

SUBJECT: Office of Independent Oversight's Office of Environment, Safety and Health Evaluations Activity Report for Participation in the Savannah River Operations Office, Office of Safety and Quality Assurance Self-Assessment of the Technical Qualification Program, June 2010

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Independent Oversight, within the Office of Health, Safety and Security (HSS), participated in the DOE Savannah River Operations Office (DOE-SR) self-assessment of the Technical Qualification Program (TQP). The HSS participation, through its Site Lead program, provided HSS with an opportunity to maintain operational awareness and evaluate site programs, while supporting DOE line management efforts to safely and securely accomplish their missions. The onsite review was conducted during the period June 7-11, 2010, was sponsored by DOE-SR and conducted jointly by DOE-SR's Office of Safety and Quality Assurance, Office of Human Capital Management, and HSS personnel. The self-assessment was conducted in accordance with seven Criteria Review and Approach Documents (CRADs) based on Federal Technical Capability Program criteria and objectives. The primary objective was to measure the effective implementation of the DOE-SR TQP.

DOE is committed to ensuring that responsible employees are trained and technically capable when performing their duties. The Federal Technical Capability Program provides for the recruitment, deployment, development, and retention of Federal personnel with the demonstrated technical capability to safely accomplish the Department's missions and responsibilities. The Federal Technical Capability Program is institutionalized through DOE directives to establish the program's objectives, guiding principles, and functions. The program is specifically applicable to those offices and organizations performing functions related to the safe operation of defense nuclear facilities.

A concern and the associated deficiencies and observations were provided separately to DOE-SR for action.