

West Valley Demonstration Project

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CH2M HILL B&W West Valley, LLC Safely Completes Open-Air Demolition at West Valley Demonstration Project

West Valley, NY June 10, 2013 - CH2M HILL Babcock & Wilcox West Valley, LLC (CHBWV) safely completed the demolition of a four-story nuclear facility in May 2013 at the West Valley Demonstration Project (WVDP). Known as "The 01-14 Building", its demolition represents the largest and most complex demolition of a radioactively contaminated facility at the WVDP in the site's history.

The 01-14 Building, a four-story concrete and steel-framed building (41' x 33' x 60' high, with 24" thick reinforced concrete walls), was built in 1971 by the former site operator, Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc. (NFS) to support its commercial nuclear reactor fuel reprocessing business. NFS terminated operations at West Valley in 1972, and the 01-14 building was never put into service for its designed purpose. The building was instead converted to support vitrification of the waste that was produced by NFS. It also served to house equipment that was used to solidify waste liquids that contained low levels of radioactivity, which were then shipped out of state for disposal after solidification. Operations in the building supporting these activities were concluded in 2005, allowing the facility to be slated for demolition.

Dan Coyne, President of CHBWV stated "The CH2M HILL B&W West Valley workforce was deliberate in the planning and execution of the work, resulting in the safe, compliant demolition of the 01-14 Building. Every effort was made to protect the workforce and the environment. We met our objectives and look forward to the future demolition challenges at the WVDP."

Craig Rieman, DOE Deputy Director of the WVDP added "The demolition and removal of the 01-14 Building is an important accomplishment in the progress to decommission the WVDP. This effort showed that robust engineering controls coupled with abundant monitoring techniques can accomplish safe removal of nuclear facilities and will be used to build on future demolition activities."

In 2011, final closure activities were begun, which included removing hazardous components, isolating and removing facility systems, and decontaminating the structure to allow for open-air demolition. These activities were completed in December 2012, allowing CHBWV to initiate final demolition of the facility. Demolition was accomplished in partnership with American DND, a local small business and protégé, headquartered in Cattaraugus County in western New York.

Worker safety and protection of the environment were top priorities for the site during the demolition project. Workers used extensive measures to prevent the spread of radioactive contamination and

safety professionals provided continuous monitoring and sampling during the demolition process. The demolition was completed in 5 months, in challenging weather conditions, resulting in no recordable injuries, no radiological releases, and no environmental issues.

Workers sprayed water onto the structure as it was being demolished to suppress dust from becoming airborne. Excess water was collected, transferred to holding tanks, and sampled prior to its discharge through an onsite wastewater treatment process.

Sixteen air monitoring stations were set up at the perimeter of the West Valley Demonstration Site border to monitor for any contamination release outside the site boundary. In addition, eight air samplers surrounded the demolition site, four air samplers were placed inside adjacent facilities, and a breathing zone monitor on the operator of the demolition equipment. All worksite air samples and perimeter air samples were below regulatory limits and compliant with the requirements in the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAPs) and the Occupational Radiation Protection Regulations (10 CFR 835). The U.S. EPA inspected and provided regulatory oversight pursuant to NESHAPs.

The successful completion of this complex project could only be accomplished through extensive planning, timely communication and a close partnership between New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), Department of Energy (DOE), CHBWV, State and Federal Regulators, and Stakeholders. Forums for active regulatory engagement included bi-annual Regulatory Roundtable meetings, monthly calls with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the New York Department of Conservation (NYSDEC) and on site meetings with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). CHBWV has also regularly reached out to public stakeholders through participation in monthly Citizen Task Force meetings and quarterly public meetings.

As of June 4, 2013, CHBWV has shipped 38 truckloads of non-contaminated construction debris from the 01-14 Building demolition to industrial waste landfills in Pennsylvania and Ohio. In addition, 62 truckloads of radioactive waste have been shipped to Pennsylvania, where it was transferred to railcars and shipped by rail for disposal at a radioactive waste facility in Utah.

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The WVDP is located about 35 miles south of Buffalo. The Project is conducted by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) in cooperation with the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA). CH2M HILL B&W West Valley, LLC (CHBWV) manages and operates the WVDP under contract to DOE. The CHBWV team is comprised of CH2M HILL, B&W Technical Services Group (B&W) and the Environmental Chemical Corporation (ECC).