOSE LIVING IN AIKEN COUNTY.

THE SITE BEGAN ON JULY 25, 1950, WHEN PRESIDENT TRUMAN ASKED DU PONT TO BUILD A FACILITY TO PRODUCE MATERIALS – MAINLY TRITIUM AND PLUTONIUM-239 – FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

CONSTRUCTION BEGAN AFTER THE FOLLOWING NOVEMBER, AND THIS AREA SAW A BOOM IT'S NEVER SEEN BEFORE OR SINCE. THE CONSTRUCTION WORKFORCE NUMBERED MORE THAN 38,000, BY FAR THE LARGEST IN THE SITE'S HISTORY.

BUILDING SRS MEANT ABOUT 6,000 PEOPLE, 1,500 FAMILIES, HAD TO BE RELOCATED FROM THEIR HOMES IN SIX TOWNS AND SEVERAL SMALL COMMUNITIES FORMERLY LOCATED ON THIS SITE: ELLENTON, DUNBARTON, MEYERS MILL, LEIGH, ROBBINS AND HAWTHORNE.

THE PRIMARY INDUSTRIES WERE AGRICULTURE AND THE LEIGH BANANA CRATE COMPANY.

BEFORE SEPTEMBER 11, 2001, FAMILIES WOULD RETURN TO SRS TO SEE THEIR FORMER HOME SITES, CEMETERIES, CHURCHES, WORK SITES, SCHOOLS, ETC.

THE SAVANNAH RIVER ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH PROGRAM KEEPS DETAILED RECORDS ON WHO OWNED WHAT PIECES OF LAND, FOR HISTORICAL PURPOSES.

WE STILL HAVE 36 CEMETERIES ON SITE. 122 WERE MOVED OFF SITE DURING CONSTRUCTION.

JUST PAST THIS ENTRY CONTROL POINT ON YOUR LEFT IS THE SAVANNAH RIVER ECOLOGY LABORATORY AND ON YOUR RIGHT WILL BE THE SAVANNAH RIVER NATIONAL LABORATORY – BOTH ARE NOT PART OF THE WORKSCOPE OF THIS CONTRACT.

SREL FOUNDER DR. EUGENE ODUM AND OTHER UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA RESEARCHERS WERE ASKED IN 1951 TO CONDUCT CENSUSES OF PLANTS AND ANIMALS BEFORE THE NUCLEAR PRODUCTION FACILITIES BEGAN OPERATIONS.

ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CONTINUES. SREL IS CONSIDERED BY MANY TO BE THE BIRTHPLACE OF THE MODERN SCIENCE OF ECOLOGY.

THEY ALSO SHARE THEIR KNOWLEDGE AROUND THE WORLD; IN FACT, THERE IS A SAVANNAH RIVER ECOLOGY LABORATORY FACILITY AT THE CHERNOBYL FACILITY IN THE UKRAINE.

THE SAVANNAH RIVER NATIONAL LABORATORY IS THE APPLIED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ARM OF SRS. IT HAS MORE THAN 750 EMPLOYEES, MANY OF WHOM ARE PREMIER SCIENTISTS, ENGINEERS AND INVENTORS.

IT PROVIDES TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR SRS MISSIONS AND IS ALSO ACTIVE IN TRANSFERRING TECHNOLOGY TO OTHER INDUSTRIES. IT ALSO SERVES AS A PROVING GROUND, DEMONSTRATING NEW TECHNOLOGIES DEVELOPED ELSEWHERE.

SRNL IS ESPECIALLY ACTIVE IN DEVELOPING AND DEMONSTRATING TECHNOLOGIES TO:

- CLEAN UP THE ENVIRONMENT
- STABILIZE AND DISPOSE OF WASTE
- WORK WITH HYDROGEN IN VARIOUS FORMS, INCLUDING TRITIUM
- USE ROBOTS TO DO WORK IN AREAS WHERE HUMANS SHOULD NOT GO
- SERVE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL NON-PROLIFERATION INTEREST

SRS HAVE THE LARGEST CONCENTRATION OF PHDS IN THE SOUTHEAST, MANY OF WHOM ARE EMPLOYED AT THE SAVANNAH RIVER NATIONAL LABORATORY AND THE SAVANNAH RIVER ECOLOGY LABORATORY.

