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United States Government

Department of Energy

memorandum

**Ohio Field Office
West Valley Demonstration Project**

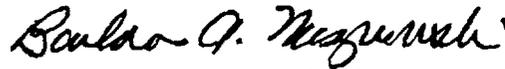
DATE: September 7, 1999

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 September 7, 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
A. R. Griffith, EM-65, 2086/CLOV
OH/WVDP Staff
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**WEEKLY ACTIVITIES REPORT
WEST VALLEY DEMONSTRATION PROJECT
September 7, 1999
CURRENT ACTIVITIES**

HIGH-LEVEL WASTE PROJECT ACTIVITIES

High-Level Waste Transfer Activities

- Progress continues toward high-level waste tank heel removal. Completed work this past week included decanting of liquids from tank 8D-2 to tank 8D-1, Zeolite transfer from tank 8D-1 to tank 8D-2 and transfer of liquids to the Liquid Waste Treatment System (LWTS) evaporator for volume reduction. Work activities this week include continued zeolite transfers, decanting, and LWTS operations.
- Progress continues on flushing of contaminated lines in support of recovery from the "Radioactive Liquid Backup into Steam Lines" event on August 10, 1999. Three flushes have been completed to date and have shown substantial reductions in radiation levels of the contaminated system. A fourth flush is scheduled to be performed early this week.

PROJECT COMPLETION

- The instrument air line by the Process Mechanical Cell B window was removed to eliminate an interference with the shield tunnel for the window refurbishment work. The containment tent is in fabrication and will be delivered by September 10, 1999. The initial submittals from Hot Cells Services for the refurbishment of the B and C shield windows in the Process Mechanical Cell and the hot oil flush of the B window in the General Purpose Cell were received and are in review.
- Work continues on the repair to the General Purpose Cell Shield Door. The Boston Gear Box has been delivered. The purchase requisition for the vacuum equipment has been approved and is with Purchasing. Fabrication of the mock up of the General Purpose Cell Crane Room began in the Vitrification Test Facility.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

- Preparation to dewater the Permeable Treatment Wall area isolated by the sheet piles is underway and dewatering is expected to begin this week.
- West Valley Nuclear Services Company has completed their evaluation of firm fixed price proposals for design and construction of the Remote Handled Waste Facility and the necessary documentation was transmitted to DOE Ohio Field Office West Valley Demonstration Project for approval.

Predecisional Draft

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September 7, 1999

- The shipment of greater than 27,500 pounds of lead to a scrap dealer for recycling was completed. This significantly reduces the Lead Bank Inventory to be managed at the West Valley Demonstration Project.
- The design of the prefabricated buildings (Shipping Depot and Passageway), plans for excavation shoring, paving materials, backfill, and aggregate were submitted to West Valley Demonstration Project last week and are currently undergoing review.
- Preparation of work documents continued to support activities associated with acid flush of the Low-Level Waste Treatment Facility (O2) clarifier. The start of these activities will begin this week.
- Twenty boxes of Low-Level Waste containing asphalt and miscellaneous debris are scheduled for shipment to Envirocare on September 9, 1999. The next shipment is scheduled for September 16, 1999.
- Work continues on the Lag Storage Area 4 replacement project. The new structural steel was delivered last week. Structural erection has begun and will continue for the next six weeks.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

- Thomas J. Vero, Ohio Field Office West Valley Demonstration Project, and West Valley Nuclear Services Company (WVNS) personnel attended the Price Anderson Amendments Act workshop in Knoxville, TN from August 30 through September 1, 1999. The workshop provided a discussion on strategies for implementation of the Quality Assurance (QA) Rule in Radiological Facilities. WVNS provided a presentation discussing the WVNS QA Program and the limited impacts from the renewed Office of Environment, Safety, and Health policy.

ENVIRONMENTAL, SAFETY, AND HEALTH

- An assessment of the Integrated Safety Management Systems (ISMS) at West Valley Nuclear Services Company was completed and transmitted to U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Ohio Field Office West Valley Demonstration Project. Based on this assessment, the "WVDP Safety Management System Description" (WVDP-310) will be revised to include new or revised policies and procedures for criticality safety, environmental management, readiness assessment, Work Review Group, and others related to work planning and worker safety. The revision will discuss West Valley Demonstration Project's verification of ISMS implementation.
- The West Valley Nuclear Services Company Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) application was transmitted to the Ohio Field Office on September 2, 1999, for submittal to U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Headquarters. West Valley Demonstration Project anticipates a DOE VPP team on-site review in early October 1999.

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- On September 4, 1999, the West Valley Demonstration Project Warehouse staff achieved nine years without a Lost/Restricted Workday Case. In addition, the last Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) recordable case for the group was on January 16, 1996.

PROJECT OR PROGRAM SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

Spent Nuclear Fuel Program

- Preparations continued for the U.S. Department of Energy meeting with U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) management to solicit support for a technical meeting with NRC staff on shipment of full loads with damaged fuel. A draft presentation was prepared and is being reviewed. A comparison of full loads versus half load shipments was also prepared quantifying the benefits of full load shipments. The earliest meeting date is the week of September 20, 1999.
- Procurement sent a letter to the Buffalo and Pittsburgh Railroad with comments on the proposal for rail service from the West Valley Demonstration Project to Ashford Junction to Machias. Negotiations will begin this week.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

- The next Citizen Task Force meeting is scheduled for September 21, 1999, and will focus on institutional controls that may be applied at West Valley following site closure. A guest speaker from the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Grand Junction Office is scheduled to present DOE's experiences throughout the Complex.

MEETINGS/TRIPS

- Dan Stachelski will be attending the Voluntary Protection Program Participants Association conference in Washington, DC the week of September 13, 1999.
- Herman Moore will be attending Management Development Training in Lancaster, PA from September 13 through 17, 1999.