

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

DATE: March 14, 2000

SUBJECT: Weekly Activities Report

TO: Mark E. Rawlings, Team Leader
West Valley Demonstration Project
DOE-HQ, EM-31, 1188/CLOV

Attached is a copy of the West Valley Demonstration Project Weekly Activities Report (Predecisional Draft), dated March 14, 2000.

Please advise me if we can provide any further information.


Barbara A. Mazurowski, Director
West Valley Demonstration Project

Attachment

cc: A. R. Griffith, EM-21, 2086/CLOV, w/att.
S. L. Baggett, NRC, TWFN, Room 6 D10, MS-6 F18
T. Jackson, NRC-Region 1
J. D. Parrott, NRC, TWFN, Room 8 C30, MS-8 F37
OH/WVDP Staff, w/att.
P. L. Piciulo, NYSERDA-WV, w/att.

BAM:0174 - 70782 - 237.1

BAM/sdm

NIMSSOIPublic

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES REPORT
WEST VALLEY DEMONSTRATION PROJECT
March 14, 2000
CURRENT ACTIVITIES

HIGH-LEVEL WASTE PROJECT ACTIVITIES

High-Level Waste Transfer Activities

- Progress continues towards high-level waste (HLW) tank heel removal. Completed work this past week included two HLW transfers from Tank 8D-2 to the Concentrator Feed Makeup Tank (CFMT) were performed resulting in approximately 7,275 gallons of waste being transferred. Boil down of liquids in the CFMT liquid processing from Tank 8D-1 through the Supernatant Treatment System (STS) to the Liquid Waste Treatment System (LWTS) evaporator. Evaporator processing in the LWTS for volume reduction. Replacement of the CFMT sample pump and air supply jumper was successfully completed. Thirteen CFMT samples were obtained using the new pump.
- Scheduled activities next week include waste transfers from Tank 8D-2 to Concentrator Feed Makeup Tank (CFMT), boil down of liquids in the CFMT, and continued operation of the Liquid Waste Treatment System (LWTS) evaporator for volume reduction.
- The melter is currently in idle with the 247th canister, the sixth in fiscal year 2000 under the melter feed pour spout.
- The work order to change the 01-14 Building 64-T-009 HEPA filters has been through peer review and is in the walkdown phase of the review process. The containment tent construction on the 01-14 Building third floor is underway, and it is expected to be completed this week. Maintenance is currently modifying the mock-up frame so that Decontamination and Decommissioning (D&D) Operations can work through a mock-up of the lower filter. The modification will be complete this week.

PROJECT COMPLETION

- Mock-up activities required to repair the General Purpose Cell (GPC) shield door gear boxes and drive motors were practiced in the Vitrification Test Facility. Construction of the airlock was completed and final preparations have been completed this week for the initial entries to the GPC Crane Room.
- The drawings and specification for the construction of the General Purpose Cell (GPC) enclosure were released, and a pre-bid meeting was held with the proposed contractor to review the drawings and specifications.

Predecisional Draft

- 2 -

March 14, 2000

- Construction of the Process Mechanical Cell Room (PMCR) enclosure continues including pouring of the concrete for the curbs and installation of the roof decking and the 5-ton bridge crane. Installation of the exterior siding and electrical wiring is in progress. West Metals has started fabrication on the rolling hatch cover for the PMCR enclosure and was awarded the fabrication of the raised floor. Delivery of both units is scheduled for the end of March.
- A detailed Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) for the decontamination and decommissioning (D&D) activities to be included in the scope of Project Baseline Summary 02 has been completed. The WBS is defined by Waste Management Area (WMA) structures in each WMA and then by cell, room, and area. Initial work scope documents describing the original function/purpose, systems/components, work scope, quantities, radiological conditions, radiological waste volumes, hazardous waste volumes, and D&D methodology for each WBS element is proceeding.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

- Work continues in support of the Shipping Depot and Connector projects. Installation of conduit and electrical fixtures in both shipping depot high bay and the shipping depot office is 90 percent complete. Depot high bay and office heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) is 90 percent complete. Delivery of the Lag Storage Area 4 column modification steel is expected this week.
- The first four sea-land containers will be delivered this week to the site in preparation of soil shipping campaign to Envirocare of Utah for disposal. A total of 20 sea-land containers will be leased from Misty Hills Farm Logistical Solutions Inc. (MHF) for the purpose of bulk shipment of soil boxes. Each sea-land will contain four boxes of low-level waste soil. The sea-land will be trucked to a rail head in Conway, Pennsylvania, for rail shipment to Envirocare. The shipping campaign is tentatively scheduled to start March 20, 2000.

