

WVDP shares equipment with SPRU resulting in cost savings



Photo provided

A transport truck delivers an excavator to the West Valley Demonstration Project for use in demolition activities.

Two Department of Energy Environmental Management sites have saved more than \$1.8 million by sharing heavy-duty equipment for large demolition activities, and the savings continue to grow.

In December, workers at the West Valley Demonstration Project in New York received an excavator from the EM program at Separations Process Research Unit in Niskayuna. EM workers at SPRU also delivered a heavy-duty hydraulic hammer and shears to the site in October. EM received two larger excavators at WVDP last week under this arrangement.

“Working together, these two DOE-EM sites found a way to increase cost-sav-

ings. Many times, innovation results just from thinking differently about how we conduct our business, and this is a good example,” EM Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Mark Gilbertson said.

“West Valley and SPRU figured that out in this case. We need to continue our efforts to enhance safety, reduce risks, and increase cost-effectiveness,” Gilbertson continued.

Scott Anderson, president of CH2M HILL BWXT West Valley, EM’s cleanup contractor, commended the team for its work.

“Sharing equipment and lessons learned between sites is a formula for success,” Anderson said. “Our employees will continue to

work with other EM sites in reducing risks in a safe, cost-effective and environmentally compliant manner.

The equipment will be used in the demolition of five ancillary structures surrounding the main plant process building and 19 other facilities at WVDP including trailers, an old sewage treatment plant and water and septic tanks.

“This is a collective effort by everyone involved,” Steven Feinberg, EM’s SPRU federal project director said. “Cost savings and increased productivity among DOE’s EM sites are the results of working together.

“We are glad to be a part of this initiative.”