

March 17, 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 (March 8-14, 2003)

I. Operations:

Building JN-1:

Work Instruction (WI-1154) covering the High Energy Cell (HEC) well decontamination continued preparations. The fall protection was installed on the wall of the cell.

Work Instruction (WI-1155) covering the removal of the large plugs from the HEC continued this week. The last upper plug and the last lower block were removed, and removal of the three port shield doors also began. The one on the east wall was removed, and setup for removing the two on the west wall was completed. After removal of these two doors and cleanup, this WI will be complete.

Work Instruction (WI-1157) for removing the HEC windows was closed out this week. The remaining work to remove the HEC window inserts will be completed under a new WI (WI-1129) specific to lead removal. Two more HEC windows, along with Hot Cell Services' tools and scissor table, were shipped as a Waste Management function. One window remains to be shipped once a determination is made on whether or not it meets Hot Cell Services' license.

Myers Movers went into the HEC to inspect the cranes and crane rails to gather information for planning the removal of the cranes. Myers Movers will use this information to put together a work plan to be added to WI-1099 that will cover crane removal.

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The purchase orders for all equipment and material dealing with the InstaCote® strippable paint have been processed. The X400 was released and moved to JN-3 for upgrades.

The contaminated soil in the Machine Shop sump was removed and packaged as waste (WI-1090). The remaining sump pieces (bottom and two side walls) will be left in place until the office area demolition. Water was entering the sump area and plans are being generated to address how this area will be managed.

WI-1122, which covers the HEC Mezzanine set-up, was closed out.

WI-1120, which covers removing the manipulator support area, was completed and closed out.

WI-1125, for utility removal in the Hot Equipment Storage Room was approved, and staff members were briefed. Work is scheduled to start next week.

The site walkover for the JN-1 Pump Room was performed; engineering and room design is ongoing. Evaporator delivery and construction schedule is being developed.

Building JN-3

Water is being continually pumped from under the JN-3 basement via the wells and pumps installed in the Pump Room and around the reactor pool.

West Jefferson (WJ) External Areas:

The decision regarding the progress for the planned JN-12 Access Control Point/Locker Room trailer is still resting with the DOE.

Work stopped on the modular Radioanalytical Laboratory facility project at the direction of the DOE.

On the JN-4 Isolation Plan, the road concept and utility relocations have been finalized and the final design is underway.

Transuranic (TRU) Waste Shipping:

Cask #2 was backed into the JN-1 High Bay in preparation for removal of both casks from their trailers early next week. Work continued on the paperwork and videos as necessary to get approval to ship the remaining TRU waste, in anticipation of shipments resuming in the future.

During a conference call this week with the Savannah River Site (SRS), options were discussed for receipt of the Saxton spent nuclear fuel pin. An additional call was held with INEEL, SRS, DOE-HQ, DOE-Ohio, and Battelle to discuss the various aspects of

repackaging, transporting, and receiving the Saxton spent nuclear fuel pin. A follow-up call will be held next week to determine the level of documentation required per the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, establish a preferred site, and determine whether an amended record of decision for the Programmatic Spent Nuclear Fuel Management Environmental Impact Statement will be required. As an alternative to repackaging at Battelle or the receiving site, third-party sites also were surveyed for their abilities to receive and repack the Saxton pin.

Low Level Waste (LLW) Operations:

Five (5) 55-gallon drums of LLW were compacted in the Charpy Cell.

Two concrete shield walls (46 ft³ total) were accepted for packaging. Non-compactible low-level debris from radioactive material areas in JN-1 was packaged into B-25 boxes and IP-1 Intermodal containers, for a total volume of 138 ft³ (123 ft³ for Envirocare of Utah and 15 ft³ for Hanford Nuclear Facility disposal).

Eight cubic feet (8 ft³) of clean waste were free-released for municipal disposal.

Two additional radiologically free-released leaded glass windows were shipped to Hot Cell Services in Kent, WA, for reuse/recycle. This action avoided over \$25,000 in transportation and waste disposal fees.

WIDE Technology Deployment:

Staff reviewed the data of the injection cycle testing and prepared procedures for the extraction cycle testing. Engineering modifications to extract water from the field continued. Plot 2 subsurface water level monitoring continued. (WI-984)

II. Environmental Safety and Health Performance:

Safety performance is 171 days and 119,554 exposure hours without a lost time injury accident.

III. Facilities and Equipment:

Daily, weekly, and monthly inspections and maintenance for the WJ North facility alarms, instrumentation, building functions, tickler system, and grounds were completed. Crane America and BCLDP staff members adjusted the drop on the first two festoons of the 10/50-ton crane pendant festoon cable system of JN-1B, thus preventing the festoons from dragging against the new building on the mezzanine. The Hyster 6300 forklift remained out of service awaiting backrest replacement. All alarm doors inside JN-1 were repaired and are operating properly.

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Planning continued in the following areas:

- WI-1131 covering the JN-1B Pump Room roof resurfacing is in the review cycle.
- Mid City ordered equipment to install the 480-volt transformer for JN-1 in about two weeks.
- Procedure revisions addressing the replacement of the JN-1B groundwater sump pump were implemented. The current pump's float switch has failed.

IV. Future Work Activities:

Attached is the projected work schedule for the coming weeks.

Sincerely,

Patrick Weaver, P.E., Manager
Operations

PJW:dew/dmk