PROJECT OR PROGRAM SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

Spent Nuclear Fuel Program

- A representative from Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL) will be on site the week of March 20, 2000, to assist West Valley Nuclear Services Company (WVNS) in completing the Fuel Receipt Criteria Questionnaire. The questionnaire will provide a starting basis for gathering information on nuclear fuel materials shipped to INEEL. This information is required to develop a technical basis document upon which criticality safety evaluations, environmental related documentation, facility safety analysis documents, fuel characterization studies, and handling equipment designs can be based.

Predecisional Draft

- 3 -

March 14, 2000

- The cask Vacuum Drying System (VDS) being leased from Transnuclear Inc. (TN) will be shipped to West Valley Nuclear Services Company (WVNS) by March 24, 2000, with arrival expected by the end of March. A list of equipment to be purchased for support of the VDS is being prepared based on the Piping and Instrument Drawing (P&IDS).
- The draft work document for final fit-up of the front cask trunnions on the new Transnuclear Robert E. Ginna (TN-REG) cask transport frame was submitted for a preliminary walkdown by the operator and to Transnuclear Inc. (TN) for comment this week. The fit-up will require placing the TN-REG cask into the transport frame. All comments are expected back by next week for incorporation into the work order. The final work order will be issued to TN for review and concurrence and it is expected that the transport frame will be moved into the Facility Receiving and Storage (FRS) for fit up with TN-REG cask by end of March.
- Westmoreland Mechanical Testing & Research, Inc. (WMTR) has completed tensile and Charpy V-notch testing on the test specimens from the Borated Stainless Steel (BSS) plates removed from the top row of the Transnuclear Big Rock Point (TN-BRP) and Transnuclear Robert E. Ginna (TN-REG) cask baskets. The results are consistent with the literature for similar grade ASTM Specification A887 BSS material. J-integral type impact fracture toughness tests are scheduled to begin March 22, 2000. All testing is expected to be completed by March 31, 2000. WMTR will issue the test report by April 7, 2000, and George Lucina of Structural Integrity Associates will issue the evaluation report by April 12, 2000.
- Transnuclear Inc. (TN) has prepared a procurement specification for the Borated Stainless Steel (BSS) material for replacement plates for those removed for materials testing. TN will place an order with Carpenter Technology (Cartech), which has available BSS material. TN is planning an audit of Cartech the week of March 20, 2000, to place them on TN's vendor list. TN will subcontract the fabrication of the replacement plates.
- Transnuclear Inc. (TN) has started submitting drafts of completed sections of the Transnuclear Robert E. Ginna (TN-REG) cask Safety Analysis Report (SAR) for a full load with damaged fuel. Copies have been provided to the West Valley Demonstration Project for review. All draft sections of both the Transnuclear Big Rock Point (TN-BRP) and TN-REG cask SARs for full loads are scheduled to be submitted by March 17, 2000. The Borated Stainless Steel (BSS) fracture toughness testing results will be incorporated into the SARs as an Appendix to Chapter 2 (Structural) following completion of the testing. The goal is to submit the revised SARs for full loads including damaged fuel to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission by late April.

Predecisional Draft

- 4 -

March 14, 2000

- The Ohio Field Office West Valley Demonstration Project (OH/WVDP) and the Foreign Research Reactor (FRR) Program will meet with the Seneca Nation of Indians on March 16, 2000. OH/WVDP will discuss the planned shipment of the 125 spent nuclear fuel (SNF) assemblies currently stored at the West Valley Demonstration Project. This shipment is scheduled for 2001. The FRR Program will discuss the plan for the FRR SNF shipment from Canada that is scheduled for Summer 2000.

