

United States Government**Department of Energy****memorandum****Ohio Field Office
West Valley Demonstration Project**

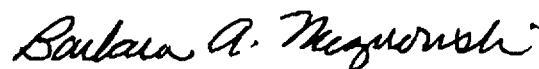
DATE: May 25, 1999

SUBJECT: Weekly Activities Report

TO: M. E. Rawlings, Team Leader
West Valley Demonstration Project
DOE-HQ, EM-32, 1188/CLOV

Attached is a copy of the West Valley Demonstration Project Weekly Activities Report (Predecisional Draft), dated May 25, 1999.

Please advise me if we can provide any further information.



Barbara A. Mazurowski, Director
West Valley Demonstration Project

Attachment

cc: J. D. Parrott, NRC-HQ
T. Jackson, NRC-Region 1
OH/WVDP Staff
P. L. Piciulo, NYSERDA-WV

BAM:0121 - 64888 - 237.1

BAM/jam

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES REPORT
WEST VALLEY DEMONSTRATION PROJECT
May 25, 1999
CURRENT ACTIVITIES

HIGH-LEVEL WASTE TRANSFER ACTIVITIES

- o Progress continues toward high-level waste (HLW) tank heel removal. Completed work this past week included liquid volume reduction of Tank 8D-1 Supernatant Treatment System (STS) effluent using the Liquid Waste Treatment System (LWTS) evaporator; STS chiller air compressor replacement and STS return to service. Continuing work activities this week include: estimating the volume of solids remaining in Tank 8D-1; processing more Tank 8D-1 liquids through the ion-exchange columns of the STS; preparations for volume reduction of STS effluent using LWTS; and preparations for the next series of spent zeolite transfers.
- o The Melter remains in idle mode with the twelfth fiscal year 1999 canister below the Melter pour spout.

PROJECT COMPLETION

- o The work order for removal of the contents of the Scrap Removal Room (SRR) tank has been approved, with the entry scheduled for May 26, 1999. The mock-up training for operators and Radiation Protection technicians was completed on May 19, 1999. The proposed location for storage of the waste material will be LSA-3 or LSA-4.
- o Asbestos removal activity at the old Low-Level Waste Treatment (02) Facility continued this week with completion projected for May 28, 1999.
- o The recovery plan for the rework of the hot side cover glass in the Process Mechanical Cell Crane Room (PMCR) window continues to be developed. The containment tent has been set up. The initial entry will be to repair the camera in the PMCR, determine where the hydrochloric acid went and neutralize if necessary. The second entry will be to remove the PaR manipulator tubes to allow better access to the Manipulator Repair Room hatch.
- o The design of the Process Mechanical Cell Crane Room Enclosure is nearing completion. The design review meeting is scheduled for June 4, 1999.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Waste Operations

- o Fourteen boxes of debris waste are scheduled to be shipped for disposal at Envirocare on June 3, 1999. Work continues on having the Waste Reduction and Packaging Facility (WRPA) compactor ready for waste compaction later this week.

Predecisional Draft

- 2 -

May 25, 1999

- o Continue to support preparation work associated with LSA-4 Construction Project. This includes the identification and movement of containers which need to be removed from LSA-4. Building demolition is scheduled to begin June 15.

Remote Handled Waste Project

- o Scientech continues to work on revising the conceptual design for the Remote Handled Waste Facility (RHWF). Design deliverables produced by Scientech are being reviewed by West Valley Nuclear Services Co., Inc. (WVNS) in preparation for a conceptual design review, which is scheduled for June 15, 1999.
- o Preliminary Process Hazards Analysis and Preliminary Hazard Categorization of the Rescoped Remote Handled Waste Facility were completed by the subcontractor on May 17, 1999, and are currently being reviewed by West Valley Nuclear Services Co., Inc. (WVNS). A draft version of these documents will be included in the Project Management Plan for the Remote Handled Waste Project.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

- o West Valley Nuclear Services Co., Inc. (WVNS) will be sending their Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) application to Ohio Field Office West Valley Demonstration Project (OH/WVDP) on July 15, 1999. We will be sending a copy to Ohio Field Office for concurrent review. We also discussed the possibility of having a Headquarters review in October with Mr. Sanji Kanth. He indicated that it was possible.

