



Pilot Demonstration Project for Tank Removal

To Attain Clean Closure at
West Valley – North Plateau

Goals

- Clean Closure of the North Plateau
 - Remove HLW tanks
 - Leave outer portion of Sr-90 groundwater plume under State management/stewardship
- Leave South Plateau under long-term control
- Revise EIS to reflect this as the Preferred Alternative

North Plateau

- Exhume and remove the four HLW tanks
- Remove Process Building
- Remove source of the groundwater plume
- Remove all contamination in excess of DCGLs for unrestricted release
- Allow outer portion of groundwater plume to decay in place under NYSERDA control

Objectives of Tank Removal

- Develop and improve tank removal technologies
- Identify ways to keep worker doses low
- Develop better cost estimates

Tank Removal – Pilot Demonstration

- Convene a Federal Workgroup (DOE, NRC, EPA) to scope the overall project
- Develop conceptual engineering plan for tank removal - 2 years
- Perform Removal - 10 years
- Prepare report compiling lessons learned, and technology and cost assessments

South Plateau

- In the current alternatives, performance assessments indicate will exceed dose caps after loss of institutional controls
- Options:
 - Removing (more) waste
 - Build more robust engineering features to contain waste and divert water
 - Maintain license over hundreds of years to control access and ensure maintenance and oversight
- NRC's Long-Term Control License most feasible

Cost to Achieve Goal of this Alternative

- Cost of vitrification phase was \$2 billion over 20 years
- Cost the same to achieve clean closure of North Plateau and place South Plateau (and plume residual) under long-term regulatory control
- Cost comparable to other alternatives that cannot achieve clean closure of North Plateau and stewardship an issue

Benefits

- A Preferred Alternative is needed to complete a DEIS for public review
- DOE will leave the North Plateau in a state able to achieve release for unrestricted use without setting a precedence for tank removal at DOE sites
- NYS will achieve clean closure of North Plateau and undertake long-term control and stewardship of the South Plateau, including WVDP waste in the NDA as well as the outer portion of the Sr-90 plume (decay in place)