



Fact Sheet

Project History

The West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP) was authorized through federal legislation. The West Valley Demonstration Project Act of 1980 authorized the U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) to take control of 167 acres of New York State-owned land to conduct a high-level radioactive waste management demonstration project at the Western New York Nuclear Service Center (WNYNSC). The site is the location of the only commercial reprocessing plant of nuclear fuel in the United States. The Center is owned by New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA). The Act directed DOE to take the following actions:

- Solidify in a form suitable for transportation and disposal, the high-level radioactive waste at the WNYNSC;
- Develop containers suitable for the high-level radioactive waste's permanent disposal;
- As soon as feasible, transport the solidified waste to a Federal repository for permanent disposal;
- Dispose of low-level radioactive waste (LLW) and transuranic (TRU) waste produced by the solidification of the high-level radioactive waste; and
- Decontaminate and decommission the tanks and other facilities used at the WNYNSC in which the high-level radioactive waste was solidified, the facilities used in the waste's solidification, and any material and hardware used in connection with the West Valley Demonstration Project.

Pathway to Project Completion

In January 2010, DOE and NYSERDA issued the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for *Decommissioning and/or Long-Term Stewardship at the West Valley Demonstration Project and the Western New York Nuclear Service Center*. In April 2010, DOE issued its Record of Decision (ROD) to proceed with a phased approach that included:

Phase 1 – Decommissioning

Facility Disposition

- Relocate high-level waste canisters to long-term interim storage
- Process, ship, and dispose of all legacy waste, not including transuranic (TRU) waste
- Deactivate, demolish and remove the Main Plant Process Building (MPPB) and the Vitrification Facility to grade
- Demolish and remove ancillary facilities

Soil Remediation

- Remove slabs and below-grade portions of the MPPB, the source area of the plume, and Vitrification Facility in Waste Management Area (WMA) 1
- Remove Low-Level Waste Treatment Facility 2 and the lagoons in WMA 2
- Ship the legacy TRU waste once a disposal facility is available
- Remove the Remote-Handled Waste Facility and remaining waste storage facilities (after shipment of TRU waste)
- Remediate soil in WMAs 1 and 2

Phase I Studies

Following the 2010 FEIS, DOE and NYSERDA established a process for conducting scientific studies in order to facilitate interagency consensus to complete decommissioning of the remaining facilities.

Phase 2 – Decommissioning

The Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement will examine the range of reasonable Phase 2 alternatives (i.e., the alternatives that meet DOE's and NYSERDA's respective purpose and need for action) and their potential environmental impacts.



West Valley Demonstration Project Overview



CH2M HILL BWXT West Valley, LLC began performing work at the site under WVDP Phase 1 Decommissioning – Facility Disposition contract on August 29, 2011.

FOUR MAJOR CONTRACT MILESTONES:

- Complete Relocation of 275 High-Level Waste (HLW) canisters and 3 Non-conforming HLW canisters to Long-term Interim Storage
- Process, Ship and Dispose of all Legacy Waste, not including Transuranic Waste
- Demolish and Remove the Vitrification Facility and Main Plant Process Building
- Complete all Work Described in the Performance Work Statement, including Balance of Site Facilities, Surveillance and Maintenance, and Site Operations

Accomplishments:

- Completed the relocation of 275 High-Level Waste canisters and 3 non-conforming HLW canisters to long-term interim storage
- Completed demolition of the 01-14 Building, the first radiologically and chemically contaminated processing facility to be demolished under the current contract
- Completed the disposition of legacy waste that was produced as a result of past cleanup activities
- Completed the demolition of the Vitrification Facility on September 20, 2018. Its demolition represents the largest and most complex demolition of a radioactively contaminated facility at the WVDP to date
- 23 of 47 Balance of Site Facilities demolished and areas restored to date
- Major site infrastructure upgrades (technology, water, gas and electric) completed or in progress to support future site activities



High-Level Waste Interim Storage Pad



DOE EM-3 Stacy Charboneau, presents VPP STAR Site Certificate to WVDP Team

Other:

- Recognized as a DOE-Voluntary Protection Program STAR site
- Active community supporter (WVDP 2017 Annual Food Drive collected more than 100,000 pounds of food for local food pantries)

The West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP) is a U.S. Department of Energy-led environmental remediation project located approximately 35 miles south of Buffalo, NY. CH2M HILL BWXT West Valley, LLC (CHBWV) was formed to meet the specific requirements of the WVDP Phase 1 Decommissioning – Facility Disposition Project. The limited-liability partnership combines the experience and capabilities of CH2MHILL Constructors Inc. (CH2M HILL), Babcock & Wilcox Technical Services Group, Inc. (B&W), and Environmental Chemical Corporation (ECC).