AS WE TURN AT THE STOPLIGHT AHEAD, ON YOUR RIGHT WILL BE THE REMAINS OF M-AREA AND ON LEFT WILL BE THE A-AREA POWERHOUSE.

UPPER A-AREA WAS THE SITE'S MAIN ADMINISTRATION AREA AND SUPPORT AREA.

MANY OF THESE BUILDINGS ARE BEING SCHEDULED FOR DEMOLITION AS WE TRY TO REDUCE THE SITE FOOTPRINT AND MORTGAGE COSTS.

ON YOUR RIGHT IS THE FOOTPRINT OF M AREA, WHICH WAS BASICALLY A METAL FABRICATION AND FINISHING OPERATION.

THIS IS WHERE THE SITE'S NUCLEAR PRODUCTION PROCESS STARTED WHEN THE SITE WAS IN PRODUCTION MODE.

THE FACILITIES HERE MADE THE FUEL RODS, TARGET RODS AND SAFETY RODS THAT BEGAN AND CONTROLLED THE NUCLEAR REACTION IN THE REACTOR VESSELS.

NEARLY ALL THOSE BUILDINGS HAVE BEEN DECONTAMINATED AND DEMOLISHED.

THE LARGE GREEN STRUCTURE ON YOUR LEFT IS THE 700 AREA POWERHOUSE, AND IT'S PART OF THE POWER SYSTEM THAT WAS PART OF THE ORIGINAL CONSTRUCTION.

COAL WAS BURNED IN POWER PLANTS, AND THE RESULTING STEAM WAS PIPED TO THE PRODUCTION AREAS.

SRS IS IN THE PROCESS OF PROCURING AND CONSTRUCTING A NEW BIOMASS POWERHOUSE FOR THIS AREA.

CONSTRUCTION WILL BEGIN THIS YEAR AND WILL BE COMPLETED IN 2008

THE STEAM LINES YOU'LL SEE ALL OVER THE SITE WERE PART OF THE SITE'S STEAM SYSTEM.

ORIGINAL SITE CONSTRUCTION CONSISTED OF FIVE PRODUCTION REACTORS, TWO CHEMICAL SEPARATIONS AREAS, TRITIUM FACILITIES, A HEAVY WATER EXTRACTION PLANT, WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITIES AND ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT FACILITIES.

IT WAS THE LARGEST INDIVIDUAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT IN UNITED STATES HISTORY.

IN OCTOBER 1952, THE FIRST OPERABLE PRODUCTION FACILITY – THE HEAVY WATER EXTRACTION FACILITY – WAS COMPLETED.

THIS PLANT WAS USED TO EXTRACT DEUTERIUM, WHICH IS AN ISOTOPE OF HYDROGEN, FROM THE RIVER WATER.

IN DECEMBER 1953, R REACTOR ACHIEVED ITS FIRST CRITICALITY.

THE ENTIRE SITE WAS UP AND RUNNING BY 1955.

TO PUT THIS IN PERSPECTIVE, OUR DEFENSE WASTE PROCESSING FACILITY TOOK 13 YEARS TO COMPLETE, FROM GROUNDBREAKING TO RADIOACTIVE OPERATIONS.

INCLUDING PURCHASING THE LAND, THE ENTIRE SITE COST JUST OVER $1 BILLION.

THIS IS ABOUT ONE YEAR'S BUDGET NOW (APPROX. 1.7 BILLION).

THE DEFENSE WASTE PROCESSING FACILITY VITRIFICATION BUILDING ALONE COST A BILLION DOLLARS, AS DID THE K REACTOR RESTART EFFORT OF THE EARLY 1990S.

DURING CONSTRUCTION, WE MOVED 39,150,000 CUBIC YARDS OF EARTH. THAT'S ENOUGH TO BUILD A 10-FOOT WALL FROM ATLANTA, GA., TO PORTLAND, ORE.

