

NNSA NEWS

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MOX Building Receives LEED Gold Certification

*Green Building Award Symbolizes NNSA Commitment to
Modern, Efficient Infrastructure*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) today congratulated Shaw AREVA MOX Services for being awarded a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold Certification for the MOX Administration Building at the Savannah River Site (SRS) in Aiken, S.C. The LEED Gold Certification, awarded by the U.S. Green Building Council, recognizes facilities and communities for excellence in environmental leadership and energy efficiency.

"Achieving LEED certification on this facility highlights our commitment to transforming a Cold War-era nuclear weapons complex into a 21st Century nuclear security enterprise," said NNSA Principal Assistant Deputy Administrator for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation Ken Baker. "In addition to supporting a vital nuclear nonproliferation mission, the MOX Administration building is a tangible demonstration of our commitment to being good stewards of the taxpayer's money, to leading the way on energy efficiency and to developing a modern, efficient infrastructure across the country."

The MOX Administration Building, which houses business operations and support personnel for NNSA's plutonium disposition program, received 40 out of the 43 points pursued in the LEED submittal. It is the first building at SRS to be LEED Gold Certified and the first of three MOX project buildings to pursue LEED Gold Certification.

NNSA's plutonium disposition program includes the Mixed Oxide (MOX) Fuel Fabrication Facility, which fabricates mixed oxide fuel for use in existing nuclear power plants from surplus weapon-grade plutonium. The facility is an important part of the United States' efforts to make sure that surplus plutonium can no longer be readily used for nuclear weapons purposes while simultaneously generating electricity for utility customers.

LEED is an internationally recognized green building certification system that provides third-party verification that a building or community was designed and built using strategies aimed at improving performance in energy savings, water efficiency, carbon dioxide emissions reduction and other critical areas.

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Established by Congress in 2000, NNSA is a semi-autonomous agency within the U.S. Department of Energy responsible for enhancing national security through the military application of nuclear science in the nation's national security enterprise. NNSA maintains and enhances the safety, security, reliability, and performance of the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile without nuclear testing; reduces the global danger from weapons of mass destruction; provides the U.S. Navy with safe and effective nuclear propulsion; and responds to nuclear and radiological emergencies in the U.S. and abroad. Visit <http://www.nnsa.energy.gov/> for more information.

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