Remote Handled Waste Facility

- The Topical Report "Benchmarking the Remote Handled Waste Facility (RHWF) at the West Valley Demonstration Project" was issued to the DOE on February 24, 2000. This completes a non-financial milestone for West Valley Nuclear Services Company. After DOE's review and approval, the report will be distributed in the DOE complex. The Topical Report benchmarks the Remote Handled Waste Facility design with several facilities in the U.S. and abroad, and it identifies innovative technologies some of which have already been incorporated into the RHWF design.
- The three System Design Descriptions (SDD) submitted by Butler/Raytheon for approval are under West Valley Nuclear Services Company review. These SDD include the Overall Plant Design Description; Radiation Protection; and Heating, Ventilating, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) System. The submittal of three additional SDDs are scheduled before March 30, 2000.

Site Support

- The fabrication specification for the support ribs for the Buttermilk Creek Culvert repairs has been completed and the purchase requisition is in the approval cycle. The structural tube steel for the mock-up ribs has been rolled and delivered to Bruce's Welding. Construction Work Packages have been written to begin assembly of the culvert section for the full scale mock-up and to locate and inspect the diversion culvert.
- Preliminary analysis of Lake 1 Dam indicates that a major repair is not required and that the stability safety factor is well within acceptable limits. This positive result resolves the immediate concern for the railroad use over the dam. The final report will be issued after completion of the monitoring program and confirmatory analysis. Monitoring will continue for several months.
- A new industrial personal computer and new software were installed in the Utility Room Office on March 6, 2000. The new condensate system was started up and operational testing was conducted on March 7, 2000.

Predecisional Draft

- 5 -

March 14, 2000

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

- The public comment period for providing comments on the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's (NRC) Draft Policy Statement regarding decommissioning criteria for the West Valley Demonstration Project and West Valley Site has been extended to April 1, 2000. A Federal Register Notice announcing this extension was published February 24, 2000. The U.S. Department of Energy intends to provide comments during this comment period.

ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY AND HEALTH (ES&H)

- West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP) completed a self-assessment on Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) availability for the site's chemical inventory. This was conducted to verify that the current MSDS collection is complete and acceptable for entry into the new chemical tracking system database. An amnesty day will be planned for chemicals without MSDSs.
- The Ohio Field Office (DOE-OH) and the West Valley Demonstration Project (OH/WVDP) completed the joint review of WVNS-SAR-023, Rev. 0, Draft B, "Preliminary Safety Analysis Report for the Remote Handled Waste Facility." West Valley Nuclear Services Company is meeting with DOE-OH and OH/WVDP reviewers to resolve comments.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

- The Ohio Field Office West Valley Demonstration Project (OH/WVDP) is revising the OH/WVDP Policy and Procedures Manual to facilitate ease of use. OH/WVDP continues to revise the procedures contained in the Policy and Procedures Manual to reflect updated structuring and responsibilities of the OH/WVDP Office.
- Completed participation in West Valley Nuclear Services Company (WVNS) Radiation Protection Program Audit.
- The Ohio Field Office West Valley Demonstration Project (OH/WVDP) staff will participate in the following West Valley Nuclear Services Company (WVNS) internal audits:
 - Price Anderson Amendments Act (PAAA) Program - Week of March 13, 2000
 - Measuring and Test Equipment (M&TE) - Week of March 20, 2000
 - Waste Characterization Process - April 2000

Predecisional Draft

- 6 -

March 14, 2000

GENERAL

- o Approximately 30 students from West Valley Central School will visit the West Valley Demonstration Project for two hours on March 14, 2000, to meet with site employee mentors. Typically, mentors meet with their students at the school once a week, after school hours. "Bring Your Mentee to Work Day" allows the student to better understand the careers their mentors have chosen, as well as get a first-hand view of a professional working environments.

MEETINGS/TRIPS

- o The Citizen Task Force (CTF) Meeting scheduled for February 15, 2000, has been rescheduled for Tuesday, April 11, 2000.
- o Thomas Vero and Elizabeth Lowes, DOE, will be at the Ohio Field Office on March 16, 2000, to participate in the development of corrective actions addressing areas for improvement noted in the 2000 Ohio Field Office Fitness Review.
- o A Quarterly Public Meeting has been scheduled for March 21, 2000.