West Valley Demonstration Project

Project Update

Craig Rieman
U.S. Department of Energy
West Valley Demonstration Project
October 26, 2011

Safety Performance

• WVDP has worked over 4.3 million hours without a lost-time work accident

• CHBWV worked approximately 60,000 hours in September without a lost-time work accident or illness

• Total Recordable – 0

• Days Away
  Restricted Time – 0
Regulatory Update

• CHBWV received license to perform asbestos removal activities on September 20, 2011

• USEPA performed a RCRA compliance inspection on September 20, 2011
  o No violations
  o Site remains in compliance

• Held Regulatory Roundtable on October 5, 2011 to introduce CHBWV and discuss upcoming scope and planned activities

Regulatory Update continued

• A State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) non-compliance event occurred on October 18, 2011
  o Elevated levels of mercury (346 ng/L) at outfall 007
    (ng/L = nanograms per liter, 10^{-9} grams per liter, or parts per trillion)
  o A mercury limit of 200 ng/L is a condition of the new SPDES permit, effective July 2011

• Notification was immediately made to NYSDEC

• CHBWV is addressing the issue
  o Investigating whether source was due to discharge of rinse water from bottles used for ammonia samples that contain trace quantities of mercury in the reagents
  o Revised procedure to collect and dispose of the rinse water as hazardous waste (Samples & reagents have always been disposed as hazardous waste.)
Permeable Treatment Wall

- First and second quarter PTW performance monitoring results:
  - Groundwater flow patterns continue to reflect pre-PTW installation and baseline conditions
  - Effective cation exchange to remove Sr-90 from groundwater continues to occur
  - Second quarter downgradient concentrations lower than baseline/first quarter concentrations

- Pump and treat system continues to operate
- SPDES closure plan for isolation and removal of the pump and treat system in 2012 has been prepared

HLW Canister Relocation

- Repaired CPC Crane and camera system
- Obtained contamination surveys of canisters
- CHBWV preparing Request for Proposal (RFP) for construction of the HLW canister storage system that will be issued by end of December 2011
Operations

- Main plant isolation
  - Water isolation to the plant complete, except for decontamination showers
  - Complete employee relocation scheduled for mid-January
- Laundry facility closure- scheduled for end of November
- Winterization 95% complete

Waste Management

- 12 shipments of LLW will be made for disposal at the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) between now and the end of the year – 15,334 ft³
- A November 7, 2011 shipment of hazardous waste is planned for disposal at Heritage Environmental Services
- A mixed waste shipment is planned for December 2011
- CHBWV is evaluating on-site waste storage capabilities for the long term storage of TRU waste
Facility Disposition (D&D)

- Main Plant
  - Contaminated pipe removal in the upper extraction aisle - ongoing
  - Final cleanup of lower extraction area asbestos - ongoing
- Performed reviews of the test & storage building (TSB) slab and foundation, test tower and maintenance triangle
  - Scheduled for demolition by the end of the year
- Performed initial characterization in the 01-14 cell and ammonia aisle
  - Complete deactivation by end of March and demolition by end of May 2012

Funding

- Requested $60M for WVDP
- Awaiting Congressional budget approval
- Working to a continuing resolution that provides funding through November 18, 2011 based on the FY 2011 base funding
Community Support

• Completed United Way fund drive – $28,418
• Starting annual Food Drive for the local food banks
  o West Valley, Springville, Delevan, Cattaraugus, Ellicottville, Franklinville, and Little Valley
  o Trucks to be located at the plant and AOC starting October 31 through November 10.

Last year’s Food Drive success -- collected 77,472 pounds of food