

April 29, 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 (April 19–25, 2003)

I. Operations:

Building JN-1:

Lead removal was completed from the operations side of the High Energy Cell (HEC) windows. To access the remaining lead for removal, the window liners will be removed after the cranes are taken out of the HEC (WI-1129).

Staff members were briefed on WI-1099, and setup began for crane removal from the HEC. The Myers Movers crew was briefed on Tuesday and began work in the HEC on Thursday. The 5-ton HEC crane was de-energized, and the hoist was removed to the Permacon structure on the Mezzanine. The crane bridge was removed and placed in the Cask Wash Down area.

Work continued on WI-1125, "Utility Removal in the Hot Equipment Storage Room," and should be completed next week.

Work continued on WI-1159, "Utility Removal in the Controlled Access Area/Old Back Dock and Old Operations Area," and should continue next week.

Stabilization of the JN-1B Pump Room was completed.

Underground piping removal in the JN-1 Office Area resumed. The concrete floor above the underground piping was removed and soil removal was initiated. Work was halted when piping was unexpectedly discovered two inches under the soil.

For the JN-1 Pump Room, the evaporator and associated equipment were received and are on-site. WI-1149 and -1104 are undergoing internal review.

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.

JN-4 Isolation Plan:

Sauer is preparing a cost estimate for underground utility work. Bid packages were sent to three contractors to perform electric utility work.

West Jefferson (WJ) External Areas:

Ground water is being pumped from the wells on the exterior of JN-3.

TRU Waste Shipping:

A planning meeting was tentatively scheduled for May 14th with Fluor Hanford staff to discuss Hanford site receipt of BCLDP contact handled TRU, mixed waste TRU, and 72-B cask shipments.

Meetings were held with Battelle radiation protection, facility, and security staff to discuss the possible staging of TRU waste on a newly constructed outside pad. There were no major technical issues identified.

Saxton Pin Disposition:

Work continued on plans for repackaging the Saxton fuel pin. Shipping options for the repackaged pin continue to be pursued. A meeting is scheduled for next week with General Electric and Savannah River Site staff to discuss shipment options.

A schedule for shipment of the Saxton pin was developed and provided to DOE.

Low Level Waste (LLW) Operations:

Two (2) 55-gallon drums of LLW were compacted in the JN-1 Charpy Cell. Seventy-three cubic feet (73 ft³) of compactible LLW were accepted for packaging. Non-compactible low-level debris from radioactive material areas in JN-1 was packaged into B-25 boxes, for a total volume of 233 ft³ for Envirocare of Utah disposal.

Nineteen cubic feet (19 ft³) of compactible waste and seventy-two cubic feet (72 ft³) of concrete waste were radiologically free-released for municipal disposal.

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One concrete HEC roof plug and two concrete shield walls were shipped as LLW to Envirocare for disposal. Total mass/volume of LLW shipped was 29,000 pounds/238 cubic feet (238 ft³).

WIDE Technology Deployment:

The advance copies of the injection and extraction procedures are in review. Engineering modifications to extract water from the field continues as parts are received. (WI-984) Planning continues for WI-1132 to begin extraction testing.

II. Environmental Safety and Health Performance:

Safety performance is 213 days and 148,936 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. The evaporator remained off. Repairs to fix malfunction of the JN-1 High Bay garage door were completed. The annual HEPA filter DOP test for the JN-1 Evaporator Room ventilation was completed.

The site information requested by DOE to support the Request For Proposal was collected and submitted in electronic format.

IV. Future Work Activities:

Attached is the projected work schedule for the coming weeks.

Sincerely,

Patrick Weaver, P.E., Manager
Operations

PJW:dew/dmk