THE AMOUNT OF STRUCTURAL AND REINFORCING STEEL USED WAS EQUAL TO A TRAIN 38 MILES LONG.

SRS NOW HAS ABOUT 1,000 BUILDINGS WITH ABOUT 5.3 MILLION SQUARE FEET OF FLOOR AREA. THERE ARE AN ADDITIONAL 4,800 SUPPORTING FACILITIES AND STRUCTURES.

OVER 60 PERCENT OF SRS BUILDINGS ARE AT LEAST 45 YEARS OLD. ONLY 17 PERCENT WERE BUILT IN THE LAST 15 YEARS.

THIS AREA WAS CHOSEN FOR SEVERAL REASONS: THE SAVANNAH RIVER AND THE QUALITY OF ITS WATER, WHICH WAS NEEDED AS COOLING WATER FOR THE REACTORS AND AS STEAM FOR CHEMICAL PROCESSING AND HEATING; THE LARGE AREA OF MOSTLY UNDEVELOPED LAND; THE CLIMATE, WHICH LENT ITSELF WELL TO QUICK CONSTRUCTION; THE COMMUNITY SUPPORT, TO NAME JUST A FEW.

SRS IS OWNED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND OPERATED BY AN INTEGRATED TEAM OF CONTRACTORS LEAD BY WASHINGTON SAVANNAH RIVER COMPANY.

ALSO LOCATED AT THE SITE ARE:

- PARSONS, WHICH IS DESIGNING AND WILL BUILD THE SALT WASTE PROCESSING FACILITY
- SHAW AREVA MOX SERVICES, WHICH IS DESIGNING AND CONSTRUCTING THE MIXED OXIDE FUEL FACILITY.

- WACKENHUT SERVICES INC., WHICH PROVIDES SECURITY SERVICES;
- THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA, WHICH OPERATES THE SAVANNAH RIVER ECOLOGY LABORATORY;
- THE U.S. FOREST SERVICE'S SAVANNAH RIVER FOREST STATION, WHICH MANAGES ALL THE SITE'S NATURAL RESOURCES;
- THE NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE, WHICH PROVIDES NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE;
- THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, WHICH PROVIDES TECHNICAL SUPPORT IN ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION;
- THE SAVANNAH RIVER ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH PROGRAM, OPERATED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA, WHICH DEALS WITH THE PRESERVATION OF SIGNIFICANT EVIDENCE OF PAST OCCUPATION AND THE COLD WAR HISTORY OF SRS.

WE ARE ONE OF THE LARGEST PRIVATE EMPLOYERS IN SOUTH CAROLINA, WITH APPROXIMATELY 10,500 STILL ON THE PAYROLL.

AS WE TOUR TODAY YOU WILL SEE A LOT OF PINE FOREST. ONLY ABOUT 10 PERCENT OF THE SITE IS USED FOR INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES.

THE U.S. FOREST SERVICE AVERAGES A RETURN OF ABOUT $5 MILLION TO THE U.S. TREASURY EACH YEAR FROM SITE TIMBER SALES.

ABOUT 25 MILLION BOARD FEET OF TIMBER IS SOLD EACH YEAR, INCLUDING PULPWOOD FOR PAPER AND SAWTIMBER FOR CONSTRUCTION PURPOSES.

THAT REPRESENTS ABOUT 7,300 TRUCKLOADS. IF IT WAS ONE LONG '2X4', IT WOULD STRETCH 187 MILES.

SITE PINE STRAW SALES FOR USE IN LOCAL LANDSCAPING ACCOUNT FOR NEARLY $100,000 OF REVENUE A YEAR.

SRS IS THE NATION'S FIRST NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH PARK, DESIGNATED AS SUCH IN 1972. IT'S IDEAL FOR ECOLOGICAL RESEARCH, BECAUSE IT'S A LARGE AREA OF PROTECTED LAND AND, NATURALLY, HAS BECOME A HAVEN FOR ANIMALS.