PROJECT OR PROGRAM SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

Spent Nuclear Fuel Program

- o A teleconference was held with West Valley Nuclear Services Co., Inc. (WVNS) Transnuclear Inc. (TN), and Lockheed Martin Idaho Technology Co. (LMITCO) to discuss the TN prepared scoping evaluation of analysis and safety analysis report (SAR) revisions required to pursue full loads. Items required for half loads with end caps and those which could be performed in parallel were identified. TN will perform sufficient scoping calculations by the end of June to make a decision on pursuing full loads. If the decision is made to pursue full loads, the cask SAR revisions could be submitted to the NRC late this year, and TN believes the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) could complete their review in time to support shipment in 2001. There are concerns about obtaining acceptable structural, criticality, and containment results with full loads, particularly with the number of fuel assemblies that must be assumed to be damaged.

Predecisional Draft

- 3 -

May 25, 1999

- o Personnel from the Savannah River Site participated in a technical exchange on the spent fuel project with West Valley Demonstration Project personnel. Topics discussed included training, equipment checkout, operations procedures, fuel handling, and fuel pool water treatment.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

- o The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Commissioner's have voted on how they intend to proceed with applying Decontamination and Decommissioning (D&D) Criteria to the West Valley site. The details of their selection will be presented in the Staff Requirements Memorandum to be prepared by NRC Commissioner's staff in the next few weeks.
- o A video conference with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) was held on May 3, 1999, to continue discussing the performance assessment methodology used in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) analysis to help facilitate NRC's review. Science Application International Corporation (SAIC) presented the general approach being developed and discussed many of the assumptions used. NRC feed back is expected through additional video conferences and via the Staff Requirements Memorandum.
- o On June 2, 1999, Citizen Task Force (CTF) members will participate in a conference call with DOE and New York State to discuss the status of DOE and New York State Energy Research and Development Authority discussions regarding obligations for future cleanup work at the West Valley Demonstration Project.

GENERAL

- o On May 17 and 18, 1999, Barbara Mazurowski met at the Ashford Office Complex (AOC) with DOE Headquarters and New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) management to continue discussing obligations and responsibilities for future cleanup work at the West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP). The next meeting is scheduled for June 15, 1999, in Albany.
- o On May 19, 1999, Moira Maloney met with Bruce Bartz of New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) to resolve NYSDEC issues regarding the West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP) State Facility Air Permit. The meeting was productive and work is underway to address NYSDEC issues.

MEETINGS/TRIPS

- o The Relative Accuracy Test Audit to be observed by Mr. Bruce Bartz of New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has been tentatively rescheduled for the first or second week in June. This test is being conducted as part of West Valley Demonstration Project's (WVDP) requirements to monitor nitrogen oxides from the vitrification process.

Predecisional Draft

- 4 -

May 25, 1999

- o T. J. Jackson, is attending a Environmental Management sponsored Quality Assurance (QA) workshop in Salt Lake City this week. Workshop participants from across the DOE complex will be discussing quality assurance requirements related to the High-Level Waste Program and the National Spent Nuclear Fuel Program. The participants hope to find a common approach to implementing QA requirements to both programs.
- o Representatives from the Ohio Field Office, Office of Compliance and Support are on site this week performing an assessment of the West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP) security program. The assessment will focus on physical and personnel security, computer security, and nuclear materials control and accountability.
- o Tim Marcus, Ohio Field Office, Office of Compliance and Support will be on site this week to review the West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP) transportation emergency preparedness program (TEPP). This is an assistance and familiarization visit to learn more about the recently implement TEPP.
- o From June 1 through 4, 1999, Geoffrey Gorsuch and Lydia Boada-Clista, both from the Ohio Field Office, Office of Compliance and Support will be at West Valley to assist in performing surveys of the site's Occupational Medicine, Health, and Safety Plan; Confined Space Program; and Chemical Safety Program. In addition, Garry Yaffe from DOE's Savannah River Site (DOE-SRS) will be on site from June 1 through 7, 1999, to assess our Fire Protection Program.
- o On June 2, 1999, C. Eckert, Ohio Field Office West Valley Demonstration Project (OH/WVDP), will be attending a meeting of the Ohio Radiological Control Managers in Miamisburg, OH. This will be a routine status meeting and C. Eckert will present an update of the current radiological activities at the West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP).
- o Several members of the Ohio Field Office West Valley Demonstration Project (OH/WVDP) will be participating in an off-site "Leadership Forum" on June 3, 1999. The forum will include contractor management, as well as participants form the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA). Discussion topics will focus on key objectives for fiscal year 2000.