

Title: **Some plutonium to leave SRS**
 Author: BY MEG KINNARD Associated Press
 Size: 39.37 square inch
 Aiken, SC Circulation: 19635



Some plutonium to leave SRS

Haley: Feds agree to transfer 6 tons to New Mexico

BY MEG KINNARD

Associated Press

COLUMBIA — Gov. Nikki Haley said the federal government has agreed to remove some of the plutonium being stored in South Carolina.

Haley's office tells The Associated Press that U.S. Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz told her during a call Tuesday night 6 metric tons of plutonium currently at Savannah River Site will ultimately be stored at a facility in New Mexico that should be operational by the end of this year.

Haley has for years spoken out against the storage of plutonium at the South Carolina complex, writing to Moniz last month saying he must stop or reroute another shipment on its way from Japan. Calling the deal a win, she also pointed out her continuing lawsuit against the Department of Energy over an unfinished project to process weapons grade plutonium also stored at the site into commercial reactor fuel.

"We will continue to watch this process carefully, as the Department of Energy has not lived up to promises made in the past," Haley said in a statement provided to AP. "We will

not back down from our lawsuit until the DOE pays the \$1 million a day fine they are required to under federal law."

Energy officials didn't immediately return a message seeking comment.

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SRS

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Tons of plutonium have accumulated through the years at the former nuclear weapons complex along the state's border with Georgia. Separate from the materials covered in Tuesday's conversation is about 7 tons of weapons grade plutonium, which is also at the site and ultimately intended to be processed into commercial nuclear reactor fuel, as part of a non-proliferation agreement with Russia.

The facility for that process is billions over budget and remains incomplete. South Carolina is already suing the federal government over what the governor has called its broken promise to the state to finish the mixed-oxide fuel facility, seeking fines of \$1 million a day because the plant wasn't operational by a Jan.

1 deadline.

The Obama administration has gradually scaled down funding for the project, proposing to mothball it in 2014, citing cost overruns and delays. That prompted an earlier lawsuit, with the state saying the federal government had made a commitment to South Carolina and couldn't use money intended to build the plant to shut it down.

The state ultimately dropped the suit when the administration committed to funding the project through that fiscal year. But the administration has since said it's searching for a less expensive way to dispose of the plutonium, like immobilizing it in glass or processing it in different kinds of reactors.

Title: **Highway reform**
 Author:
 Size: 18.75 square inch
 Myrtle Beach, SC Circulation: 61238



Highway reform

Use of General Fund revenues for roads may be a practical short-term necessity given the dire condition of state highways and bridges, but the Legislature should not embrace its use as a regular source of DOT funding, despite the insistence of Gov. Nikki Haley.

A one-time allocation allows for more opportunity to raise the gas tax in the future, recognizing that it functions as a user fee nearly one-third of which is paid by out-of-state drivers. At 16.5-cents per gallon, the state gas tax is one of the lowest in the nation, and hasn't been increased since 1987....

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Each measure would provide for a higher level of accountability, essential to ensure that highway funds are used for priority projects. It is particularly needed for the SIB,

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At present, the majority of SIB members are appointed by the speaker of the House and the president pro tempore of the Senate. Those legislative leaders should not have that level of influence over a state-wide transportation board.

Without governance reforms, there is inadequate assurance that highway funding will be put to best use. The House still has work to do.

*- Post & Courier
 Charleston*

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WITHOUT GOVERNANCE REFORMS, THERE IS INADEQUATE ASSURANCE THAT HIGHWAY FUNDING WILL BE PUT TO BEST USE.

Title: **'Speak' focus of book talks for Sexual Assault Awareness Month**
 Author:
 Size: 32.86 square inch
 Columbia, SC Circulation: 128564



RICHLAND LIBRARY

'Speak' focus of book talks for Sexual Assault Awareness Month

As part of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, the Richland Library will be the site of several book talks that aim to bring attention to sexual assault and teen dating violence.

Richland County Councilwoman Julie-Ann Dixon will lead several discussions of the book "Speak" by Laurie Halse Anderson. Dixon is a member of Governor Nikki Haley's Task Force on Criminal Domestic Violence and is an Ambassador for Change with Sexual Trauma

Services of the Midlands. The library is also partnering with the South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

"Speak" was a 1999 National Book Award Finalist for Young People's Literature. The book tells the story of an isolated high school freshman, who, after being raped at a party, practically stops speaking altogether.