SRS IS LIKE A CITY. WE HAVE OUR OWN RAIL SYSTEM, SEWAGE SYSTEM, MEDICAL CLINIC, POWER SYSTEM, FIRE DEPARTMENT, POLICE FORCE, EVEN A TELEVISION STUDIO, A PRINT SHOP AND A PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO.

OUR ROAD SYSTEM IS EXTENSIVE. THERE ARE 230 MILES OF PAVED ROADS, INCLUDING THE STATE'S FIRST CLOVERLEAF INTERSECTION. AND THERE ARE MANY, MANY ADDITIONAL MILES OF DIRT AND GRAVEL ROADS THROUGHOUT THE SITE. WE MAINTAIN IT ALL OURSELVES.

SRS HAS LARGEST NON-PUBLIC RAIL SYSTEM IN THE UNITED STATES. IT ORIGINALLY INCLUDED 64 MILES OF TRACK.

WHEN THE SITE WAS IN THE PRODUCTION MODE, THE RAIL SYSTEM WAS USED TO TRANSPORT COAL TO POWERHOUSES, AND NUCLEAR MATERIALS AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT.

TODAY, THE SITE OWNS 20 FLAT CARS AND TWO MODERN LOCOMOTIVES.

THE SYSTEM COVERS 35 MILES OF MAINTAINED TRACK, PRIMARILY TO MOVE INCOMING, SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL TO STORAGE BASINS, AND TO HAUL CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS.

SRS IS A LARGE AREA OF PROTECTED LAND AND, NATURALLY, HAS BECOME A HAVEN FOR WILDLIFE.

IT IS THE HOME TO SEVERAL ENDANGERED SPECIES INCLUDING THE AMERICAN BALD EAGLE AND THE RED COCKADED WOODPECKER.

IT IS ALSO HOME TO IT OWN SPECIES OF DOG – THE CAROLINA DOG – OR DIXIE DINGO.

IT IS A WILD DOG BREED THAT STILL LIVES IN THE BOTTOM LAN SWAMPS AND FOREST OF THE SOUTHEAST.

ALSO AT SRS MUCH RESEARCH IS BEING DONE ON CAROLINA BAYS AND THEIR INHABITANTS.

CAROLINA BAYS ARE DEPRESSIONS IN THE GROUND UNIQUE TO THE COASTAL PLAINS OF THE NORTH CAROLINA, SOUTH CAROLINA AND GEORGIA.

MANY OF THEM HAVE BEEN DESTROYED BY INDUSTRY AND AGRICULTURE, BUT ABOUT 300 EXIST AT SRS.

THERE ARE MORE PROTECTED CAROLINA BAYS ON THE SAVANNAH RIVER SITE THAN IN ALL OF THE REST OF SOUTH CAROLINA.

CAROLINA BAYS ARE IMPORTANT ECOSYSTEMS BECAUSE THEY ARE FILLED PART OF THE YEAR AND DRY IN OTHER PARTS.

THIS MEANS THEY CONTAIN NO FISH. AMPHIBIANS CAN SAFELY LAY THEIR EGGS IN THESE BAYS AND HAVE THEM HATCH WITHOUT FISH EATING THEM.

MANY SPECIES WOULD BE IN SERIOUS DANGER WITHOUT CAROLINA BAYS.

AS WE ARRIVE AT F-TANK FARM, PLEASE REMEMBER TO USE HAND RAILS ON STAIRS AND WATCH FOR TRIPPING HAZARDS. ALSO PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE TOUR GUIDES WILL NOT TAKE ANY QUESTIONS.

NOW WE WILL BE HEADING TO H-AREA TANK FARM.

E AREA IS WHERE THE SITE'S OTHER RADIOACTIVE WASTE DISPOSAL ACTIVITIES TAKE PLACE.

ON YOUR LEFT IS THE CLOSURE PROJECT FOR THE OLD RADIOACTIVE WASTE BURIAL GROUND.

THE DIRT WALL OR BERM BEHIND THE BURIAL GROUND IS THE LIQUID WASTE TRANSFER LINE FROM F-AREA TO H-AREA.

