



West Valley Demonstration Project



Nuclear Regulatory Commission-licensed Disposal Area Cap Plan

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WVDP Citizen Task Force, July 25, 2007

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South Plateau Aerial View



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NDA History

- ◆ Radioactive waste disposal area used:
 - 1966-1981 by NFS for reprocessing-related wastes
 - 1982-1986 by DOE for WVDP-related LLW
- ◆ Contents
 - 360,000 cubic feet of buried waste
 - 44.8% from NFS
 - 55.2% from WVDP
 - 298,000 curies of radioactive materials
 - 99.6% from NFS
 - 0.4% from WVDP

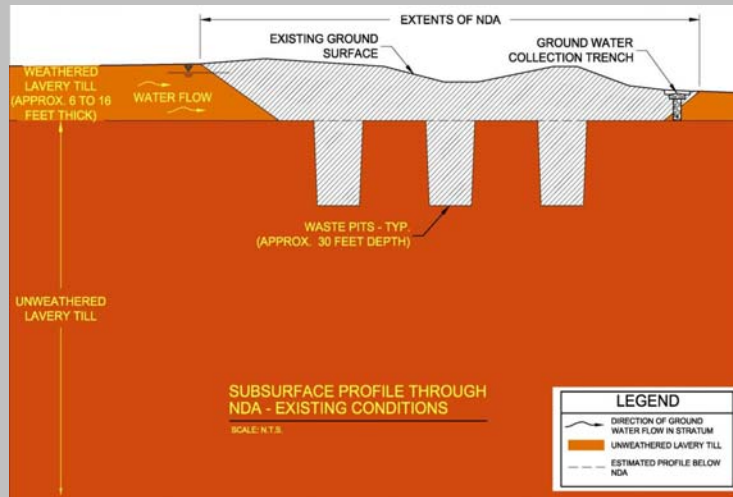


NDA Current Status

- ◆ NDA subject to water infiltration issues
 - Interceptor Trench installed as part of kerosene mitigation plan collects ~400,000 gallons of mildly contaminated water annually
 - Kerosene has never been detected above action levels in trench
 - Water is treated and released through Liquid Waste Treatment System
 - Preventing water from coming in contact with waste was identified as a “best practice”
- ◆ Existing earthen cap needs attention
 - Similar to the State-licensed Disposal Area before it was capped, the earthen cap is subject to degradation due to weather



Schematic Section through NDA



Key Project Design Criteria

- ◆ Minimize surface and groundwater infiltration into the NDA for at least 30 years using a geomembrane liner and barrier wall
- ◆ Geomembrane permeability must be 10^{-7} cm/sec, maintenance minimal, UV resistant, puncture resistant
- ◆ Stabilize the geomembrane liner against wind uplift forces
- ◆ Control storm water run-off discharge to pre-construction conditions for 25-year, 24-hour storm.
- ◆ Key the barrier wall into unweathered Lavery Till
- ◆ Provide barrier wall with permeability of 10^{-7} cm/sec
- ◆ Provide upgradient and downgradient groundwater monitoring
- ◆ Maintain existing groundwater monitoring wells
- ◆ Design to avoid impact on SDA



NDA Cap Design

- ◆ Possible methods of reducing water infiltration were explored
- ◆ Cap/barrier wall combination identified and designed based on:
 - NYSEDERA's success at managing the water infiltration issues at the SDA
 - Durability and cost-effectiveness of cover and barrier wall
 - Doesn't preclude other actions of managing the NDA in the future
 - Designed by Butler Construction, Inc. with McMahon and Mann Consulting Engineers P.C.
- ◆ Design includes
 - Geomembrane cap over 7-acre area
 - Barrier wall along two sides in groundwater upgradient direction (South & West)

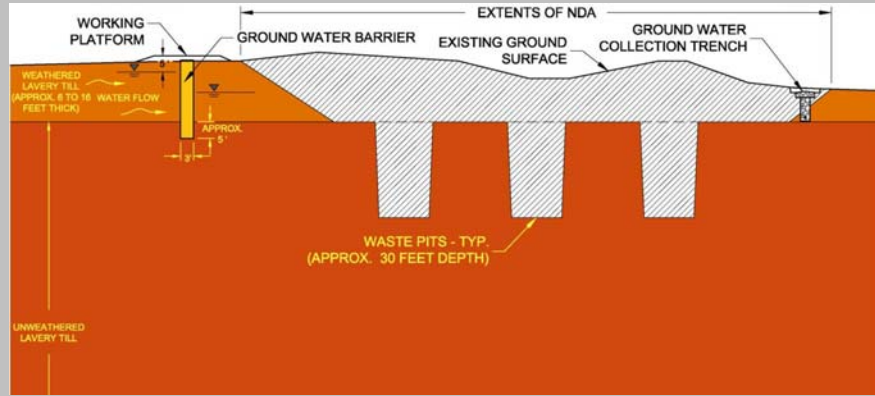


NDA Cap/Barrier Wall Design





Groundwater Barrier Wall



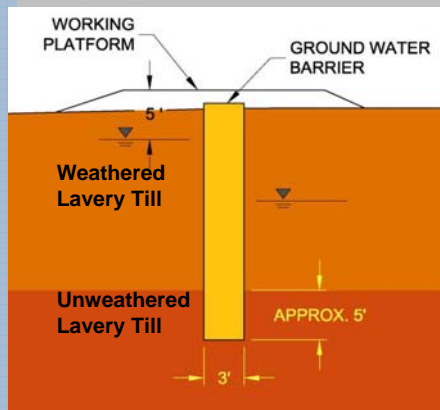
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Barrier Wall Features



- ◆ Soil-bentonite backfill (Permeability 10^{-7} cm/sec)
- ◆ 3-foot width
- ◆ 5-foot key into Unweathered Lavery Till
- ◆ Working platform
- ◆ Subsurface explorations
- ◆ Post-construction monitoring

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NDA Cap Design Review Process

- ◆ Interactive final design review team consisted of
 - DOE
 - NYSERDA
 - NYSDEC
 - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
 - WVNSCO
- ◆ Design and construction documents also provided to
 - U.S. NRC
 - U.S. EPA
- ◆ Design and construction specification are nearly complete
- ◆ WVNSCO will provide to DOE this week
 - Construction package
 - Draft Interim Measure Work Plan



NDA Cap Anticipated Schedule

- ◆ June 2007 Design and construction package provided to DOE
- ◆ Mid-July 2007 Submit Interim Measure Work Plan and supporting documents to NYSDEC for approval
- ◆ Late Aug 2007 Expected NYSDEC approval
Award construction contract
- ◆ Late Sept 2007 Begin site work: survey and core borings
- ◆ Sept 2008 Slurry wall and cap completion