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From the Office of Congressman Gresham Barrett

Representing the 3rd District of South Carolina

For Immediate Release
March 26, 2003

Contact: Colleen K. Mangone, Press Secretary
Congressman Gresham Barrett
202-225-5301
Colleen.Mangone@mail.house.gov

Washington, DC – Congressman Barrett understands the Savannah River Site is not only important to the 3rd district, but the nation. SRS is an integral part of our nations' national security, as well as the United State's non-proliferation efforts, and for those reasons among others Congressman Barrett continues the tradition established by his predecessor of supporting SRS.

Congressman Barrett has secured language in House Report 108-37, which accompanies the House Budget Resolution. The language is as follows:

- Mr. Barrett raised the issue of Mixed Oxide Facilities. To be clear on this matter, the budget resolution assumes full funding of the President's \$415 million request for the construction of the Department of Energy's [DOE] Mixed Oxide [MOX] Fuel Facility and Pit Disassembly and Conversion Facility [PDCF] for fiscal year 2004. This funding would be used to initiate construction of the MOX Fuel Facility and complete the design of the PDCF at the Savannah River Site.

Congressman Barrett is currently supporting the following language concerning the funding level for the Department of Energy's Defense Environmental Management Program submitted by Congressman Hastings of Washington State.

- Mr. Hastings raised the issue of the Defense Environmental Management. To be clear on this matter, the budget resolution assumes full funding of the President's \$7.2 billion request for the Department of Energy's [DOE] Environmental Management Program for Fiscal Year 2004. The funding level provided in the resolution will allow for accelerating the completion of cleanup by decades and save billions of dollars in spending.

In addition, Congressman Barrett has held several meetings with members of the Department of Energy, the Washington Group, and employees of the Savannah River Site these issues. The one message Congressman Barrett continues to hear from each of these groups is just how important it is for SRS to acquire new missions. It is not only an integral part of the districts economy, but more importantly the security of our nation. Congressman Barrett knows that with these new missions SRS can be afforded a great opportunity to help secure our homeland.

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add - T. Harris (TEH)
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