



Department of Energy

Idaho Operations Office  
West Valley Project Office  
P.O. Box 191  
West Valley, NY 14171  
May 7, 1992

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BOK/LPON

Mr. W. G. Poulson, President  
and General Manager  
West Valley Nuclear Services Co., Inc.  
P.O. Box 191  
West Valley, NY 14171

ATTENTION: P. J. Valenti, Total Quality Manager

SUBJECT: Meeting Minutes, April 16, 1992, Observers Meeting  
for ORR Review of Resumption of IRTS Processing for  
Sludge Wash - Phase II

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for your information and use are the subject meeting minutes. The recommendations therein should be formally entered and tracked by your action tracking control system such that a recoverable record can be reviewed during future NRC visits. Closure of the actions should be part of the Phase II Sludge Wash ORR files and should reference these minutes. If you have questions, please call W. S. Ketola on Extension 4314.

Sincerely,

T. J. Rowland, Director  
West Valley Project Office

Enclosure: Subject Meeting Minutes

cc: W. S. Ketola, WVPO (w/enc)  
J. A. Yeazel, WVPO (w/enc)  
R. B. Provencher, WVPO (w/enc)  
J. P. Desormeau, WVFO (w/enc)  
T. L. Sonntag, NYSERDA - WV (w/enc)  
P. L. Piciulo, NYSERDA - WV (w/enc)  
J. T. Case, DOE-ID (w/enc)  
T. W. McIntosh, DOE-HQ (w/enc)  
J. Roth, NRC - Region 1 (w/enc)  
M. Rawlings, DOE-HQ (w/enc)  
G. C. Comfort, NRC (w/enc)

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## MEETING MINUTES

April 28, 1992

SUBJECT: Sludge Wash Phase II Observers Meeting and Preview of Sludge Wash Cement Waste Form - Meeting Minutes from April 16, 1992

On Thursday, April 16, 1992, the West Valley Project Office held its Operational Readiness Review (ORR) Board Sludge Wash Phase II Observers Meeting and Preview of the Sludge Wash Cement Waste Form Presentation.

Introductions were given by T. J. Rowland representing the West Valley Project Office (WVPO), Department of Energy (DOE) and R. A. Humphrey for W. G. Poulson representing the West Valley Nuclear Services Co., Inc. (WVNS), to the observers from NRC, DOE-HQ, and DOE-ID.

A brief review of HLW processing was given by W. S. Ketola, Chairman of the DOE ORR. Topics covered included HLW objectives, schedule review/current status, and a review of the meeting agenda.

A detailed presentation was then given by P. J. Valenti on the WVDP Supernatant Treatment and Sludge Mobilization and Wash Process. Other topics covered included the status of all open items pertaining to resumption, as well as strategy and plans for controlled operations.

R. E. Lawrence for R. A. Humphrey concluded the WVDP portion of the morning with the West Valley Nuclear Services (WVNS) ORR Chairman's summary.

The DOE Independent ORR presentations then began with W. S. Ketola giving an overview of the WVDO Plan, Authority, Delegation, and ORR Tree. Mr. Ketola also introduced the DOE and NYSERDA individuals on the board. Presentations by the DOE ORR team leaders were given in order as they appeared on the WVPO Readiness Review Tree.

J. P. Desormeau started the presentations with Matrix 1.0 - Management, Organization, and Personnel. Mr. Desormeau covered both the DOE and WVNS portions of these systems including organization and personnel for ES&H, QA for the DOE, and Management and Personnel, Organization, QA, Training and Certification, and LWTS and CSS Operators for WVNS. In conclusion, Matrix 1.0 had one remaining open item not related to resumption, which is the training of CSS operators to the optimized cement recipe. Matrix 1.0 was cleared as acceptable for resumption.

