I want to thank the committee for allowing me to provide this testimony and highlight issues that are critical to the 12th Congressional District of Georgia.

My district is home to many constituents that work at the Savannah River Site, a Department of Energy Environmental Management site right across the river in South Carolina.

Specifically, the Savannah River Site is home to many critical missions through the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) including operations at the Plutonium Processing Facility and the Savannah River Tritium Enterprise, which prepares the nation’s only tritium supply for our national defense.

Further, the Savannah River Site is home to H-Canyon, the nation’s only hardened nuclear chemical separations facility, the Salt Waste Processing Facility, the Savannah River National Laboratory, and environmental clean-up, to mention a few.
• To ensure that the Site Risk Management Operations can proceed uninterrupted, especially H-Canyon’s mission of safely processing highly radioactive materials, I request that the subcommittee fund this account at a total of $501,994,000 for Fiscal Year 2023.

• I also ask that the subcommittee fund a total of $82 million for Plutonium operations and $700 million for the Plutonium Processing Facility for nuclear modernization and nonproliferation at the Savannah River Site.

• The Savannah River Site has repeatedly answered the call to safeguard our national security, and we must continue to support this critical mission and modernize our nuclear inventory.

• Additionally, I would be remiss if I did not mention an issue important to my district- the New Savannah Bluff Lock and Dam.

• While it is currently caught up in the courts, it is critical that any future appropriations legislation reinforce Congress’ interest in maintaining current water levels upstream of the New Savannah
Bluff Lock and Dam, while encouraging the Army Corps of Engineers to work with the local authorities to find an acceptable solution for the environmental mitigation required as part of the now completed Savannah Harbor Expansion Project.

• Specifically, any resolution must ensure that existing water levels are maintained, as required in section 1319 of the WIIN Act of 2016.

• I look forward to working with your committee in the future on this important issue.

• I want to thank the House Appropriations Committee for their work, and I look forward to working with them on these issues vitally important to Georgia’s 12th District.

• I appreciate the opportunity to submit my input.