THIS AREA WAS FORMERLY USED AS A BURIAL GROUND. FROM THE 1950S TO 1980S, LOW-LEVEL WASTE – CONTAMINATED TOOLS, SHOE COVERS, PROTECTIVE CLOTHING, ANYTHING WORN OR USED IN A RADIATION AREA – WAS PUT INTO STEEL BOXES AND INTO TRENCHES ABOUT 10 FEET DEEP. THEN THE BOXES WERE COVERED UP WITH CLAY AND SOIL.

THE AREA IS INDEFINITELY MONITORED WITH MANY WELLS TO MAKE SURE THE PRACTICES OF THE PAST DON'T BECOME THE PROBLEMS OF THE FUTURE.

THE OLD BURIAL GROUND IS BEING CAPPED TO PREVENT EROSION AND FURTHER LEACHING OF CONTAMINANTS INTO GROUNDWATER.

FUTURE DISPOSAL PRACTICES WILL DEPEND LARGELY ON OUR WASTE GENERATION WHICH IS DECREASING DRAMATICALLY. SHALLOW LAND BURIAL HAVE RETURN AS AN OPTION FOR SOME WASTE.

ALSO LOCATED IN H AREAARE:

THE TRITIUM FACILITIES AND TRITIUM EXTRACTION FACILITY

H CANYON AND HB LINE

A COMPREHENSIVE SITE TRAINING FACILITY;

IN 1995, SRS COMPLETED A FIVE-YEAR CAMPAIGN TO SUPPLY PLUTONIUM-238 FOR NASA'S CASSINI MISSION, AN UNMANNED EXPEDITION TO THE PLANET SATURN, WHICH WAS LAUNCHED OCTOBER 13, 1997 AND ARRIVED AT THE RINGED PLANET JULY 1, 2004, AFTER A FLAWLESS FLIGHT. PU-238 FROM SRS IS ALSO ABOARD THE TWO MARS ROVERS.

THE TRITIUM FACILITIES ARE A ONE-ACRE, STATE-OF-THE-ART UNDERGROUND BUILDING WHERE OUR NUCLEAR WEAPON COMPONENTS ARE SERVICED. THESE FACILITIES HAVE CUTS TRITIUM RELEASES TO THE ENVIRONMENT TO LESS THAN 5 PERCENT OF THE PREVIOUS RATE.

IN ADDITION, SRS IS THE HOME OF THE NEW TRITIUM EXTRACTION FACILITY, PART OF THE NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION'S COMMERCIAL LIGHT WATER REACTOR PROGRAM.

TEF IS SOURCE FOR THE PRODUCTION OF NEW TRITIUM SINCE THE SRS REACTORS SHUT DOWN IN 1988. TEF BEGAN BEGIN NORMAL OPERATIONS IN 2006.

AS WE ARRIVE AT H-TANK FARM, PLEASE REMEMBER TO USE HAND RAILS ON STAIRS AND WATCH FOR TRIPPING HAZARDS. ALSO PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE TOUR GUIDES WILL NOT TAKE ANY QUESTIONS.

WE WILL NOW BE TAKING A LUNCH BREAK AT THE H-AREA CAFETERIA.

(BEFORE LEAVING 766-H, POINT OUT THE DEFENSE WASTE PROCESSING FACILITY, GLASS WASTE STORAGE BUILDINGS, AND THE CONSOLIDATED INCINERATIN FACILITY.)

OUR NEXT STOP WILL BE THE DEFENSE WASTE PROCESSING FACILITY.

AS WE ARRIVE AT F-TANK FARM, PLEASE REMEMBER TO USE HAND RAILS ON STAIRS AND WATCH FOR TRIPPING HAZARDS. ALSO PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE TOUR GUIDES WILL NOT TAKE ANY QUESTIONS.

OUR LAST STOP WILL BE THE SALTSTONE PROCESSING FACILTIY.

AS WE ARRIVE AT SALTSONTE, PLEASE REMEMBER T AND WATCH FOR TRIPPING HAZARDS. ALSO PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE TOUR GUIDES WILL NOT TAKE ANY QUESTIONS.

THANKS YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY FOR THE TOUR, WE WILL NOW BE HEADING BACK TO A-AREA.