Matrix 2.0 - IRTS Facilities and Hardware was presented by T. L. Sonntag. Mr. Sonntag's areas of focus included hardware modifications and functional checkout of subsystems. Matrix 2.0 was deemed acceptable for resumption. Two open items not related to

resumption are future hardware modifications to CSS to incorporate revised recipe, and incorporation of G-001 Pump Lessons Learned into similar pumps.

Presenting Matrix 3.0 - Procedural Readiness (Operating Procedures) was J. A. Yeazel. Major areas of inquiry from Mr. Yeazel included Integrated Radwaste Treatment System Procedures and General Procedures. One open item remained for Matrix 3.0 which is the modification to applicable procedures, if required, to reflect the new cement recipe.

Mr. Ketola returned to present section Matrix 4.0 - Technology. There were three areas of inquiry: process technology, process control, and the cement waste form. Two open items remained for this area, both are related to long term development of the cement recipe, and do not directly affect resumption. Matrix 4.0 was acceptable for resumption.

The afternoon session began with R. B. Provencher's presentation on Matrix 5.0 - Compliance Review. Mr. Provencher stated that the main areas on inquiry for this matrix included SAR/TR/OSR, Environmental/NEPA, Quality Assurance, Regulatory Compliance, WVNS ORR Process, and the Selected Item Review OSR/GP-3, OSR/GP-10, TR/IRTS-11, and OSR/IRTS-12. Matrix 5.0 had one open item critical to resumption: approval of the SMS/STS SAR and related revisions to the SAR/OSR. Matrix 5.0 readiness was placed on hold pending SAR approval by the Idaho Field Office Manager.

W. S. Ketola presented a conclusion of items addressed by the individual DOE ORR presenters, and introduced J. L. Mahoney, WVNS, for a review of the Sludge Wash Cement Waste Form recipe development program.

Mr. Mahoney gave an in-depth presentation, geared to the visitors from NRC, on cement history, test progression, and preview of the Interim Qualification Report. Mr. Mahoney's presentation was well received by the visitors.

The final presenter for the day was D. C. Meess on the long term strategy and plans for controlled operation. Topics covered by Mr. Meess included a plan to support interim concurrence, controlled IRTS operation, IRTS operation under interim concurrence, final recipe qualification (Type I), plans to support NRC concurrence of Type I recipe, IRTS with a fully qualified recipe, alternate recipe testing (Type V), Type V recipe qualification, and a proposed schedule to obtain NRC interim concurrence, as well as final concurrence.

A small recess was taken to give the visitors an opportunity to generate conclusions for the final closeout.

During the closeout, all representatives from DOE-ID, DOE-HQ, and NRC felt that WVDP was ready to resume operations for Sludge Wash Phase II. Joel Case, DOE-ID, commented on the rigor and depth of the

WV ORR process and mentioned the teamwork between WVNS and DOE. Based on his overview, Mr. Case endorsed the recommendation to resume operations pending SAR approval. Ted McIntosh, DOE-HQ, EM-343, the WV Program Manager, was pleased with the ORR results, and endorsed the resumption recommendation as well, again pending SAR approval. NRC representatives concurred with the ORR recommendation for immediate resumption of operations, but did suggest the following longer term actions be addressed:

- o Assurance that the sampling program used to support Sludge Wash does in fact properly focus on the radionuclides of concern.
- o Assurance that the Analytical Laboratory uses analytical methods traceable to recognized standards, that the results are accurate, and that the technicians are certified to perform the work assigned.
- o Assurance that the appropriate level of WV Management has been adequately trained to handle process and operations decisions related to ongoing Sludge Wash activities.
- o Assurance that the radiation level baselines for all process steps have been established and validated.
- o Assurance that all submittals to NRC have been read by the persons authorized to sign or approve them.
- o Preparation of a detailed schedule for the final development and optimization of the cement recipe to be "endorsed" by NRC in the November 1992 time frame.

These activities will be formally entered into the WV action item control system and scheduled to coincide with near term operations, and final cement recipe development.

*W. S. Ketola 5/7/92*

W. S. Ketola, Chairman  
DOE ORRB