In South Carolina, 10 percent of students surveyed reported being physically forced to have sex, and 16

percent reported being physically assaulted by a boyfriend or girlfriend, according to the 2014 Youth Risk Behavior Survey released by the S.C. Department of Education.

Richland County residents can pick up a copy of "Speak" at Richland Library locations and take part in the following events:

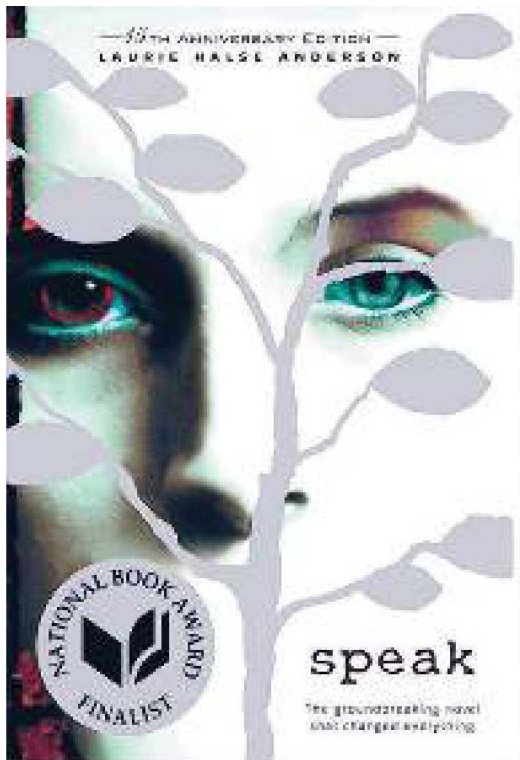
6-7 p.m. Tuesday: Book talk at Richland Library Sandhills, 1 Summit Parkway
6-7 p.m. April 12: Book talk at Richland Library

Sandhills, 1 Summit Parkway
6-7:30 p.m. April 28:

Panel discussion on sexual assault and teen dating violence at Richland Library Main, 1431 Assembly St.

For more information, contact Emily Stoll, (803) 587-3637 or estoll@richlandlibrary.com

— ERIN SHAW,
ESHAW@THESTATE.COM



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 Columbia, SC Circulation: 128564



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 Author:
 Size: 18.75 square inch
 Hilton Head Island, SC Circulation: 20015



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Title: **Highway reform**
 Author:
 Size: 18.6 square inch
 Rock Hill, SC Circulation: 34688



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Author:

Size: 18.75 square inch

Beaufort, SC Circulation: 11269



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Title: **SRS should accept Japanese plutonium**
 Author:
 Size: 14.26 square inch
 Aiken, SC Circulation: 19635



SRS should accept Japanese plutonium

It has probably already been decided that plutonium will be coming from Japan to the Savannah River Site. This fact was public information months ago, so it should have been no surprise to Gov. Haley, who now bewails it as being dumped on South Carolina. I passed that information on to the local papers at that time.

SRS was chosen in 1950 as the place where plutonium would be created for hydrogen bombs. Maximum security was essential, and as a result, the property was designed and evaluated at a much greater dollar amount than as a pine forest or as farmland. Since then, Aiken and Barnwell

counties have been helped with far bigger taxes from the government to help pay for schools, police, roads, fire stations, etc.

Over the years, SRS was the place where much of our plutonium was created, and we now have many tons of it to secure, as many nukes have now been dismantled. The theft of just two plutonium pits equals one atomic bomb loose somewhere. It is logical that the security needed to make the plutonium be used for its storage. SRS may be the best site in the world for long-term storage, out of the reach of terrorists.

The Department of Energy's down-blending can be used to make the plutonium pits into an alloy, changing it to less of a threat from any terror orga-

nization. That would be a jobs opportunity that the governor should welcome, if only she would show a bit of intelligence.

Securing plutonium must not be demeaned by calling it "dumping." Securing it is a most critical task.

Victor J. Reilly
 Aiken