

January 21, 2003

Mr. Thomas Baillieul, Director
U.S. Department of Energy
Columbus Closure Project
1425 Plain City-Georgesville Rd.
West Jefferson, OH 43162

Dear Mr. Baillieul:

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS (January 11-17, 2003)

I. Operations:

Building JN-1:

Activities under Work Instruction (WI) -1124, BAS Compressor Repair, have been completed; the work package shall be closed out and submitted to Project Records.

Staff members were briefed on WI-1122, High Energy Cell (HEC) Mezzanine Setup, and work commenced. Each of the three roof plugs was radiologically surveyed, and contamination was stabilized in place; the roof plugs were replaced with specially fabricated hatch covers. Future activities include removing the roof plugs from the JN-1B HEC mezzanine, transferring them to Waste Management for disposal as radioactive waste, and installing the Perma-con Waste Processing Facility on the mezzanine floor.

WI-1155, which covers removing the large plugs from the HEC, received the final signature Friday and will be issued Monday. Staff will be briefed, and work will begin as soon as the overheads in the HEC are cleaned. The rental forklift, steel pallet, and miscellaneous equipment for this work have been received.

Draft WI-1127, covering removing the HEC shield door, is being distributed for comment. Sign-off on this WI is anticipated in about two weeks, and the work will be performed as fill-in work as the work area becomes available.

WI-1099, covering removing the HEC cranes, is being developed. BCLDP is working with Myers Movers on a work plan. Myers Movers is also preparing a quote for performing this

work. Myers Movers personnel have been trained to operate the X26 scissor lift, which will be used to remove the HEC cranes.

Staff were briefed Friday on WI-1142 in preparation for starting two shifts on the decontamination of the HEC overheads on Monday. The X26 scissor lift was modified, and the unit was tested. Several staff members were trained on the X26 scissor lift for performing this work. Flooring for the HEC was received and tested to ensure that the scissor lift could drive safely over it.

The work under WI-1100 is almost complete. After the last item in the HEC was packaged, the remaining manipulator arms were removed. Two of the three arms are being held for transfer to PNNL, and the other was moved to the Back Dock (along with the arm from the repair rack) to be disassembled for disposal. The remaining small plugs were removed from the HEC wall at windows 12 and 13.

Under WI-1114, the 1,500-gallon tank is being removed from the Pump Room in JN-1B.

West Jefferson (WJ) External Areas:

Work continued on the planned JN-13 Access Control Point/Locker Room trailer to be located on top of the existing footers outside JN-3. Specifications and an interior design were distributed to three vendors for preparation of bids due on February 3, 2003.

Two of three groundwater monitoring holes have been bored to the bedrock level (WI- 1136).

Transuranic (TRU) Waste Shipping:

The BCLDP participated in a conference call with the Midwestern Governors Council to discuss the proposed February 3, 2003, TRU waste shipment with two 10-160B casks to Hanford. Currently there are two cask shipments of TRU waste staged in a Dufrane unit in the JN-1 High-bay. The States were agreeable to allowing the BCLDP to start shipping TRU waste in February, rather than waiting until the end of March as previously planned. Two CNS 10-160B casks will be returned to BCLDP in late January for loading in preparation for a shipment in early February. Then, barring any weather or operational delays, a biweekly shipping campaign will begin.

Low Level Waste (LLW) Operations:

Five (5) 55-gallon drums of LLW were compacted in the Charpy Cell. Thirty-five cubic feet (35 ft³) of compactable LLW was accepted for packaging. Non-compactable low-level debris from radioactive material areas in JN-1 was packaged into B-25 boxes for a total volume of 226 ft³ (138 ft³ for Envirocare and 88 ft³ for Hanford disposal).

Approximately five cubic yards (135 ft³) of soil removed from the pipe trench in the old JN-1 machine shop were packaged into disposable bags for radiological free-release or Envirocare disposal.

Fourteen (14) DOT Radioactive Empty B-25 boxes were received from Envirocare for packaging LLW.

Cask EX-16 (31,830 lbs) was shipped as mixed LLW to Envirocare of Utah for treatment and disposal. The volume of the shipment was 110 ft³.

Ten gallons (1.5 ft³) of motor oil generated from forklift maintenance were free-released to Battelle Columbus Operations Waste Management for disposal.

Technology Deployment:

Two thousand (2,000) gallons of water have been injected into the soil of Plot 2, and the water level is being recorded over many different time intervals. Documentation is being gathered to begin writing operating procedures. Sauer has assembled the piping plans for the needed engineering modifications for extraction (WI-984).

II. Environmental Safety and Health Performance:

Safety performance is 773 days and 505,310 exposure hours without a lost time injury accident.

III. Facilities and Equipment:

Daily, weekly, and monthly inspection and maintenance of the WJ North facility alarms, instrumentation, building functions, tickler system, and grounds were completed.

The evaporator is operating well, and the installed thermometer is easy to read.

The HEPA filters in the Mechanical Test Cell of JN-1 were DOP tested.

Buckeye Landscape removed snow and ice at the north site.

The JN-1 High Level Cell rough filter, which had elevated levels of activity on contact, was changed; and the DP dropped to 0.6 inches.

Planning continued in the following areas:

- WI-1119, covering the reroofing of JN-6, is in the review cycle; but the start of work depends on the weather.

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- The vendor should soon supply the projected receiving date for a new JN-1 transformer, which will supply electricity to breathing air and eventually to the new water processing room.
- Documentation was prepared to bring estimators on-site to see the JN-1 Pump Room roof.
- Plans continued to replace the JN-1B groundwater sump pump because the float switch has failed.

IV. Program Administration and Control

The Monthly Status Report for December 2002 was submitted to the DOE Columbus Closure Project on January 15, 2003. During a meeting with DOE on January 16, 2003, the Current Year Work Plan/LRE analysis was discussed, and the impact analysis of \$16.1 million in funding versus \$21.1 million was presented for review. Further discussion will continue at the DOE weekly meeting on January 22, 2003.

The Work Breakdown Structure and Dictionary was updated to reflect the Revision 3 Baseline, and this document was submitted to the local DOE Office.

V. Future Work Activities:

Attached is the projected work schedule for the coming weeks.

Sincerely,

Patrick Weaver, P.E., Manager
Operations

PJW:dew/dmk